



FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS  
703-923-9877 WWW.FCRE.ORG

# THE ADVOCATE

VOLUME XLI, Number 6

February 2020

## Come Be Serenaded by The Harmony Heritage Singers in February

Eva Pappas, Program Director

The Harmony Heritage Singers will be our guests at our luncheon on **Wednesday, February 12, 2020**. They are a group of retired gentlemen who enjoy singing together in barbershop's distinctive style. They are legally and historically bound to the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA). Barbershop harmony is music in a very pure form with nothing but human voices coming together to create a rich and satisfying texture that is pleasing to the ears and invigorating to the soul. They have fun singing, and you will enjoy hearing favorites like "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Take Me Home, Country Roads." The chorus is presenting "A Salute to World War One" with a collection of songs from 100 years ago when Americans went "Over There" to fight "The Great War."

While the modern era of barbershop music is generally accepted to have begun with the 1940s revival, opinions as to the genre's origins vary with respect to race, gender, region, and context. Historical memoirs and journalism indicate a strong tradition of quartets' singing among young African American men, gathering informally to "crack a chord." This was acknowledged as early as 1882, when a New York-based writer traced the development of singing as a home-grown amusement, arising from the exclusion of Blacks from theaters and concert halls.

Barbershops have a long history of serving as community centers, where men would gather for a variety of activities. English "barber's music," for example, was described in the 17th century by Samuel Pepys as amateur instrumental music. In the United States, the role of the barbershop continued, with men often passing time there singing spirituals, folk songs, and popular songs of the day. Later, white minstrel singers adopted the style and in the early days of the recording industry, their performances were recorded and sold. Early standards included songs such as "Shine On Harvest Moon," "Hello, Ma Baby," and "Sweet Adeline."

Barbershop music was very popular between 1900 and 1919, and modern barbershop quartets often costume themselves in gaudy versions of the dress of this time, with boaters and vertically striped vests. The music gradually faded into obscurity in the 1920s, although barbershop-style harmonies remained in evidence in a cappella forms of traditional Black gospel and White gospel music.

Other researchers argue that barbershop singing was effectively created during the 1940s in the ranks of the Barbershop Harmony Society while creating a system of singing contests and its contest rules.

Mark your calendars now for a performance you will not want to miss!

**FEBRUARY LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

The February luncheon will be held on **Wednesday**, February 12, 2020. Reservations must be received by phone, mail, or email no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, February 7, 2020. Please call, mail, or email early!

By Mail: Please provide your name, name(s) of guests, and a check for \$18.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests. Make your check payable to FCRE and mail it to FCRE Luncheon Reservations, P. O. Box 682, Springfield, VA 22150-0682.

By Phone: Call 703-923-9877 and leave your name, phone number, and name of guest(s).

By Email: Email your name and your guest(s) name to [luncheon@fcree.org](mailto:luncheon@fcree.org).

Cost of Luncheon: The cost of the luncheon is \$18.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests. **Please note that all unclaimed reservations will be billed.**

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**ADDRESS AND AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY LUNCHEON**

Address: Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA

**Agenda:**

- 11:00am -- Social hour and cash bar (meet and greet your friends!)
- 11:30am -- Lunch served (menu: chicken cordon blue and cheesecake with cherries)
- 12:15pn -- Program/entertainment: Heritage Harmony Singers

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**As stated above, all unclaimed reservations will be billed. Please be sure to attend if you make a reservation.**

**Inclement Weather Reminder**

***FCRE activities and events are CANCELLED when FCPS schools are closed due to inclement weather. FCRE activities and events will occur if FCPS schools are operating on a delayed opening schedule.***

## Travel Updates

Collette Travel Information

by  
Alicia Clelland

The travel presentations for Charming French Canada and The Colorado Rockies were held in January. Both of these trips have sparked considerable interest from our FCRE travelers. The Charming French Canada (July 24 – Aug 1, 2020) trip will be using 5-star Fairmont hotels, including Le Chateau Frontenac in Quebec, one of the oldest hotels in North America. The Colorado Rockies (August 14-22, 2020) includes visits to several national parks and a historic train ride. I am signed up for this trip and am looking forward to visiting Mesa Verde National Park, a UNESCO world site and home of the Ancient Pueblo civilization.

Please note that the travel dates for Charming French Canada have changed. The new date has a **departure on July 24, 2020**. Deposits for this trip have been extended until February 17, 2020. Members wishing additional information regarding this trip should contact Trevor Major by email at [trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com](mailto:trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com) or by phone at 703-242-2204.

The next travel presentations are on **March 5 at the FCRE office** and **March 12 at the Shillelagh Travel Club** at 100 East St., SE, Suite 202, Vienna at 2:00 PM. These presentations will be for the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, October 7-12, 2020, (deposit due date April 30, 2020) and Costa Rica: A World of Nature, Nov 3-14, 2020, (deposit due date March 27, 2020). Hopefully, offering the identical presentation at both locations allows members to choose the location most convenient to them. Please RSVP Trevor Major if planning to attend either of these presentations.

