



Choir School News

A Newsletter for Alumni & Friends of Saint Thomas Choir School

From The Headmaster

The preparation of a summer edition of the Choir School News prompts memories of the most recent academic year. We are very pleased to share highlights with you as well as give notice of plans for the quickly approaching term. It was a very great privilege for me to announce two exciting philanthropic initiatives at the Choir School; one of them opens the door for future naming opportunities.

Susan and Denny Lewis have demonstrated their love of the mission and ministry of the Choir School through the 2005 establishment of the Ogden Northrop Lewis, Jr. Choristership. This choristership, the first ever for the Choir School, was given in memory of their son, Denny, who was a member of the Groton School, Form of 1997.

I am pleased to announce that the Lewis' have elected to enhance the relationship between Groton School and the Choir School with the establishment of a scholarship fund at Groton. This fund is specifically allocated for a Choir School graduate who, through a recommendation of the school, gains admission to Groton and needs financial support to make attendance possible. We look forward to the day one of our eighth grade students benefits from this thoughtful and generous gift.

We at the Choir School give thanks that the Lewis family has chosen to remember Denny's short life in this way – it will provide an exceptional opportunity for the fortunate boys who are the recipients of this most generous gift.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce that the Choir School has established a naming opportunity through the Annual Bursaries. The first bursary was awarded at graduation, given in honor of the 80th birthday of former Headmaster Gordon Clem.

Please be sure to read a full report of the awards, honors and announcements of the 2011 Prize Day and Graduation Ceremony found on page 6.

Congratulations to the Class of 2011!



(L to R) William Paris, Louisville, KY, will attend Trinity High School (Louisville); Alex Simcox, Savannah, GA, will attend the Kiski School, Saltsburg, PA; and Ryoan Yamamoto, Raleigh, NC, will attend The Episcopal High School, Alexandria, VA.

October Alumni Reunion

I had the great pleasure of returning to the Choir School in June as a new member of the Alumni Board of Directors. I thought fund raising would be the primary focus of this group but realized after the meeting that this was not the case. The Saint Thomas alumni association is just what its title suggests: an organization to bring us back together.

It would be incorrect to say that the school does not need our financial support, because they do...but more urgently they need us. A solid base of alumni involvement, at an institution where the alumni pool is so small, is paramount to the health of our beloved school, its past memories and its future successes. While the faces at the church and school have mostly changed, the principles, warmth and purpose of the school remain the same.

Take a brief moment to reflect on the foundation Saint Thomas gave you. Life after Saint Thomas brought me in many directions, but these foundations allowed me to pursue the passions I had in life, both personally and professionally. Our life experiences since Saint Thomas are what the school collectively needs to enrich itself and continue in its success...and it needs these now.

I urge you to make an effort to come home; this is a pivotal time for the alumni of Saint Thomas Choir School. I hope you will join me in reinvigorating our involvement in the school and join us for our annual alumni weekend, October 8–9, 2011.

Please go to the web site and register so that you receive all information regarding the October Reunion. WWW.choirschool.org; select 'Alumni' from the left menu.

Tom Carroll, MD A88

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ALUMNI REUNION, OCTOBER 8 & 9, 2011

Plan to attend the alumni reunion October 8 & 9, 2011. Join your fellow alumni for fellowship and fun from the wine buffet on Saturday evening to the farewell reception after Sunday evensong and recital.

Alumni to share conducting duties for Reunion Evensong

Dana Marsh, '79 and Julian Wachner, '83, will share in the choral direction of the Sunday Evensong on October 9, 2011. Alumni attending the reunion are invited to join the Choir of Men and Boys to sing the service.

Dana shares his thoughts on his impending return in this very different role:

It is a pleasure to thank Maestro John Scott for his kind invitation to share conducting duties with Julian Wachner during the forthcoming alumni weekend in October. It has been wonderful to hear the choir develop into the finely tuned instrument that it is today under Dr. Scott's direction. It's clear to all who visit Saint Thomas that the place is thriving musically. The webcasts make it easy to keep up with the choir's progress in a way that has never been possible before. The privilege of conducting the ensemble in October will feel a bit like being handed the keys to a friend's vintage Jaguar and then to take it for a spin! I haven't conducted the choir since 1995, when, on a day's notice, I was asked to substitute for Dr. Gerre Hancock on a concert tour that brought the choir to southern California.

The best musical experiences of my life thus far have all resonated in some way with those formative years at Saint Thomas. There simply are

not enough ways to express how profoundly I feel this. The Choirmaster has an enduring influence on the experience of a young chorister, and to this day I regard Dr. Hancock as a musical father, as he has been and continues to be for so many.



I am always struck by the fact that no matter what professional field our fellow Choir School graduates enter, they are unanimous to affirm again and again that the skills they learned as choristers provided a professional edge early on in their careers. This is the great "Ace" that Saint Thomas has to offer, and the benefits are truly beyond measure.

Looking ahead, it seems to me that Saint Thomas is as well positioned as any ecclesiastical institution in the worldwide Anglican Communion to safeguard its choral heritage. And it is Saint Thomas's uniqueness in this respect that will help to inspire future musicians within the Episcopal Church to carry the torch of its musical tradition further still.

