

The Story of the RainShadow Chorale
Compiled and Written by Patricia Hauschildt, 2020*

In 2018, several minutes before a scheduled RainShadow Chorale rehearsal, Rebecca Rottsolk was working with a small section of singers. Other choir members continued to arrive at St. Mary's social hall awaiting rehearsal time. Standing off to the side next to Liz Hazen, who was listening to the small group and watching Rebecca direct, Patricia Hauschildt heard Liz say almost to herself in a whispered voice, but with awe, "This is what we dreamed of all those years. The sound. The quality." Her comment and the look of reverent bliss on her face told Patricia that such a comment held a story needing to be told. Through interviews, saved documentation and programs, questions asked of members, and draft readers, this account is as accurate as memories and available documents allow.

The Beginnings

The current RainShadow Chorale owes its beginnings to the persistence of several singers in the Port Townsend area, singers determined to have a choral group that would draw quality singers to sing serious sacred and secular choral repertoire from early to contemporary music. After several years of singing with multiple choral groups in the area, this core group of musicians decided to more formally create a group of their own. In 1997, RainShadow officially became that group. But the vision of RainShadow begins many years earlier.

At this writing, one of the original members, Liz Hazen, still sings with the now renamed RainShadow Chorale. In 1988, Liz moved into the area from Los Angeles and went in search of a "good" vocal group to join. She had sung in several large, excellent choruses for years in and around Los Angeles and had also lived "in the sticks" in Oregon where it was hard to find a "quality" place to sing. With this move, she was determined to continue her love of singing in a group that performed choral literature. She first joined the Port Townsend area "you-all-come" community chorus with Gerry Bergstrom as director, which was "pretty good." In the spring of 1989, another chorus member (also Liz's electrical contractor) Erik Frederickson suggested she attend an upcoming concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Port Townsend by the Peninsula Chamber Singers. She attended, deemed it "good," auditioned, got in, and began driving her van to take other singers who were also in both groups to weekly rehearsals in Port Angeles.

The carpoolers, as Liz calls them – Liz, Erik, Norm Norton, and Charles Emmett found the long drive between Port Townsend and Port Angeles taxing, especially the late evening drive home after a work-intensive rehearsal. After a time, they convinced director Dewey Ehling to meet in Sequim as a more centralized location. But their question kept recurring: Why can't we have a "good" group in Port Townsend? "Good" for them meant a greater focus on challenging and sacred music rather than a mix of a few classical pieces and lighter, contemporary and pop repertoire.

In 1992 the Wild Rose Choral Society began, a Port Townsend *a cappella* group with twelve singers: Erik Frederickson, Norman Norton, Liz Hazen, Sally Chapin-Kiely, Glenn Lyons, Liz Berman, Anita Cook, Joyce Szczepanik, Mary Sepler, Karen Lichtenwalter, Mark Tanney, and Robert Fitzgerald. Group members changed as auditioned singers were added or

dropped. Later that same year the name changed to Wild Rose Chorale. That year the group sang for the Rose Theater's renovation opening. Sally Chapin-Kiely made costumes that looked like something from *Star Trek*, members finding the performance "a hoot" (per Liz). On December 16th of the same year, Wild Rose Chorale performed a downtown concert, this time with piano accompaniment and amid a snowstorm. Soon afterward, their director/pianist Robert Fitzgerald moved away, getting the group back to *a cappella*. New singers were added, some being Lynn Nowak, Paul Becker, Gary Swett, Mark Tanney, Marj Iuro, and Leslie Lewis. The group met at Trinity United Methodist Church in Port Townsend to rehearse. The Wild Rose Chorale continued to include some classical pieces, but their music leaned more heavily toward pop/folk, still leaving Norm, Erik and Liz in search of a more serious music venue.

Many singers were in one or more of the other organized vocal groups in the area: The Peninsula Chamber Singers, Wild Rose Chorale, and the Port Townsend Community Chorus. But a core group never stopped meeting on their own. A few new singers came and went, but the persistent group now included Liz Hazen, June Mills, Sally Orsborn, Carrie Muellner, Erik Frederickson, and Norm Norton.

They met on Monday evenings at the Community United Methodist Church in Hadlock. Liz Hazen recalls meeting in the choir room, but sometimes in the "little choir room." Helen Lauritzen, who joined in 2001, remembers "sitting on little tiny chairs." With no budget, singers shared music they each owned but were soon fortunate to have more music provided by now retired Washington State University music education professor Sally Orsborn. With no planned performances, members would say, "Let's sing this" to informally organize rehearsals. They sang anthems, such as "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings," Bach motets, and a lot of *Ubi Caritas*. Several members took turns directing but not in an official capacity. June Mills, a soprano and director of the Presbyterian Church choir, did some directing, as did Sally Orsborn. From 1996-1998, Estyn Goss, a tenor (and a building contractor), formally took the role.