### OTHER TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Several trips for 2020 are listed below. Contact Trevor Major at Shillelagh Travel for more information or to make a trip deposit. Trevor be reached by phone at 703-242-2204 or by email at [trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com](mailto:trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com).

	<p><b>July 24-Aug 1, 2020: Charming French Canada</b> Discover the many charms of the Canadian province of Quebec, from its natural and historic wonders to some of its most luxurious hotels. Trip highlights include a tour of Montréal, the tradition of maple syrup making at a local sugar shack, a tour of Quebec City, a whale-watching expedition, a lavender farm and Montmorency Falls. <b>Deposit Deadline: February 17, 2020</b></p>
	<p><b>August 14-22, 2020: Colorado Rockies</b> Experience the majesty of the Colorado Rockies, four National Parks and two historic trains that celebrate the can-do spirit of the Old West. From towering peaks to deep canyons and Old West towns to dynamic cities, a region of contrasting beauty and charm awaits. <b>Deposit Deadline: January 27, 2020</b></p>

	<p><b>October 7-12: Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta</b></p> <p>The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta has grown into one of the world’s most photographed events. This exciting journey also includes time in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, two culturally rich cities. Visit the unique shops and restaurants of Old Town Albuquerque. Set out on an open-air tram tour of Santa Fe with a local guide. Experience the Santa Fe School of Cooking.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Deposit Deadline: April 30, 2020</b></p>
	<p><b>November 3-14, 2020: Costa Rica – A World of Nature</b></p> <p>From discoveries on water to journeys <i>terra firma</i>, experience Costa Rica – a living Eden on Central America’s isthmus. Experience the rainforest, sample the fresh cacao during a visit to a local plantation, visit the green sea turtle research station in Tortuguero National Park, and admire the white sand beaches of Manuel Antonio National Park. This is the very best of Costa Rica – a world of nature.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Deposit Deadline: March 27, 2020</b></p>

## SHILLELAGH DAY TRIPS

Information about the day trips is given below, or can be obtained by contacting Trevor Major at the above phone number or email address:

- **Murder at Mount Hope Mansion**
  - Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2020
  - Cost: \$125.00 per person
  - Package Includes: motor coach transportation, 4-course pre-set luncheon, meal gratuities, & Murder at Mount Hope Mansion experience
  - Schedule: depart 8:00 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 5:45 PM to same location.
  
- **Barnes Foundation Museum**
  - Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020
  - Cost: \$166.00 per person
  - Package Includes: motor coach transportation, 3-course luncheon onboard The Moshula (a 103-year old tall sailing ship permanently docked in Philadelphia, PA), taxes & meal gratuities, & docent-led tour of Barnes Museum/
  - Schedule: depart 7:30 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 8:30 PM to same location
  
- **A Day in St. Michaels, MD**
  - Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2020
  - Cost: \$152.00 per person
  - Package Includes: motor coach transportation, guided tour of Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, 65-75 minute cruise on the Miles River, 3-course luncheon at St. Michaels Crab & Steak House, taxes & meal gratuities
  - Schedule: depart 7:15 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 7:15 PM to same location

- **Beehive -- The 60's Musical**

- Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020
- Cost: \$177.00 per person
- Package Includes: motor coach transportation, family style lunch at Hickory Bridge Farms, ticket to show at the Totem Pole Playhouse, taxes & meal gratuities
- Schedule: depart 9:00 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 7:00 PM to same location.

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## **CINEMA ARTS GROUP**



This group meets the third Wednesday of the month from September to June. Participants attend a movie at Cinema Arts followed by an optional lunch and discussion at First Watch Café. Contact Alicia Clelland at [clellaap@cox.net](mailto:clellaap@cox.net) to be added to her contact list.

## **BOOK GROUPS**

**Annandale Book Group:** Meets 3rd Wednesday at noon at various locations. Contact Dottie Addison at [daddison@wrsystems.com](mailto:daddison@wrsystems.com) for more information.

**FAIRFAX CITY GROUP:** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 10:30 AM in the Barnes and Noble Bookstore at Fair Lakes. For information, contact Sue Williams at [suewms@cox.net](mailto:suewms@cox.net).



**VIENNA GROUP:** Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at the Providence Community Center. Contact Joey Graves at [joeygraves1@gmail.com](mailto:joeygraves1@gmail.com) for information.

## **BRIDGE GROUPS**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY GROUP:** Meets at 9:45 AM at the Vienna American Legion, located at 303 Center St. NW, Vienna, VA. Contact Barbara Marshall for information at [bmarshall6210@gmail.com](mailto:bmarshall6210@gmail.com).



