

**Hope ...** Music Director Steven Schick

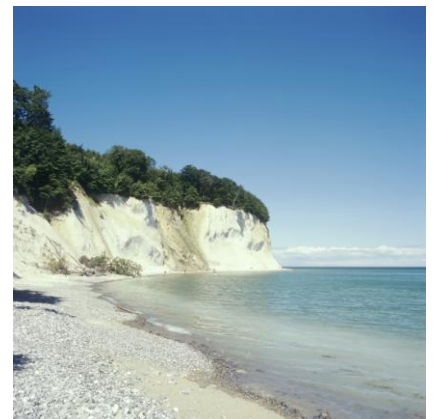
I am in the middle of reading Alan Weisman's fascinating book, "The World Without Us." The book posits absorbing questions: What would happen to the constructions and objects of human civilization if we humans suddenly vanished? How long would it take nature to reclaim its original space? The answers are thought-provoking and maybe a little sobering. The average suburban house, for example, would topple within a few decades but the stainless steel cutlery in it would go on for millennia. In addition to prompting the thought that my set of steak knives might wind up in a museum a couple of hundred thousand years from now as a relic of an ancient civilization, Weisman's observations made me think again of the fragility of the material of music. In these final concerts of our 2008-2009 season we will fill Mandeville Auditorium with glorious sounds. Any acoustician can tell you that the hushed entrance of the chorus on the word "Auferstehen" (resurrection) will decay nearly instantly – the sound will be gone many thousands of times faster than a wisp of smoke or a newspaper left out in the rain. But in an inverse reaction to the fleetingness of the sounds themselves, their effect on us will be indelible. Perhaps the truly lasting thing is not music itself but the impact of music.



The chain of musical DNA we have followed throughout this season has led us to the myriad and lasting ways music acts on us. We have seen music as a reminder of home, as an invitation to dance, as a measure of time and its passing, and now, most importantly, as a doorway to hope. And if ever there were a piece to give a body hope it would be Gustav Mahler's Symphony #2, the "Resurrection Symphony." The work is expansive, truly music fitted to a full life. It is framed on either side by big statements: a complex and inexorable funeral march as its first movement and a grand apotheosis of orchestral and choral sound as a finale. These outer movements are often what come to mind with Mahler's Second. This is oceanic, life-changing music and outlines the biggest emotional and philosophical themes imaginable: death and resurrection; despair and hope. But for me it is the three smaller middle movements that carry the real poetry. Here we have the recollections of a life fully lived. These movements are dances of reminiscence: sometimes gay or humorous or tender, occasionally crude, bawdy, even grotesque. Always human. For the musicians this music is full of details. Some are important, while others are gritty, nagging, even annoying. This music is, in other words, exactly like life. It is here that Mahler reminds us that life happens between the grand bookends of birth and death (or in the case of this symphony between death and re-birth). So here's the tricky question in Mahler: In the final moments of the piece, precisely in the majesty of revelation when the upward sweeping sounds of chorus in full voice are buoyed heavenward by the rising

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tide of orchestral sound, in that moment of pure grace can you still hear the folksy, slightly clunky dance of the Ländler? When the church bells are pealing can you still hear the humoresque of the E-flat clarinet as it snipes at the refinements of the violins? In the singing of angels can you still hear the simple sounds of children at play? For me the answer is yes. In Mahler it's all there. To get glory you don't have to abandon life, but rather plunge fully into it.

Now there's a reason for hope.



## News from the Executive Director ... Diane Salisbury

Our Early Bird subscription drive is well underway, with subscriptions being received daily and over 170 recorded to date. The deadline for Early Bird pricing is June 11.

The La Jolla Music Society has once again asked our orchestra to perform as part of SummerFest in their open-air concert at Scripps Park in La Jolla on August 13 at 7:30 pm. Attendance at last year's free concert was estimated at more than 2,000 people.

January 2010 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Young Artists Competition. We are planning a celebration that welcomes back several past winners who have gone on to successful careers in addition to highlighting next year's winners. More information to come as the committee forms.