Watch for notes from Julian Wachner arriving in your in-box. Sign up for electronic news from the Choir School at www.choirschool.org. On your first visit you will be asked to register.

"A good time was had by all"

Such a good time that everyone agreed to 'Meet and Greet' again next spring in Annapolis. Our thanks to Mary & Daniel Walton, parents of Robb, '00, who hosted the regional alumni gathering in May at their Annapolis home. Current parents, other friends and families are welcome to join the fun, be sure to watch the calendar and web site for details.



Alumni Association Annual Meeting

The Alumni Association of Saint Thomas Choir School met on Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Highlights of the meeting include:

- Change in By Laws to allow for a larger board membership
- The governance pertaining to Article VII, sections A and B of the Association Bylaws was motioned by Chad Newsome '81, seconded by Tom Carroll '88, and approved by all in attendance. Article VII, section A now states that "there shall be no more than eleven (11) Directors of the Association", while section B now states that "there shall be no more than nine (9) alumni elected by the regular members of the Association plus one parent of an alumnus plus one alumnus appointed jointly by the Rector and Headmaster".
- The Nominating Committee recommended the following to serve on the Board of Directors for the 2011-2012 year: Thomas Carroll '88, James Douglas '99 and Susan Hill, parent of two alumni. The slate was approved by all and currently exists as follows;

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2012 | Grant Murray '89 (a) |
| | Julian Wachner '83 (1) |
| | Greg Lozier '58 (1) |
| | JP Burlington '91 (1 year appointed by board per change in by laws) |
| 2013 | Rab Ker '73 (1) |
| | David Larr '84 (1) |
| | Chuck Soltis '52 (2) |
| | Susan Hill PA (a) |
| 2014 | Tom Carroll '88 (1) |
| | James Douglas '99 (2) |

key: (a) appointed board member, two year term
(1) first elected term, three year term
(2) second elected term, three year term

Other reports, such as school news, events for the coming year and the October Alumni Reunion are covered elsewhere in this newsletter. The minutes of all Executive Board meetings may be found on the alumni web site, www.choirschool.org.

Alumni wishing to participate in the governance of the association are encouraged to contact Ruth Cobb, Director of Admission & Alumni Relations. rcobb@choirschool.org.

Annual Bursaries offer naming opportunities to honor or memorialize loved ones

—Charles F. Wallace, Headmaster

It gives me great pleasure to announce a new philanthropic opportunity at the Choir School. Annual Bursaries will provide a way to honor or memorialize a loved one by having their name associated with an award presented to an exceptional student during the Prize Day and Graduation Ceremony. Unlike the chorister-ships, bursaries are funded by a single gift of \$15,000 which provides a one year named award. Although there is no monetary prize to the recipient of the award, they and their donor will be listed in programs and literature throughout the year.



Recipient of the Choir School's first Annual Bursary, Ryan Newsome

This is an enduring investment which will benefit the Choir School and give pleasure to the benefactor who names the Annual Bursary. It is our hope that alumni and friends of the Choir School will take advantage of this naming opportunity to underwrite the high cost of educating a chorister; a cost which now and in the past has been heavily subsidized by the church.

It is most appropriate that the first Annual Bursary honor the 80th birthday of Mr. Gordon Clem for his dedication to the Choir School and in recognition of his work ethic inspired by a sense of Christian calling. Ryan Newsome, Class of 2013, received the honor which was given by faithful friends, alumni and parishioners who remain anonymous.

Congratulations to those choristers whose achievements were acknowledged during the Prize Day and Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Mayflower Compact (History)	Ryoan Yamamoto
French	Ryoan Yamamoto
Music Theory	Justin Yoo
Instrumental Music	Jack Keller
Art	Marcus d'Aquino
Latin	Matthew Higgins Iati
Science	William Paris
Excellence in Math	Andrew Yow & Justin Yoo
Excellence in Writing	Alex Simcox
English	Ryan Newsome
Lois Ballenger	Kidron Kollin
Ben Fow Award	Ryoan Yamamoto
Alumni Scholarship Award	Chris Clark
Donald S. Candlyn	Richard Pittsinger
The Hancock Award	Matthew Higgins Iati
The Noble Award	Justin Yoo
The Rector's Award	William Paris
The Headmaster's Award	Ryoan Yamamoto

Saint Thomas Choir School Class Notes

Nathan Fletcher A07, graduated in the top five of his class at Middletown High School, CT, and heads to the University of Connecticut to pursue a Bachelor of Music in composition and voice while also enrolled in the UConn Honors Program. In May, one of his compositions, Rhapsody was performed in concert to The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts by Hartford Symphony Orchestra players under the direction of Edward Cumming. Nathan was piano soloist.

Zak Fletcher A07, performed as a vocal soloist with The Hartford Symphony Orchestra at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, Hartford. He performed with four other classmates who won solo contests at Middletown High School. Zak graduated as valedictorian and will attend Harvard University in the fall. He plans to study the classics in preparation for law school.