**4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY GROUP:** Meets in homes at 7 PM. For information, contact Joey Graves or Claudette Coffey. Email Joey at [joeygraves1@gmail.com](mailto:joeygraves1@gmail.com).

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> MONDAY GROUP:** Meets at the Pinn Community Center on Zion Rd in Burke, VA from 9:45am-12:00noon. Contact Bunny Monroe at [MissBummyM@aol.com](mailto:MissBummyM@aol.com).

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Donations to the FCRE Scholarship fund are always welcomed. If you would like to make a donation, please complete the form below and return it, along with your check, to the address given on the form.

### **W. HAROLD FORD SCHOLARSHIP DONATION**

[501 c3 Tax Deductible]

Make your check payable to **W. Harold Ford Foundation** in the following amount:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5    \_\_\_\_\_ \$10    \_\_\_\_\_ \$15    \_\_\_\_\_ \$20    \_\_\_\_\_ whatever you can

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Detach this form and mail with your check to:

FCRE Scholarship  
PO Box 682  
Springfield, VA 22150-0682

You will receive a receipt for your contribution. Thanks!



Entering Retirement Feeling Confident

### **ERFC WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Your FCPS retirement system is seeking testimonials from retirees regarding the value of having a retirement pension. We'd like to hear how your ERFC benefit has assisted you in your transition into retirement and what it means to you to be a retired ERFC member.

Outstanding submissions will be featured on our website and upcoming communications with active members.

Please send your submission via email to Lisa Scott at [lbscott1@fcps.edu](mailto:lbscott1@fcps.edu) at your earliest convenience.

## **ARE YOU IN THE PINK?**

**If the answer is "yes," it is time to renew your membership! Here's how to know and what to do:**

- Check the expiration date above your name on your mailing label. If it reads "Expires June 30, 2020," then it is time to renew.
- To renew:
  - ✓ Write your check (payable to **FCRE**) for either \$30.00 (for a 1-year renewal) or for **\$75** (for a **3 year renewal**)
  - ✓ Mail your check to: FCRE  
Membership Renewal  
PO Box 682  
Springfield, VA 22150-0682

**\*\*\**MANY THANKS*\*\*\***

*FCRE members wish to give many thanks to the Apple Federal Credit Union.  
Your continued support is greatly appreciated.*

## **REAL ID: DO YOU HAVE IT?**

Beginning October 1, 2020, you will need either a passport or REAL ID to go through airport security. It's easy to get a REAL ID (a driver's license with a star in the upper right corner) even if your driver's license is current. Follow these steps:

Bring the following to a DMV office (all documents must be originals):

- 1) An unexpired US passport or US birth certificate OR your Social Security card or a W2 with the full Social Security number
- 2) Two of these:  
Valid VA driver's license, recent utility bill, mortgage statement. These must display your name and current residential address.

There is a fee of \$10 plus \$20 for license replacement.  
For more information, go to [dmv.virginia.gov](http://dmv.virginia.gov)

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PO BOX 682  
Springfield, VA 22150-0682

PRESORTED  
MARKETING MAIL  
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Upcoming FCRE Luncheon Dates at  
the Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd.,  
Fairfax, VA  
2020  
Wed., Feb. 12 -- reserve by Feb. 7  
Thurs., Apr. 23 -- reserve by Apr. 17  
Thurs., Jun. 11 -- reserve by Jun 5

<p align="center"><b>February 2020</b> <b>FCRE <i>ADVOCATE</i> VOL. XLI</b></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>BOARD of DIRECTORS</u></b></p>
<p>The FCRE <i>ADVOCATE</i> is published by the Fairfax County Retired Educators Exclusively for its members. © Fairfax County Retired Educators Change of address, letters, comments should to the FCRE address above or emailed to: fcrc@fcrc.org * * * * *</p>	<p><u>History &amp; Records:</u> <i>Vacancy</i> <u>Information &amp; Publications:</u> Connie Dineen <u>Legato School Museum:</u> Sue Langley <u>Legislative/Gov't Relations:</u> Barbara Allen <u>Luncheon Coordinator:</u> Phyllis Rittman <u>Member Activities:</u> <i>Vacancy</i> <u>Member Services/Tours:</u> Alicia Clelland <u>Membership:</u> Valerie Shapiro <u>Parliamentarian:</u> Dennis Pfenning <u>W. Harold Ford Scholarship:</u> Phyllis Rittman  * * * * *</p>
<p><b><u>OFFICERS: JULY, 2019 - JUNE, 2020</u></b> <u>President:</u> Cathy Shelton <u>Vice President:</u> Eva Pappas <u>Secretary:</u> Dennis Pfennig <u>Treasurer:</u> <i>Vacancy</i> <u>President-Elect:</u> <i>Vacancy</i></p>	<p><u>Office Manager:</u> Cathy Shelton</p>