Another party in the planning is the LJS&C 2009 Gala. The second annual benefit will be held this fall at The Westgate Hotel and feature a silent auction, reception, dinner, and dancing. This year's theme—*Some Like It Hot*—adds a little color and spice. Brush up your salsa skills as we mix Latin with Swing to the sounds of Big Band Express. Date to be announced at June concert.



## Peter Farrell awarded an Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship at UC San Diego 2009 ... submitted by Colin Bloor



Former UC Regent Edward A. Dickson created an endowment for the support and maintenance of special annual Professorships at every University of California campus to recognize persons of academic rank who have retired to Emeritus status but continue to make significant contributions in the areas of university service, teaching, and research. Each UC Emeriti Association may nominate 1 or 2 emeriti members annually whom they deem worthy of this Professorship. Final approval comes from the campus Chancellor's Office. The UC San Diego Emeriti Association received notice this week that our 2 nominees were approved to be Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professors at UC San Diego 2009. One of the awardees is Professor Peter Farrell who has been the principal cellist in our La Jolla Symphony Orchestra for many years.

Peter Farrell is a perfect candidate for the Professorship. Since becoming an Emeritus Professor in 1992, Peter has remained active as a musician and deeply involved in the musical life of the campus. In his capacity as principal cellist, Professor Farrell exemplifies the value of Emeriti as he guides the student members of the ensemble on many occasions. Last year he gave up his seat as principal cellist in favor of an extremely talented graduate cellist. He guided her without diminishing her status as principal player. This was a most generous example of mentorship. Peter has also been active in a mentoring program for undergraduate students.

## Contributors:

Barbara Peisch, Ed.

Colin Bloor

Walt Desmond

Beda Farrell

Sharon Jones

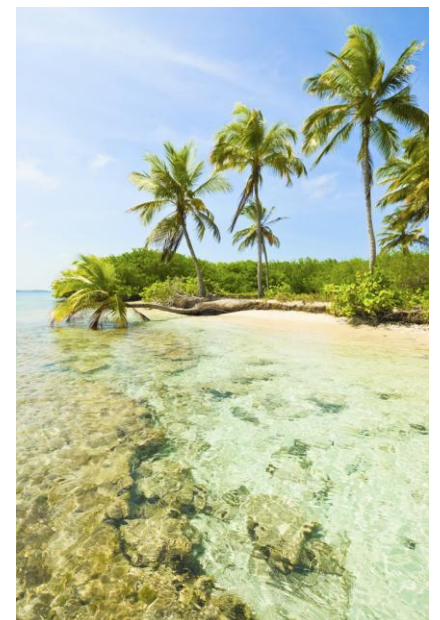
Michael Latz

Tom Peisch

Diane Salisbury

Steven Schick

Bill Ziefle



Since retiring in 1992, Peter has been active in the UCSD Emeriti and Retirement Associations. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Retirement Association. His activities in the UC San Diego Emeriti Association include serving on its Executive Committee on two separate occasions (1993-1997 and 2006 to the present) as well as serving as President from 1995-1996. Thus one recognizes that Peter is well deserving of this honor and recognition.

At the Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon of the UC San Diego Emeriti Association on June 10, 2009 Peter Farrell will be officially recognized and presented with a plaque designating him as an Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professor UC San Diego 2009. In addition he will receive a monetary award to support his ongoing activities in university service, teaching, and research for the coming year. Meantime let us ensemble members, who well know and love Peter, extend our heartiest congratulations on his being named to this Professorship.



## Member Spotlight

### Bill Ziefle, Tenor

Some people sing in the shower; others scream out a song while listening to their car radio. I sing tenor in the La Jolla Symphony Chorus.

I began singing as a child in the Longview Chapel Choir in my hometown of Kansas City, Mo. I played the cornet and trumpet in grade school through college, and have sung in choruses continually since grade school.

I attended the University of Missouri from 1963 to 1967, graduating with a BA in Mathematics, and then studied Econometrics at UC Berkeley starting in 1967 after receiving National Science Foundation and Ford Foundation fellowships. Despite completing all the course work and exams for a PhD, I was unable to finish my dissertation due to the frequent travel and other demands of a full-time job, and lack of a supportive mentor. I taught Economics at UC Berkeley as a graduate assistant, and worked at the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco.