Atticus Sawatzki A07, graduated from St. Anselm's Abbey School, Washington, DC, and begins basic training in the Merchant Marines in July.

Patrick Balling A05, is currently at the University of Kentucky studying Business Management. He was part of the university men's choir, which performed at the March ACDA National Convention in Chicago. "We were one of three men's choruses there, the other two were Chanticleer and a group similar to them called Brethren. I am proud to announce that we were the highlight of the convention! In addition to men's choir, I am still continuing to sing at Christ Church Cathedral where my dad is Organist and Choir Director and we are planning to sing at the National Cathedral this summer and then going to England and Scotland in the summer of 2012. ...I hope everything is well at the Choir School; I miss and cherish my experiences there."

Aaron Primero A05, is participating in a 10-week laboratory research and enrichment program at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. He writes, "Should be fun. And hot."

Robert Storck A04, is on track to graduate from Washington College in the fall of 2011 with hopes of continuing his schooling in emergency medicine. He is stroking the Crew Varsity 8+ and saw Andrew Cobb, A03 at races in Rochester, NY.

Andrew Cobb A03, graduated from Hobart College in Geneva, NY and traveled with the varsity crew team to row in the Royal Henley Regatta in the U.K. In August he begins work as a member of the GOLD (Global Opportunities in Leadership Development) Program at the Northern Trust, Chicago.

Henry Toothman A03, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and is considering his next opportunity, possibly in the field of Environmental Investments, sales or the political arena.

Jack Cobb A01, continues to work at the Department of Commerce in Washington, DC, and has begun a Masters in Public Policy and Administration at Northwestern University.

Mike Harney A94, wrote to assist in the identification of a photo showing two boys rowing in a boat at camp. He names members of the Class of 1994, Gerry Rosenthal in the front and Christiaan Heijmen in the back. (photo below)



Chip Lamb A92, contacted he school to make arrangements to send several photos and artifacts from the Choir School. The school welcomes items that will be of interest and use in preparing for the Centennial celebration in 2019.

JP Burlington A91, and his wife, Megan, are proud and happy parents of Joseph Novello Burlington, born in May. (photo right)

Fr. Gregory Gresko A84, now serves as Prior of Mary Mother of the Church Benedictine Abbey in Richmond, VA while continuing work on his doctoral dissertation. In June 2010 he concluded a one-year term as Interim Headmaster



of Benedictine High School in Richmond and continues to serve on its Board of Trustees. He writes regularly for two websites, Catholic Online and BeliefNet.com. On the latter, he is known as “The Blogging Monk”.

Alan Murchie A77, was ordained to the diaconate in June at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford, CT. The next morning, he read the Gospel at his sponsoring parish, St. Thomas, New Haven, CT.



The Reverend Canon William (Chip) Stokes A71, wrote that he was unable to hear the choristers while on tour in Florida as he was leading a group on pilgrimage in the steps of St. Paul in Greece and Turkey

Greg Guy A62, wrote that he would be unable to hear the choristers sing in Florida since his move to Homer, Alaska. Cherlynn is Nursing Director of Critical Care and Oncology at a hospital and pursuing a doctorate degree in nursing. Greg hunts and fishes for “everything from moose to halibut”. “We have a small Episcopal Church here, St. Augustine’s. Our congregation is slightly smaller than Saint Thomas. We total about 25! What a difference from my days on 5th Avenue.

Roger Black A62, writes, “Here’s a small correction for the newsletter. This picture was perhaps from 1956. It shows the “new” 55th St. building, either the South Dorm, or even the Upper Dorm. I would guess these guys were 7th or 8th graders, and would have moved on from the North or Lower dorms. The furniture was the same mid-century modern furniture the 1960 remodel moved one of the dorms up the 4th floor.” Thanks, Roger! We have two very similar photos, taken approximately 25 years apart. They were mislabeled in a scanning and saving process.



Jim Johnston A58, wrote to help identify those pictured in photos. His labels and the photos will be available for viewing at the October Alumni Reunion. Thanks Jim!

Jon Papps A44, wrote to let us know that his eagle eye had caught our error in the Giving Societies brochure. T. Tertius Noble’s correct birthdate was 1867, not 1897 as printed. T. Tertius would be proud of his chorister who caught this!

Bob Wohlforth A38, attended the final concert of the spring Treble Recruitment Concerts in Florida. Bob currently lives in Naples and heard the concert at the United Church of Marco Island.



Bob Wohlforth, '38 with the choristers after the Marco Island concert



Choir School Alumni gathered in Massachusetts to celebrate the 80th birthday of former Headmaster Gordon Clem. The event was held during the Choir School Easter break and staff were unable to attend. We are grateful to Betsey Hedges, P93, for making the arrangements for the school to contribute a birthday cake for the festivities. Pictured are Mr. Clem blowing out the candles and alumni in attendance.



