

Oberlin Choristers

Sound of Music Traveler

January 2009

Tour Dates

June 26-July 5, 2009



Some financial news

- Thanks to almost all of you who got your January payments in on time. A statement is included with this statement only if your account is not up to date.
- The final payment date has been extended to Monday, March 9th. It is essential that all accounts are PAID IN FULL by that date. We will have no choice but to drop you from the tour if this payment is not on time.
- All credits (benefit concerts, Carrabbas, Night at the Races, Bingo, etc.) will be applied on your last statement. You will receive your final statement in early March. It will reflect the final tour price.
- Bingo that you work in February can be counted toward the tour. Bingo worked in March and later will count toward future fees.
- All singers will receive approximately 45€ once we get to Austria. Chaperones will hold on to this money so all singers will be guaranteed money for most lunches.

Let's meet a few of our chaperones:

Audrey Bartal: Audrey will be making her first European trip with our group, but she chaperoned in Michigan in 2008. Grandmother of Dana Smith, I believe she climbed the large dune at Sleeping Bear Dunes as quickly as any of the teenagers. She is a singer and a traveler and enjoys introducing her grandchildren to the thrill rides at Cedar Point. She works as an optician

Diane Board: Diane chaperoned groups in Scotland and Australia. Her love of travel and children is a great combination. Kids in her group may have to limit Diane's trips to souvenir shops, however. She and her husband Myron have 7 children including Ben who sings in Youth Chorale and Brianna who is in her 3rd year of Touring Choir. Diane teaches sign language and last summer signed one of the pieces performed at the World Music Festival.

Holly Linden: Holly is another veteran chaperone - she accompanied the group to Michigan last summer. She helps manage Linden Propane, gives riding lessons, breeds horses, has traveled extensively internationally, and is begging for a chance to see the Lipizzan horses at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Holly's daughter sings in Touring Choir.

More next month



Mini Conversion Lesson

When you buy something priced at 10 Euros,
it is costing you \$13.50
(amount in Euros x 1.35 = dollar amount)

so....

5€ = \$ ____ 25€ = \$ ____ 30€ = \$ ____

Practice this or your singer will run out of money quickly!!

Announcement:

All singers will receive or already have (please save!!)

- Burgundy polo
- Forest Green YC t-shirt
- Purple TC t-shirt
- Royal Blue CC t-shirt

All Participants will receive

- A tour t-shirt
- A tour sweatshirt



While we are in the Salzburg area we will have the opportunity to visit Berchtesgaden and the Salt Mines. The mine tour will include a train ride, a boat ride on an underground lake and a long wooden slide. Here's a bit of salt history for you. (thanks Mr. Sue)

Salzburg or "Salt town" is aptly named. Humans known as Celts were mining salt in that area even before Romans established their Empire. In fact, Celtic soldiers conquered Rome in 390 B.C. and controlled the city for the next 40 years! The Celts mined the salt by digging tunnels underground dressed in leather shoes and colorful woolen clothing. We know this because every once in a while a miner would die in a mining accident and his body would be entombed in the salt. Several well-pickled Celtic miners were re-exhumed when mining recommenced in the Middle Ages. In 1573, for example, one intact and clothed body complete with bronze pickax was discovered during mining and displayed in a local church until it started to decompose. A number of commonplace things we enjoy probably originated in Celtic culture, including how to cure boars' legs with salt to make hams.

The skillful use of salt is a hallmark of all great civilizations. It is a nutritional necessity of life – your blood has about the same salinity as seawater. Rock salt is also one of the prime sources of the

multitude of chemicals needed to make an industrial society like ours function. Humans have been mining salt around Salzburg for thousands of years because the salt layers are unusually thick in this region and contain a variety of different salts, not just common or table salt (the compound NaCl). The layer was deposited in a remote period of geologic time known as the Permian when the area now known as Austria consisted of coastal plains and rift valleys. The climate was very dry at the time, but the area was periodically inundated by storms (similar to today's Persian Gulf and Death Valley, only drier!). Time after time the water evaporated and left behind a residual layer of diverse salts that grew progressively thicker over millions of years. Eventually, as continents drifted and plates shifted, the salt got buried under younger layers of shale, sandstone and limestone, then got caught up in the mountain-building that eventually formed the modern Alps. The legacy of time spent as a salt flat 250 million years ago helped make Salzburg and nearby locations in central Europe some of the most productive salt mines in the world.

This information and more can be found in the book Salt by Mark Kurlansky - give it a read.



Night at the Races

Date: February 14, 2009
 Place: Amvets 11087 Middle Ave., Elyria
 Time: 6:00 -11:00 P.M.
 \$20 per person
 Beer, Wine, Food provided
 21 years and older



***Tickets available for Night at the Races
 at the Choristers office***

Yes, those Passport copies were due!

The following people still need to turn in copies of their passports. Again, please make sure the expiration date on your passport is January 6, 2010 or later. Those of you who haven't called Sue yet, please do so.

Touring Choir

Caitlyn Dickey
 Angela Hudnell
 Mikhailia Rice
 Halle Shadrake
 Christina Yarris

Youth Chorale

Andrea Bestor
 Jessica Dakos
 Erika Kunath
 Alanna Shadrake

Samantha Stanley
 Jenna Stolarik
 Cory Svette

Extras

(families, chaperones, staff)

Hailey Kunath
 Holly Linden
 Carolyn McKinney