

Letters to the Editor

Thank you Bob Botts

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank Bob Botts for his kind words of support for the Pass Chorale and Orchestra, in his letter on May 26. When appreciation and support are expressed through applause, ovations or personal communications, they are welcome and meaningful to the artists, both singers and players. We are validated in this way by the community, but when the support is in the form of a letter to the editor, this implies an added intent by the author and that was well expressed. We applaud Bob Botts for that!

Allow me to tell the Gazette readers more about the Pass Chorale and Orchestra. The PC has a good history of making fine music and serving the various communities in the pass. I remember being a guest singer and soloist for Martha Abbott when she directed the PC in 1967. This group was fairly large, numbering 50 plus singers. On one occasion, we joined other singers of the Inland Empire to perform Beethoven's 9th with James Guthrie and the San Bernardino Symphony. Pamela Ott, the next PC maestra, was able to tap into public schools for her fine program and had a robust local merchant support. Scholarships for local music students were offered annually.

Presently our focus is to the art of choral music and the great monuments that have withstood the test of time. Recreating, or performing them requires hard work and dedication. We invite anyone who loves to sing and work on challenging music to join us. Great music tends to challenge us, it brings out the best in us and we grow musically.

I thank the members of the PC for their dedication and hard work. I am proud of them! The orchestra rehearses just once with the chorale. Therefore, accomplished players are recruited to join us. A number of them are professors of music at local colleges and universities. One of our talented players, Patrick La Verne, drives from Los Angeles, where he teaches at a music conservatory. Many are college students. We support soloists and orchestra by pay-

ing them a modest honorarium.

The Pass Chorale is a non-profit organization and has a 501(c)(3)-tax status. Any contributions are welcome and tax deductible. Help us in our attempts to foster great music in the Pass Area by attending our next concert: The Vivaldi Gloria, Christmas Anthems and Carol sing-a-long on December 10 at 2:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, located at 1320 W. Williams St. in Banning.

Ernest Siva, Beaumont
President and Director, Pass
Chorale and Orchestra