Choir School News

Gym Teacher and Coach, Nathan Holst A99, has accepted a position as Assistant Director of Admissions at the Darrow School in New Lebanon, NY. In addition to his faculty duties, Nathan pioneered the use of videos on the school's web site. He frequently worked with the acolytes to collect footage, then edited and posted the videos. It has been a delight to have Nathan with us on the teaching staff for the past three years and we wish him all the best!



Do You Know a Boy Who Loves to Sing? Due to the large response and attendance at last year's *Chorister for a Day*, we will offer this opportunity both in the fall and winter during the coming academic year. Come visit the Choir School on Sunday afternoon, November 6th for a tour, to meet the choristers, their families and faculty. Boys in second through fifth grades are invited to join the choristers in the stalls for evensong. Please contact Ruth Cobb, Director of Admission & Alumni Relations for further information.

Sixth grade student **Noel Patterson** of Central Islip, NY, was awarded a grant from The Children's Foundation for the Arts based on an essay and vocal audition.

Congratulations to Associate Organist **Frederick Teardo** who was awarded the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University in May. Fred is seen here with some of the choristers during the Florida tour.

Tour Germany with the Choir!

The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys is planning a Tour to Germany from June 11-25, 2012, and invites Friends and Family to come along! The main confirmed performance venues so far are: St. Thomas Church Leipzig (a concert in the International



Fred and the boys on tour

BachFest); the Frauenkirche, Dresden; the Stiftskirche in Stuttgart with a trip to Denmark to sing in Copenhagen Cathedral. For more details as they become available, please contact Ms. Amanda Slattery at : (914) 245-8825 or amanda@tvlemposium.com. We hope that you will consider joining us on this most exciting adventure.

Thanks to a generous gift from Karen Metcalf, a faithful friend of the Choir School, we now have a beautiful trophy for the Rector's Award. It is an early 19th c. Georgian loving cup. It is given in gratitude for the ministries of **our Rector, the Reverend Andrew C. Mead, and the Rector Emeritus, the Reverend Canon John Andrew.**

A gift of \$25,685, was made on behalf of the boys of the **Choir School to Cathedral Grammar School, Christchurch, NZ.** Cathedral Grammar, a member of the Choir Schools' Association, educates the boy choristers of Christchurch Cathedral. Both the Cathedral and the School suffered extensive damage to their buildings as a result of the recent earthquake and many children have had to relocate to other parts of the country until the school is deemed safe. Their heartfelt thanks is expressed in the notes received.

THE CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

5 May 2011

The Rev'd Andrew C Mead
Rector
Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue
One West Fifty-third Street
New York
New York 10019-5496
USA

Dear Reverend Mead

It is not possible to describe the feeling that comes over you when, in the midst of adversity and devastation, you are the recipient of unbidden and unexpected generosity.

Your donation of \$25,685.00 on behalf of the Boys of Saint Thomas Church Choir School in New York has been electrifying and uplifting for our school community, and particularly for our pupils and staff, as much for the message of solidarity and caring that it brings as for the assistance that it will provide the school in our rebuilding programme.

That such beneficence should come to us from a fellow Choir School is additionally special; a rare and special institution helping a kindred body in adversity is heart-warming and speaks of true fellowship of spirit.

I know that I speak for all members of The Cathedral Grammar School community when I thank you and your parish community for this generosity. The money will be put towards the rebuilding of Cathedral Choir rehearsal room and library which we hope may be completed within a year.

Please pass on to all members of your congregation our thankfulness for their wonderful generosity.

Kindest regards

Malcolm R Long
Acting Headmaster

26 Park Terrace, P.O. Box 2244, Christchurch 8140
Telephone: (03) 365 0385 Facsimile: (03) 365 0384
email: headmaster@cathedralgrammar.school.nz
www.cathedralgrammar.school.nz

Chorister Exchange with Chichester Cathedral, U.K.

Matthew Higgins Iati

This June my classmate Noel Patterson and I went to England as exchange students to Prebendal School in Chichester, West Sussex. We attended an English choir school and sang with the Cathedral choir there.

Prebendal is a coed school, not just a boys' school like Saint Thomas. The boarding students all went home some days each week. We stayed in a bedroom with four other boys – not all were choristers. Our bedroom had six beds, all elevated over drawers to keep your clothes in. The beds were smaller than our bunks at Saint Thomas. Each boy has a bulletin board above his bed that he can decorate.

The Prebendal School is connected to the Chichester Cathedral. So, instead of rehearsing in the gym as we do at Saint Thomas, they have a rehearsal room in the cathedral. The choristers walk in a paired line ('crocodile') as we do when they go to the cathedral. When we sang at services we wore flat collars, which sit over your shoulders – they're much more comfortable than our ruffs.

The Chichester Cathedral has architecture similar to Saint Thomas Church – it has criss-crossed arches on the ceiling like Saint Thomas, but it's a lighter color. Instead of a big cross on the altar they have a tapestry depicting a cross. Chichester is a town, not a city, so there weren't any big buildings like you find in New York.