During my tenure in the Bay Area, I earned a Certificate in Arts Administration from Golden Gate University in San Francisco and worked for the musical director at UC Berkeley, as well as other performing arts organizations.

Also, while at UC Berkeley, I sang with a men's octet, chamber singers, men's glee club and a mixed chorus (as a baritone). I was thrilled to sing in the west coast premiere fully staged production of the Bernstein Mass, and am excited about reprising that work on my birthday next fall.

It was such a joy to sing the Mahler 8<sup>th</sup> Symphony for the opening of Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco with the San Francisco Symphony. In looking for a quality chorus after moving to Southern California, I joined the La Jolla Chorus in the winter of 1984 to sing the Bach B Minor Mass. I have been learning from Dr. Chase ever since and felt quite privileged to also have sung with Robert Shaw and Julian Wachner over those years, and to have toured Western Europe with the chorus in 1988.

### **Various careers**

I've changed careers a few times. I initially worked in Natural Resources Planning, doing mostly contract consulting for public agencies. When support for that work dried up in the late 70s, I began working in Telecommunications Network Design for Bank of America, applying skills I picked up before leaving the Signal Corps of the US Army Reserve as a Captain in 1977.



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[www.peisch.com/tutti](http://www.peisch.com/tutti)





Severe damage to our home in Marin County in the winter storms of 1982 brought us to Southern California. I initially worked here for two S&Ls which dissolved (with my pensions) as part of the Resolution Trust Corporation crisis in the late 80s. My next work was with the Auto Club of Southern California starting in 1990. Unfortunately, it required commuting over one and one-half hours each way from Carlsbad to Costa Mesa until I took early retirement at the end of last year while dealing with several medical issues.

But wait, there's more.

### **Farming**

I come from a long line of farmers and it's still in my blood. I own a 100 acre farm that's been in my family since 1881. Along with my wife, family counselor and sex therapist Dr. Nora La Corte, we actively run the farm and produce corn and soy beans. Having a background in telecommunications comes in handy when we are in Missouri. My calls from the Auto Club were forwarded to me there, and my consulting calls still are. That way I've been able to keep on top of what's going on back here in California, and do consulting work in both locales.

### **Volunteering, traveling and family**

When not working, singing or farming, I can be found volunteering. I've served on the Board of Directors of the Information Technology and Telecommunications Association (TCA) and on the Advisory Board of Mira Costa College—San Elijo Campus. Currently, I'm involved in a community sing-a-long program.

My wife and I have been fortunate enough to visit over 35 countries on 5 continents, including China, Egypt, Greece, New Zealand, Northern Ireland (to attend a cousin's Irish wedding), Scotland, Morocco, and Italy.

One joy of our lives is our two granddaughters, who live in Manhattan. They recently moved to New York from the Bay Area, making visiting them more of a challenge, and the ability to "Skype" with them visually over the internet even more valuable.



## Major Donor Reception ... Photos by Tom Peisch

LJS&C major donors were thanked at a private reception in the East Room following the Saturday, May 2 concert. Guests were treated to an elegant assortment of house-made desserts and imported cheeses provided by The Shore Restaurant as well as sparkling wines from Italy, red wines, ports and coffee. Guests mingled with guest artists Maya Beiser, Alexis Grenier, and Phil Larson and received a special edition DVD of our December concert - MOTION - as a thank-you for their significant support of LJS&C.



