



# Notes and Measures

October 28, 2019

## The First Ever GCCC Traffic Alert!

We're starting this edition of *Notes and Measures* with something I'd never thought I'd run: A traffic advisory. Starting today through November 6th, the City of Ventura will be repairing storm drains just east of Church of the Foothills on Foothill Road, between Colina Vista and La Fonda Drive. The city expects that the work will lead to road closures during that two-week period – which means you may need to alter your driving route to the church.

If you typically drive west on Foothill Road to get to the Church for rehearsals (for example, if you exit the 126 at the Kimball Road off-ramp and then make a left turn from Kimball onto Foothill), we recommend that you avoid this route; take Victoria Avenue north to Foothill and make a right to get to the church and to rehearsal. We'll advise you in future editions of *Notes and Measures* if the road closure's extended. If you have any further questions about the road closure, please see the City of Ventura Public Works page on Facebook. Happy motoring!

## Next Week: Fall Back to Spring Forward to Rehearsal

We have just a few days left done in October, which means an important event is almost here – my birthday. (I'm registered at shopdisney.com if you'd like to get me a gift.) Next Sunday, November 3rd, also happens to be the day that we switch from daylight savings time to standard time. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday morning, so that you don't arrive anywhere you need to be (like rehearsal) an hour early on Monday.

Road closures, time changes – this is getting to be one of the most unusual editions of this newsletter ever! Let's continue...

## Hints From The Handbook: Watch Liz. No, Really - Watch Liz!

It's time for another edition of our occasional series "Hints from the Handbook", where we take a moment to discuss important things you may have missed or forgotten from the GCCC Singers Handbook. Today's topic is something so important that we ask you to do it twice in the Handbook: *Watch Liz – or whoever is conducting the Chorus - at all times.*

For our newer singers, this may seem like an odd request – after all, we've been told since we were kids that it's not polite to stare. But there's a method to our madness, and we ask you to do it for a couple of important reasons.

First off, we all need to watch Liz so we that can keep from falling behind or getting ahead of the intended pace of the songs. It's very easy to get so lost in your music that you sing at the tempo you feel that the song should be sung, as opposed to the tempo that Liz wants us to sing it in. Liz may also choose to speed a song up, slow it down, or have the chorus hold a note, depending on how the song

is going, but you'll never know it if you're not looking!

If there's a break in the song, the best place to look for your cue isn't in your music folder, but at Liz. Worried that you might lose your place if you look up from your music? Liz will be silently repeating the lyrics as we sing; glance down at the words occasionally if you must, but your best bet for staying with everyone is to look up at Liz.

Last but not least, remember that the folks that buy tickets to our concerts are coming to see and hear you. They want to see your smiling faces, and they want to hear you clearly – neither of which will happen if you're staring down at your music or you're holding your music folder so high that nobody can see your face. Be sure to position your music folder so that you can see the music, but also so that the audience can see you – and of course, so you can see Liz. (Same thing goes when you're positioning yourself on the risers.)

If you have any questions about how to watch Liz and how to position your music folder, talk to your section leader. If you have suggestions about other items we should cover in future editions of "Hints from the Handbook" or you have questions about the Handbook in general, please see me or another member of the Board.

## **Give Thanks & Reach Others with GCCC Program Ads**

I want to thank everyone who's grabbed a copy of the program ad form and "love note" form over the past few weeks. The best way we have for spreading the word about our chorus and its activities is by word of mouth, and hopefully all of those ad forms that have been taken from the table will result in enough ads to pay for our program and to help us pay for the risers!

If you know a local business that's looking for more customers or someone who is starting out on a new business venture, GCCC program ads are a reasonably priced way for an individual or a business to show their support for the arts and to get the word out about their store, service, or product.

Many friends and family members of singers like to run small ads to congratulate them and acknowledge everything they did in preparation for the performance, and often singers want to thank the people that supported them, too! In addition to our regular program ads, which are run in the program for the entire season, we offer a little something called a Love Note, where you or someone who knows you can run a brief note of encouragement or thanks for a single concert for a very reasonable price. In addition, proceeds from Love Notes purchased this season will be used to help purchase our new risers, so your ads will literally help to support us on stage!

Program ad forms and Love Note forms will be available tonight at break; program ad forms are also now available on the GCCC website under the "Support GCCC" link at the top of the main page. If you have any questions about program advertising, please see Kat Lisowska, our publications chair, or any member of the board.

## **That's it for this edition – see you next issue!**

If you have news or information that you'd like to share in a future issue, please contact a member or the Board at rehearsal, or send an e-mail to Paul Schnebelen at [membership@goldcoastchorus.org](mailto:membership@goldcoastchorus.org).