The choir director at Chichester, Sarah Baldock, is a young woman. She was very kind to Noel and me. It's a smaller choir: there are fourteen choirboys – with Noel and me it makes sixteen – plus three probationers. They don't have seats in the choir room. I noticed that they rest by leaning on the music stand. Dr. Scott threatens to take away our seats if we get lazy and sit down when we're not supposed to, but in the Chichester rehearsal room there are already no seats so Miss Baldock threatens to take their music stands so they have nothing to lean on.

There are only six men in the choir ('lay vicars') – one per part per side. The men and their families live in some of the very old houses around the Cathedral.

On Sunday they sing Matins (a forty-five minute service) and a Eucharist and Evensong. At Eucharist they have orange wine – Father Wallace said it was sherry. Wednesday is their only day off from singing. Every other day they have rehearsal and evensong.

The rehearsal room in the cathedral has a secret chamber. The

room was built around 700 years ago to hide the cathedral's treasure from invading armies. To get in, you lift a bench up, then you see a recessed wall. You slide back the wall to reveal a door which leads to the secret chamber. This is where they keep the choir's music. Noel and I thought this was very cool.

One day we traveled to Winchester Cathedral for rehearsal with the Winchester, Salisbury and Chichester choirs – they perform together later in the summer in the Southern Cathedrals Festival. Even though Noel and I won't be at the festival, we got to go because we participated in everything the Chichester

choirboys did. Fr Wallace said the combined choir of about 60 boys sounded fantastic in the cathedral. I also met the composer Philip Moore during the rehearsal.

The Prebendal school gets a lot of exchange students – there were several French kids there while we were there but that might be because they were about to go on summer vacation. I felt that the school did not have as much academic work as we do at Saint Thomas.

They had fewer classes and shorter study hall, which they

called 'prep' (one hour versus two). The choir rehearsed during the school day so that meant choristers missed a couple of classes. We missed 45 minutes before lunch and 30 minutes before the end of the day.

The school is not one big building like ours. It's more like a campus: there's a main school building, and there are some little school rooms that are connected to the Cathedral. So you have to go outside and walk around to get to some of the classes. While we were there our "year" (Year 7) went on a field trip to a museum. It was a model of a Victorian village.

We ate a lot of sausages at Prebendal. It seems as though the British eat lots of sausages and baked beans. There were baked beans for nearly every meal even at breakfast. The day we left they were having a hog roast for students and their families. A man was roasting an entire hog in the playground using a giant rotisserie machine. The machine had a glass front so you could see the hog turning inside. It was huge! I thought of asking Heidi, "Heidi, for my eighth-grade meal I'd like a hog roast." I would say that being away really made me appreciate the food at Saint Thomas, but I already really appreciate it.

When we left Miss Baldock gave Noel and me a goody bag filled with Chichester souvenirs. This was my first time going overseas and I will always remember this amazing experience.



Noel and Matthew with Chichester choristers

Saint Thomas Choir School Photo Album

*What can a boy do at camp? A few of the good times
generously give to make camp, scholarships, tours,*



Build & launch a rocket



Catch a frog



Dig a hole



Get tossed into the lake



Jump in the lake



Knot tying



Play a game



Play shuffleboard



Roast a marshmallow

es are included here with our thanks and appreciation to all those who so learning and activities possible.



Zip line through the trees



Sing a-long



Sit and think



Slide into the lake

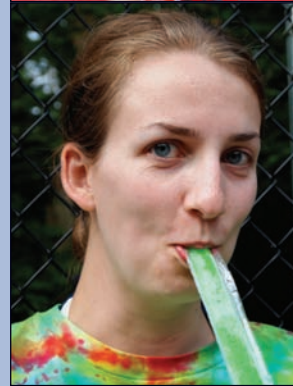


Tie-dye a shirt



Walk a tight rope

Camp Incarnation 2011



Choir News

Trips to Germany in 2012, *John Scott, Organist and Director of Music*

The Saint Thomas Choir has, unusually, two trips planned to Germany during 2012. I am not aware that the choir has travelled there before.

In February of next year, 16 boys will travel to Dresden to sing with the Dresden Staatskapelle, one of the world's oldest and most venerable orchestras founded originally in 1548. The composer Heinrich Schütz was associated with it in its early days, and chief conductors have included Weber and Wagner. For the 2011-12 season they have chosen Lera Auerbach as their Composer-in-Residence. Ms. Auerbach was born in Russia but moved to New York when she was 17 and studied piano and composition at the Julliard School. As well as being a prodigious performer and composer, Ms. Auerbach is also a published poet. In 2008, after our 'American Voices' concert at Saint Thomas, I received a communication from Ms. Auerbach saying how impressed she had been with the choir's performance and that she was planning a composition for performance in Dresden in 2012. She wished to involve the Saint Thomas boys in this project. The performances next year are to commemorate the lives of those thousands of civilians killed in the atrocities of February 1945, when the city was largely destroyed by the allied bombings. Ms. Auerbach's Requiem is scored

for large orchestra, symphonic chorus and boys' choir, which will be made up of singers from Dresden, St Paul's Cathedral in London and us. The concert will be conducted by Vladimir Jurowski, Chief Conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the performances will take place on February 11, 2012 at the Frauenkirche, and February 13, and 14 at the Semperoper.

