

This Week
Operatic Duo
Tara Alexander
& Randy Murphy
Opera Sampler
Program Host:
Theo Clarke

In stark contrast to the hooting and hollering of last week, this week Altadena Rotary will host a more sublime program, featuring the operatic duo Tara Alexander and Randy Murphy. They will be doing material from *Phantom of the Opera*, *The Merry Widow*, *Showboat*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *Don Giovanni*.

Soprano **Tara Alexander** has been a musical theatre performer since she was 11. Some of her credits include the Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Sylvia in *All Shook Up*, and a General's Daughter in *Pirates of Penzance*.

Baritone **Randy Murphy** earned BAs in Music and Music Education at the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He just appeared in South Pasadena in *Gianni Schicchi* as The Notary. Other roles include Alidoro in *La Cenerentola*, Dodd in *The Cinderella Stories*, Ambrogio in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, and the Page in

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Hayes
 by President Brian Hayes
Stack

Where have All the Folkies Gone

When the United States was attacked on September 11, 2001, a forceful response to that violent and senseless act was expected and justified. Domestic opposition to our intervention in Afghanistan was slight, seemingly consisting of a handful of aging *Peaceniks* who would oppose war at any cost.

Our invasion of Iraq was another matter. While I, along with most of the world, believed the information that was presented by our government supporting the case for war. When it became clear, however, that this *evidence* regarding Saddam Hussein's imminent threat was not entirely compelling, legitimate questions were raised regarding our right to topple that rogue regime.

My point isn't to raise any geo-political controversies. My question is, as I think about the voices that sang out against our involvement in Viet Nam, why was there no similar artistic uprising against our seemingly endless occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq? The only folk singer I can think of who protested our military action was a leftover from an earlier time, Neil Young.

Listening to the memorable performance by Barry McGuire at last week's

meeting (and I apologize to the program scribe if I am usurping your theme!), made me remember the many moving and enduring musical statements made by performers during the 1960s and early 70s promoting peace. Songs by Barry McGuire, Bob Dylan, Neil Young and others from that era may still get airplay on *oldies* stations, but they remind us that it was once possible to be controversial and still get your message to the people. Today it seems that the new music that makes it to the airwaves is watered-down and lacking an original voice or point of view.

I've heard folk singers play at little clubs around town, so I know the art form is still around. I hope that the *old folkies* like Barry continue to make their music because we still need to hear what they have to say.

Greeters

- April 28
Julius Johnson
- May 05
Sterling Louviere
- May 12
Tom McCurry



Program Review

Sing-along with Hits from the Sixties Back in Time to Songs We Sang in High School

Normally a presentation at an Altadena Rotary meeting is one by a representative of a qualified non-profit or business. It is ordinarily not considered *entertaining*. Last Thursday's event, however, was as entertaining as I can recall for a Rotary event. The club had the pleasure of hearing from legendary performers Barry McGuire and John York as they sang songs from the sixties.

McGuire started performing in his twenties. He once played at The Ice House in Pasadena. In 1962, he joined The New Christy Minstrals and performed at The

Troubadour in Hollywood. McGuire along with Randy Sparks co-wrote and sang lead vocal on the Minstrals' first and biggest hit single "Green, Green," a song he performed for us.

McGuire's most famous song is called "Eve of Destruction," which went number 1 on the Billboard Hot 200 Chart in September 1965. According to McGuire "Eve of Destruction" was recorded in one take. The song is a grave warning of imminent apocalypse and is considered the epitome of a protest song. The song expressed the frustrations and fears of young people in the age of the Cold War, the Vietnam War, the nuclear arms race, and the civil rights movement. The song makes reference to Selma, Alabama where a murder of civil rights workers occurred, the Kennedy



Barry McGuire (L) and John York

assassination, and nuclear war. The song was controversial and was banned on several stations and in several countries. McGuire never broke the top 40 again.

John York accompanied McGuire. York was primarily a studio musician who is a talented performer in his own right. It fact York was a member for a short time of the Byrds, one of the prominent music groups of the sixties. McGuire and York performed two of the hits of the Byrds: "Mr. Tambourine Man" and "Turn, Turn, Turn." The latter is a song based entirely on a section of the Book of Ecclesiastes. The song was written by legendary folk

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Congratulations




Birthdays

04/13 - Alice HUDSON
04/18 - John Frykenberg
04/29 - Mike Noll




Anniversaries

04/27 - Sterling & Olga Louviere

Sparks is published 48 weeks a year and is the official publication of the Rotary Club of Altadena. The deadline for submission of articles is Friday at 6p to current editor email, fax, or delivery.

Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949

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Tony Hill Vocational/Youth Projects

John Guerrini Membership

Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics

Photography Jacque Foreman

April Programs

Magazine Month

Program Chair, Theo Clarke

April 28 - Tara Alexander and Randy Murphy: Singers, Musical Theater and Operetta Repertoire

May Programs

No Designation

Program Chair, John Guerrini

May 05 - To be Announced

May 12 - To be Announced

May 19 - To be Announced

May 26 - JROTC Awards

Chairmen's Corner

Efficient Ways to Give Assets to Charity

Part I: Charitable Remainder Trusts

by Craig Cox, Foundation Chair



What are the most efficient ways to give assets to charity? I will take the next few Foundation articles to review available methods. Today we will look at *Charitable Remainder Trusts*.

A charitable remainder trust (CRT) is a tax-advantaged philanthropic strategy. It allows you to direct your wealth in ways that reflect your charitable values and beliefs, while also providing you with a payment stream during your lifetime.

Why should you consider establishing a charitable remainder trust? A charitable remainder trust can help you:

- Diversify your portfolio
- Provide a regular payment stream
- Support one or more favorite charities

This trust provides distinct tax advantages if you hold a concentrated stock position or highly appreciated assets.

How is a charitable remainder trust structured?

- You make an irrevocable gift of stock, property or other assets to a charitable remainder trust, in which you and/or your beneficiaries retain the right to

receive a regular payment stream. The charities that you designate will receive the remaining trust assets at the end of the trust term.

- Most commonly, the trust pays you and your beneficiaries — usually a spouse or children — regular payments for life. The trust may also be designed to defer distributions to a future date or upon certain events. Or it can be designed to stop payments at a future date.
- When the last person entitled to a payment stream dies or the trust terminates, the designated charities become the recipients of the trust's remaining assets.
- Payments to you or your beneficiaries may be taxable, depending on the type of income received from the trust.
- You may give substantially to one or more favorite charities, a family foundation, a donor advised fund, or other public charity.

What are the financial benefits of a charitable remainder trust?

- You may receive an up-front income or gift tax deduction for the amount that is considered a charitable gift.
- After contribution, your gifted property or stock can be sold by the trustee without realizing capital gains taxes at the

time of the sale. The proceeds can then be reinvested in a diversified portfolio for growth, income or total return.

- Charitable remainder trusts that name the donor and spouse as beneficiaries typically qualify for the unlimited marital deduction. However, naming a beneficiary other than the donor or spouse in the same trust will result in a loss of the unlimited marital deduction and could result in gift taxes.
 - The value of the remainder interest ultimately distributed to a charity or charities will qualify for a charitable estate tax deduction and reduce your taxable estate.
 - Depending on the structure of the trust, you or other named beneficiaries may be exempt from gift, estate and generation-skipping transfer (GST) taxes.
 - Diversify concentrated stock. A charitable remainder trust can provide a tax-efficient way to manage a concentrated stock position. By using the stock to fund the trust, the trustee can diversify all or a portion of the concentrated stock without having to pay capital gains tax at the time of sale. You would pay tax only as you received your annual distribution from the trust.
- Next time: Charitable Lead Trusts

This Week

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Amahl and the Night Visitors. Murphy is also currently studying with opera coach Marya Basaraba.

Their coach, Basaraba, is well known in Southern California as an operatic and symphonic soloist and vocal coach. She is the resident chorus maestra of the *California Philharmonic* and is the Director of Music of the *Spirit Alive Fellowship* in Altadena.

This is going to be a *GREAT* program. Bring a guest.

Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter

Program

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singer and songwriter Pete Seeger in 1959. It is one of the few instances in popular music where a large portion of the Scripture is set to music.

McGuire and York now perform to live audiences, large and small throughout the United States and beyond. They were in town to play at the Coffee Gallery on north Lake. The tour is called *Trippin' the 60s*,

which is described as "...taking the songs and the truth that was in those songs from the 60s and bringing them into the present moment... it is we singing songs we sung with a lot of friends that are not around anymore to sing them."

The songs brought back a lot of memories. It was a great experience for all in attendance.



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Last Week in the News

The trade deficit decreased 2.6 percent to \$45.76 billion in February from \$46.97 billion in January. Economists had expected a trade deficit of \$44 billion. Exports fell 1.4 percent to \$165.12 billion. Imports decreased 1.7 percent to \$210.88 billion.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending April 8 fell 6.7 percent. Refinancing applications decreased 7.7 percent. Purchase volume fell 4.7 percent.

