

To the Chorale, past and present:

At the Chorale board meeting last night we heard with great sadness of Ann's decision to retire after the current season. There will be time later to express our appreciation to Ann for her eight wonderful years of musical leadership.

The board appointed a Search Committee to look for a new Artistic Director. We hope to be able to announce that appointment before Ann's retirement is effective. The search committee consists of Bill Barron, MG Brosius, Dal Holmes, Brenda Moyer, and me as chairperson.

We are very excited about the coming year. Building on the good work done in recent years our finances are sound, we have a well balanced program of classical and "popular" music, and most of us feel that we have improved in our own musical skills and appreciation. We hope that those of you who did not sing last year will want to come back and join us for the Christmas concert. Rehearsals start on **Monday, September 14 at 7:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church** on the corner of High Street and Mill Street. **Registration will begin at 6:00 PM** so that we can start singing promptly at 7:00.

We are also very excited about **Kari Paludin's concert** on Saturday, September 26 at the Prince Theater. This is a joint fundraiser for the Chorale and the Prince. You will remember Kari as our spectacular soprano soloist in last April's presentation of Mozart's *Mass in C*. Tickets for the Saturday concert are \$15.00 and will be sold at our rehearsals and at the Prince box office. Please plan to attend this concert and encourage your friends as well.

In addition, Kari will do a "Master Class" on Sunday afternoon, September 27 at 3:00 PM. at the First United Methodist Church. Five persons will volunteer to be "students" and the rest of us will be observers. The "students" will sing something they have chosen, Kari will make suggestions, and we will all learn. The goal for the master class is to create a fun, low pressure environment where participants feel safe to challenge themselves and learn. All voice parts are welcome, and students of average vocal skills are encouraged. Since this workshop

must be self-supporting, the fee for “students” is \$40.00 and \$15.00 for observers. Please contact Liz Gross, (410) 778-1333 lizgross@verizon.net or me (410) 810-1439 jtames425@aol.com.

We hope that you will join us in singing this fall, and that you will support the Chorale by attending Kari’s concert on September 26.

Sincerely,

John Ames, President Chorale Board of Directors
August 27, 2009