In addition to this exciting project, the full choir of men and boys will be travelling to Germany again in the summer of 2012, immediately after the end of the school year. The catalyst for this was the invitation from the Kantor of the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, Professor Christoph Biller, for us to sing in the International BachFest, in honor of the 800th Anniversary of the Saint Thomas Choir School there. We shall sing in the Thomaskirche, where Johann Sebastian Bach is buried, on Friday 15 June. What an honor that will be, and a momentous occasion in this choir's history. We shall also be singing in other historic churches in Germany as part of this two week trip, including the iconic Frauenkirche in Dresden, the Stiftskirche in Stuttgart and there will be a side trip to Denmark to sing in the cathedral in Copenhagen, continuing our association with the Copenhagen Boys' Choir. Further concerts are still in negotiation.

8th graders reflect on their final choir tour

The Florida tour started on my birthday, 3/31. We woke up at 4:45 am and got on the plane at 7:00. The plane was grounded until 9:00, and had to turn around and take an unexpected stop in Atlanta because of storms in Tampa. Finally, we made it to Tampa around 4:30 pm. That night, the choir had to sing their first concert! They were exhausted, but they sounded great. During reception, I met my host and she took us (Sidney, Daniel, and Will) to her house.

Hosts are very nice people. They have always been kind to me, since 5th grade. They care for you and are like second families. When you go to a host house, you have good food and you can watch TV or read in bed. You get to learn great stuff about your host and the town they live in. Your host may take you to the movies, or a picnic in the park. When the school groups together the next day, we all have stories to share about our host houses and all the cool stuff we did.

The next day, the school went to a pool part, and had lunch. Later that day, we traveled to Bradenton where the choir had their second concert. We returned to Tampa to stay with the same host, who very kindly gave me a gift because the day before was my birthday.

The next morning, we got on a bus and headed to Sarasota. That day was our free day, so we went to the beach for a couple hours and then went shopping for an hour. After a nice day of sun and relaxation, we went home with our host (Who happened to be the parent of a school alumnus, Sean Sapone). That night we saw *The Tourist*, and also stayed up watching lots of *House M.D.* The concert was in the afternoon the next day, so we had time after to go boating in our host's lake.

The next day we went to Marco Island, and had a party at Grant's house prior to the last concert. I was sad that the tour was ending so soon after it started, because it was my last time going on tour with Saint Thomas as a boy. I tried to make the best of it, though, so I went night swimming after the concert and watched the Butler – UConn game. The next morning I went to the beach for a morning swim before I had to say good bye to my host, and leave Florida.

I hope I may one day be able to see the boys on tour, and perhaps host some of them. *—Ryoan Yamamoto, North Carolina*

I have been fortunate enough to go on a tour each year I have been in the school. It was actually a tour which brought me to the school. And each year there has been some form of excitement. This ranges from a delayed and re-routed flight because of tornados to biting a hole through my lip and needing stitches. Along with this there are also the events; indoor theme parks, rodeos and days on the beach. There are also the kind hosts who always spring up interesting conversations. And there is also the food. In each new place, there is a new style of food. Even in the same states the barbeque in Nashville is different from in Memphis. And we meet so many people like alumni and former president Bush. Along with this is the ability to travel the country at such a young age. The entire tour experience is great and the past one is no exception. *—Will Paris, Kentucky*

The tour in Florida has been one of my more favorite tours. It was very warm, unlike my first tour in rainy Minnesota. I helped unpack and set up the choir rooms. I stayed in lovely host houses like everyone else. I think the most fun I had was when the acolytes, and the two gap students, Joe and Sasha, went to Coconut Island with Grant's father. It had to be the most fun because we weren't bothered by small children, and slightly heavy suit cases, though we acolytes can be annoying to each other as well. Even though I tried my hardest, I could not get the hefty headmaster to climb a tree with me. Florida was a wonderful place to be on tour. The whole team of boys and teachers went to the beach, where we received an intense amount of sun; I received a nasty sunburn on the tops of my feet and on my shoulders. Despite all this, the undoubtedly most fun I had was listening to the younger boys sing their concerts. They did okay; they have been doing okay since I left the choir in October. Florida was a great tour and I wish I could do it again. *—Alex Simcox, Georgia*

Junior Choristers sing for Clem's 80th Birthday



A diversion on the roadtrip to Mr. Clem's birthday

Fifteen Junior Choristers boarded three vehicles on a Saturday morning in April, eager to sing their first public appearance beyond Saint Thomas Church. The occasion was especially meaningful in that they were to sing a short concert in honor of the eightieth birthday of former headmaster, Gordon Clem. Trinity Church Lenox, MA, was hosting the concert and a birthday party for Mr. Clem, who has been an active parishioner for many years. The boys sang under the direction of Kevin Kwan, Assistant Organist of Saint Thomas Church.

As all former choristers know, every trip needs a detour and a stop at the Red Rooster in Pawling, NY, provided time in the fresh, chilly air. A game of miniature golf was all the outdoors that could be borne on the crisp spring day and calls for shelter went out to Trinity Pawling School. Staff members there were quick to invite our group into the warmth of the (new) dining hall where we enjoyed a delicious lunch and heard an impromptu concert by the school's a cappella group under the direction of Matt Travis.