Retail sales rose 0.4 percent to \$396.3 billion in March after a revised 1.1 percent increase in February. It was the ninth straight monthly gain. On a year-over-year basis, retail sales rose 7.1 percent.

Total business inventories rose 0.5 percent in February to \$1.46 trillion, up 9.1 percent from a year ago. Total business sales increased 0.2 percent to \$1.17 trillion in February, up 10.9 percent from a year ago.

The producer price index, which tracks wholesale price inflation, rose 0.7 percent in March after a 1.6 percent increase in February. Core prices — excluding food and fuel — rose 0.3 percent in March.

Industrial production at the nation's factories, mines and utilities rose 0.8 percent in March, following a revised 0.1 percent increase in February. Compared to a year ago, industrial production is up 5.9 percent. Capacity utilization was 77.4 percent in March.

Consumer prices rose a seasonally adjusted 0.5 percent in March, following a 0.5 percent increase in February. For the year, seasonally adjusted consumer prices are up 2.7 percent.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits rose by 27,000 to 412,000 for the week

ending April 9. Continuing claims for the week ending April 2 fell by 58,000 to 3.68 million, the lowest since September 2008.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on the housing market index on April 18, housing starts on April 19 and existing home sales on April 20.

Social Benefits of Homeownership

A recent report by the National Association of Realtors identifies homeownership's numerous social benefits. The report, *Social Benefits of Homeownership and Stable Housing*, cites extensive research showing that homeownership increases civic participation, lowers crime rates and boosts children's educational performance.

Homeowners have a far lower move rate compared with renters. Nearly 30 percent of renters changed residential locations in 2008 to 2009, while only 5.2 percent of owner-occupied residents moved. Because homeowners remain in their homes longer, they add stability to their neighborhoods.

Homeowners have an incentive to improve the overall quality of their surrounding community. This incentive is evident in greater community involvement and awareness. Homeowners are twice as likely than renters to know the

name of their local school board representative. One study found that 77 percent of homeowners voted in local elections compared with 52 percent of renters. Homeowners also had a higher incidence of membership in voluntary organizations.

Homeowners are more likely than renters to form voluntary crime prevention programs, making it easier to identify a perpetrator of crime. Crime, drug use and juvenile delinquency rates all decrease in stable neighborhoods with extensive social ties. Consequently, homeowners are far less likely to become crime victims.

Homeownership makes a significant positive impact on educational achievement. According to the *Journal of Urban Economics*, teenage students of homeowners have a greater likelihood of graduating and young children of homeowners tend to have higher levels of achievement in math and reading. The positive effects on education may arise not from homeownership alone but from the combined social benefits of homeownership, namely a lower move rate, greater neighborhood stability, enhanced social ties and increased civic participation.

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <http://www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes>



FELLOWSHIP...

The Core of Altadena Rotary

**Friday, April 29; 5:30-8:30p,
Monopole Wine, 27 S. El Molino
Next door to the Pasadena Playhouse**

Fellowship Chair, Theo Clarke, asks that you confirm if you plan to attend. Con-

firm to him or to Tom McCurry by email.

Clarke's email is:

tcclarke@earthlink.net

McCurry's email is:

tamccurry@sbcglobal.net

Easy Tomatoes and Garlic with Spaghetti



It's raining in Southern California, and John and Nick can't think of a better reason to make one of their favorite *feel good* foods — pasta with a quick and easy saute of fresh tomato and garlic.

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup olive oil
- 10-12 cloves of garlic, peeled
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 large tomatoes, diced (leave skins and seeds)
- Handful capers, rinsed
- Handful parsley, finely chopped
- Asiago, Parmesan, or Romano, as desired, grated
- More olive oil, as needed
- Spaghetti, cooked al dente

Put first four ingredients into a small food processor.



Pulse gently until the garlic is roughly chopped.

Break out a good bottle of wine to enjoy while preparing this dish.

Chop up the tomatoes, leaving the seeds and skins on.



Don't let the juices escape!
 Into a hot saute or wok style pan, add



the garlic/oil mixture.

On high heat, saute for two minutes or so, stirring constantly.

Do not let the garlic begin to turn brown. Leave the heat high and then add the tomatoes.



Stir and continue to saute on high heat for about one minute; and then add the parsley.

Give it a quick stir; then add the capers.



Stir for a minute. Add more olive oil if necessary; or wait to drizzle good quality olive oil over the meal.



Toss the mixture with the spaghetti.

Mmm ... comfort food.

Until next time ...