*Alexis Grenier with James Zimmerman, David Chase, Julie MacNeil*



*Michael Kaehr, Alexis, James Zimmerman*

## Need to contact the LJS&CA?

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Steve Schick, Eric Mustonen



Maya Beiser, Brenda Schick



## The LJS&CA Board

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**Dr. Ida Houby (chorus)**  
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Carolyn McClain  
Cynthia Mendez  
James R. Rosenfield  
**Brendi Rawlin (orchestra)**

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## The Next Best Thing to Tuscany ...Diane Salisbury, photos by Michael Latz

Syndicated Wine Columnist Robert Whitley oversaw a tasting of an all-star cast of wines from Tuscany at "Under the Tuscan Sun," LJS&C's 8<sup>th</sup> annual wine tasting and benefit. Held in the gracious Del Mar home of Robert Engler and Julie Ruedi, guests enjoyed a reception of fine wines and antipasti, followed by the blind tasting. Music accompaniment was provided by La Jolla Symphony orchestra members Victoria Eicher, Loie Flood, Caitlin Fahey, and Wendy Patrick Mazarella. Following the wine tasting was a raffle of over 50 fine wines from private collections topped by a single auction lot of four spectacular and rare wines that went to top-bidder Robert Engler for \$750. Proceeds from the event netted approximately \$6,300 for LJS&C.

Special thanks to our fabulous co-chairs Joan Forrest and Michael Latz (doing double-duty as event photographer), a bevy of volunteers, Chefs de Cuisine (for a magnificent antipasti presentation), and food purveyors Ralphs, Vons, Henry's, Jimbo's, and Trader Joe's for their contributions to the reception.







Have some news to report?

Let the editor know!

[barbara@peisch.com](mailto:barbara@peisch.com)









## You Can Help Build Our Database!

We are continually adding names to our database from single-ticket buyers, attendees at our events, and other sources. Many of our ensemble members purchase tickets for friends and family under their own name or at the Box Office on a concert weekend. We would love to add the names of these concert-goers to our database so that they can receive our postcard mailings and season brochures. If you have contacts you think might enjoy receiving notice of our concerts and events, please email their names and addresses (and email addresses, if appropriate) to our Patron Services Manager Adam Perez at [a7perez@ucsd.edu](mailto:a7perez@ucsd.edu), asking him to add to our database. Thank you!



## Radio Days ~ Challenge!

Carolyn Chase, formerly a chorus member for 25 years, has issued a challenge to all who would like to see our concerts advertised on XLNC1 radio next year. She will donate \$50 for each \$200 donation we receive toward radio advertising, up to a match on her part of \$500. If 10 donors take advantage of this offer, we will have \$2500 for next season's radio advertising program. Any takers? Call Diane Salisbury at 858-822-3774 with your pledge or payment. Let's hit the airwaves in 2009-2010!



## Article watch

### From Walt Desmond:

Walt sent these just a bit too late to make it into the previous issue of *Tutti*. They are links regarding "The General," one of the pieces we performed at our last concert.

<http://www.overgrownpath.com/search/label/paul%20Griffiths>

Scroll down to the post dated Tuesday, February 14, which is a review of the recording by the Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal with Kent Nagano, and an interview with Griffiths about writing *The General*

Griffiths' own website with text of *The General*:

[http://www.disgwylfa.com/The\\_General.html](http://www.disgwylfa.com/The_General.html)



### From Tom Peisch:

*San Diego Union-Tribune, Sunday, May 3, 2009*

"In the Zone—Performers will find a perfect place to play at UCSD's new Conrad Prebys Music Center"

<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/may/03/lz1a03ucsd194320-zone/?features&zIndex=92448>



### From Sharon Jones:

Proof that great music doesn't always show up in concert halls. What a fun video!

<http://fschnell.net/WordPress/?p=1094>

### *UC Davis News & Information*

"Study Finds Brain Hub That Links Music, Memory and Emotion"

[http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news\\_detail.lasso?id=9008](http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=9008)



### From Beda Farrell:

*Sharing Mayo Clinic, a blog for patients, families, friends and Mayo Clinic staff.*

Mayo Clinic Music Fun

<http://sharing.mayoclinic.org/2009/04/07/mayo-clinic-music-fun/>



If you find an interesting, music-related article or Web site, send the information about it to me at [barbara@peisch.com](mailto:barbara@peisch.com). For Web sites, send me a link to the site. For articles, you may either send a link to the article or just the name and date of the publication, along with the title of the article, and I can find it online. You may also hand me the article during rehearsal or mail it to me at:

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