Trinity Parish provided a warm welcome and many people arrived early to hear the choristers warm up and to greet Mr. Clem. The concert concluded with the congregation joining in 'Come Labor On' and of course, 'Happy Birthday'. A delicious reception followed and the boys had a chance to explore the beautiful grounds of the parish. Thanks to Trinity Parish for giving the young choristers this fine opportunity.



The Headmaster and Gordon Clem pose with the Junior choristers and Kevin Kwan, Assistant Organist

Memories of Mr. Clem...

I will be unable to attend any of the festivities for Gordon Clem. He was my adviser when I was at Saint Thomas. I'm sure that I was "work in progress" for him during those years. Even though the years have passed, and the difference in our ages is less important, to me he remains, Mr. Clem. I still remember his mathematics classes, his athletic coaching and our runs around the big rock at the far end of Sheep's Meadow in Central Park. Sometimes he was running out in front. Others he was behind us, pushing, challenging. When I think of it, that was his way, always challenging us. As each year passed, and another class graduated, life took us in many different directions. We each choose our own path, but no matter where we went or what career we followed, the lessons he taught us were constant in life; hard work, personal integrity, and a genuine respect for others. I have thanked him for that over the years, but words can not accurately describe either his efforts or the lessons we learned. With the utmost respect, he is etched in my mind, my Mr. Clem.

Greg Guy, A62

Alumni Web Site – your source for all October Reunion Information

All reunion information and updates will be communicated through electronic notices from the alumni data base within the web site.

Please go to www.choirschool.org, select 'Alumni' on the left to update your information. You will be asked to register on your first visit.

Saint Thomas Choir School Donations

Saint Thomas Choir School acknowledges the many faithful and generous persons who contribute to the mission of the school. Those who have given in the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year, from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 are listed below with our sincere thanks. Please note that this is the first time the list has been compiled using the new system. Contact Pam Pellegrini, ppellegrini@choirschool.org, or Ruth Cobb, rcobb@choirschool.org, to report any discrepancy.

THE SELF SOCIETY recognizes those donors who have contributed \$1,000.00 or more in the current giving year.

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Annabelle and Ryoan

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C. W. Jones, '52
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Stefan B. Karlsson, '94
Victor E. King, '87
David Larr, '84
G. Gregory Lozier, '58



Mini golf

Dual A. MacIntyre, '52
William G. Mead, '46
Edward C. Morgan, '52
Steven Mueller, '74
The Rev. Sean E. Mullen, '81
Alan Murchie, '77
Anthony Murad, '56
Grant Murray, '89
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William L. Noble, '45
Frederick B. Onderdonk, '49
Douglas L. Relyea, '52
Calvin Reynolds, '42, PA
William T. Robinson, '42
Detrick T. Rothacker, '74
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Augustus Sawatzki, '08
Stephen G. Schaeffer, '61
Edmund P. Scharpf, '80
Allen E. Schepper, '38
Thomas E. Schreppler, '74, PA
John D. Sherwood, '81
Geoffrey S. Simpson, '78
Charles W. Soltis, '52
Clark Taylor, '65

Donald R. Tench, '37
 George E. Toothman, '02
 James R. Van Gaasbeek, '62
 The Rev. Richard Van Wely, '48
 Julian Wachner, '83
 C. Whitney Walton, '40
 William Wamester, '59
 Bill Warren, '73
 Robert M. Wohlforth, '38
 John Y. Yong, '95

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 Richard A. Daily, '46
 Doug Daugherty, '48
 James J. Douglas, '99
 Edward N. Draffin, '46
 Richard F. Edmonds, '58
 Thomas C. Fields, '42

(In Memory of T. Tertius Noble)

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 Pierce H. Foster, '46
 Jonathan D. Hall, '84
 Blair Hedges, '93
 Nathan Holst, '99
 Albert T. Holtz, '52
 Richard Jarrett, '05
 Donald Jelliffe, '43
 Frederick Jillson, '49
 Andrew Jones, '10



Boys at the zoo



Boys relax at a post-concert reception while on tour

C. W. Jones, '52
 Douglas B. Jones, '66
 Stefan B. Karlsson, '94
 Rab Kerr, '45
 Victor E. King, '87
 David Larr, '84
 G. Gregory Lozier, '58
 Dual A. MacIntyre, '52
 William G. Mead, '46
 Edward C. Morgan, '52
 Steven Mueller, '74
 The Rev. Sean Mullen, '81
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 Anthony Murad, '56
(In Honor of Gordon Clem)
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 Timothy E. Noble, '50
*(In Memory of Thomas Frederick Handel
 Candlyn)*
 William L. Noble, '45
 Frederick B. Onderdonk, '49
 Massimo A. Pellegrini, '09
 Aaron C. Primero, '05
 Joshua C. Primero, '01
 Douglas L. Relyea, '52
 Calvin Reynolds, '42, PA
 William T. Robinson, '42
 Detrick T. Rothacker, '74
 Atticus Sawatzki, '07
 Augustus Sawatzki, '08
 Stephen G. Schaeffer, '61
(in Honor of Gordon Clem)
 Edmund P. Scharpf, '80
 Allen E. Scheffer, '38

James E. Schreppler, '09
 Thomas E. Schreppler, '74, PA
 John D. Sherwood, '81
 Geoffrey S. Simpson, '78
 Charles W. Soltis, '52
 Clark Taylor, '65
 Donald R. Tench, '37
 George E. Toothman, '02
 James R. Van Gaasbeek, '62
 The Rev. Richard Van Wely, '48
 C. Whitney Walton, '40
(In Memory of T. Tertius Noble)
 William Wamester, '59
 William H. Warren, '73
(In Honor of Gordon Clem)
 Robert M. Wohlforth, '38
 John Y. Yong, '95
(In Honor of Gordon Clem)

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Junior choristers vest prior to Mr. Clem's birthday concert

Mr. and Mrs. Alan F. Gettner
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 Mr. and Ms. James B. Healy
 Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hedges
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 Mr. Ronald Lorton
 Mr. Robert Maher
 Mr. Thomas Mahoney
 Mr. and Mrs. John C. McGuire
 Mr. Paul McKinley
 Ms. Karen Metcalf
 Ms. Marilyn Meyer
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 Mrs. Jo Ann Minshall
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 Mrs. Dorothy W. Mullestein
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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G. Pike
(In Honor of Gordon Clem)
 Ms. Johanna Polanen
 Mr. Kevin Purrone
 Mr. B. Franklin Reinauer III
 Mr. and Mrs. J H. Roberts
 Mr. Carmen Ross
 Dr. and Mrs. Karl C. Saunders
 Ms. Jean Savage
 Mr. and Mrs. Allan G. Sawatzky
 Dr. and Mrs. N. L. Schoon
(In Memory of Forrest Warren and In Honor of Marilyn Meyer-Warren)
 Ms. Lisa Shaw
(In Honor of Frank Goodwin)



Tour fun

Ms. Jean E. Sheridan
 Mr. Raymond D. Smoot, Jr.
 Ms. Esther W. Spaulding
 Mrs. Hyacinth D. Thompson
 Mr. Lucien Todman
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tyrie
(In Memory of William Minshall, '41)
 Mrs. Linda J. Van Der Spek
 Captain and Mrs. D. Mason Wells
(In Memory of William Minshall, '41)
 Mr. William Lee Younger
(In Memory of Joseph A. Henehan)
 Mr. Lawrence Zehring
(In Memory of William Minshall, '41)
 Mrs. Johnnie Zorn
(In Memory of Trent Zorn)
 WCJB-TV20, Gainesville, FL
(In Memory of William Minshall, '41)

CURRENT FACULTY & STAFF

100% participation

Miriam Allman
 Fazeela Bacchus
 John Baker
 Mary Beth Benbenek
 Ruth Cobb
 Suzanne Redgen Eyerly
 Scott Eyerly
 Matthew Gilbert
 Nathan Holst

Steve Kelly
 John Lee
 Pamela Pellegrini
 Michael Rose
 Robyn Rosenthal
 Emily Smith
 Charles Wallace

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100% participation from Choir School Board Members who have given or pledged in the current giving year.

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 James Douglas
 Mrs. Susan Hill
 Robert Ker, III
 David H. Larr
 Greg Lozier
 Grant Murray
 Charles Soltis
 Julian Wachner

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Notable Dates • 2011 – 2012

Treble Recruitment Concert Tour

September 29 – October 1, 2011

Thursday, September 29, 7:30 PM

Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Greenville, DE • www.Christchurchde.org

Friday, September 30, 7:30 PM

All Saints Church, Chevy Chase, MD • www.allsaintschurch.net

October 8 & 9, 2011 – Saturday & Sunday

Alumni Reunion at the Choir School

Saturday evening buffet dinner at the Choir School

Sunday reunion events, rehearsal and alumni sing evensong with the choir

Please go to the web site, www.choirschool.org for further details and registration information

November 4, 2011 – Friday evening

Planned Giving Societies Event

November 6, 2011 – Sunday

Chorister for a Day Admissions Event –

“Do you know a boy who loves to sing?”

March 30, 2012 – Friday

Donor Reception for members of the Giving Societies:

Self, Candlyn and Centennial

Andrew Hall at the church, prior to the

St. John Passion Concert

April 21 or 22, 2012 TBD (Saturday or Sunday)

Alumni Regional Social Event in Annapolis

May 11, 2012 – Friday

Final concert of the year,

Meet & Greet prior in Andrew Hall

June 9, 2012 – Saturday

Annual Alumni Association Meeting & Board Meeting

Late June, 2012

Alumni Regional Social Event in Concord, MA



Saint Thomas Church

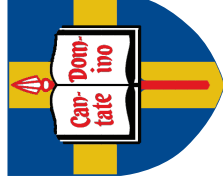
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