How RainShadow got its name

Although this small group continued to enjoy getting together to sing the music they preferred, the group had no name. While en route to a Peninsula Singers weekly rehearsal in Port Angeles (before rehearsals were moved to Sequim), the carpoolers began to brainstorm name ideas. Since this was before the by-pass around Sequim on Highway 101, they had to drive through town down Washington Street, adding twenty minutes to their trip. But it gave June Mills time to spot the Rainshadow Nursery, and she said, "Rainshadow!" Her fellow carpoolers said, "Yeah! That's it!" There is no memory or evidence as to why the 'S' became capitalized as a distinguishing feature.

At a rehearsal on May 19, 1997, the entire group agreed on the name RainShadow. Another recently added singer, Carrie Muellner Andrews, created the first logo – the printed name with a reflected shadow image of the name below it, and a pencil-sketched shape above the name resembling the rugged peaks of the Olympic Mountains.

RainShadow Public Performances Begin

The first remembered performance of this newly named group was given at the Discovery View Retirement Apartments in Port Townsend on June 16, 1997. One member

remembers it as “disappointing.” On November 21 and 23, 1997, the group gave a larger public performance under the name RainShadow, one at First Presbyterian in Port Townsend and the second at the Bay Club, Port Ludlow. The program included “Exultate Justi in Domino” by da Viadana, “Magnificat” by Pachelbel, “Four Pastorales” by Effinger, “Hymn to the Virgin” by Britten, “Ave Maria” by Rachmaninoff, five folksongs from four different countries, and five Christmas carols representing five countries. The back of the program notes that “RainShadow, an *a cappella* choral group, is comprised of singers from Port Townsend and East Jefferson County” and “is in its first year.” Thus, RainShadow claims 1997 as its first official year, although the singers seeking a group like this had been meeting together as a distinct group separate from other choral organizations in the area for at least a year prior this. By 1997, singers were Leslie Lewis, June Mills, Sally Orsborn, Cheryl Brunette, Liz Hazen, Carrie Muellner, Erik Frederickson, Estyn Goss, Norm Norton, Malcolm Ottaway, and Gary Swett.

On May 30, 1998, RainShadow gave its second concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Port Townsend. A newspaper article calls the concert repertoire “a lively and diverse mix touching on various genres including jazz, traditional standards, Negro spirituals, Latin motets, and classical church music such as ‘Ave Maria.’” Admission was free.

When Estyn Goss moved out of the area, Kathy Bird, a choral director temporarily in town while she and her husband were getting a boat ready to sail across the Pacific, took over the director role. When the Birds left town, once again without a regular conductor, members Helen Lauritzen and Sally Orsborn rotated the role. New retired musicians moving into the Port Townsend area were drawn into the group. Beatus Meyer, who had taught piano at Washington State University in Pullman, now gave the group options for repertoire needing a pianist. Another WSU retiree, Lauren Olson, also joined the group.

No official program has been located for 1999, but a typed one-page list of pieces and singers is dated Sunday, May 9, 1999. The program lists “Ave Maria” by de Victoria, “Exultate Justi in Domino” by da Viadana-Martens, “Mass for Five Voices” by William Byrd, “Salvation is Created” by Tschesnokoff, “Bless the Lord” by M. Ippolitof-Ivanof, “Alleluia” arranged by Roger Wagner, and six Negro spirituals. Singers were Sally Orsborn, Grey Pohl, Liz Hazen, Cheryl Brunette, Elsa Golts, Carrie Muellner, Erik Frederickson, Estyn Goss (director), Jennifer Johnson, John Marckworth, Norm Norton, Malcolm Ottaway, and Gary Swett.

In May of 2000, RainShadow sang a Byrd *Mass* for the memorial service of Katy Ottaway’s mother. Katy sang with the group for the service and asked if she could stay in the group. She received a yes, her performance with the *Mass* serving as her audition. She has been a RainShadow member since that time. Her father, Malcolm, was still a RainShadow member at this time.

In 2001, RainShadow gave an October concert under the direction of Sally Orsborn and Helen Lauritzen. The program included a Bach *Bourrée*, the Byrd’s *Mass for Five Voices*, Tschesnokov’s “Salvation is Created,” Lauridsen’s *Les Chansons des Roses*, and five traditional folk pieces from three different countries. In addition, they gave a Christmas program of nine sacred and traditional pieces, Sally and Helen directing. Fifteen singers made up the group: Helen Lauritzen, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Grey Pohl, Cheryl Brunette, Elsa Golts, Liz

Hazen, Carrie Muellner, Julia Beaman, Jennifer Johnsen, Kees Kolff, John Marckworth, Norm Norton, Malcolm Ottaway, and Gary Swett. A typed list of singers with addresses and telephone numbers shows nineteen, but not every member would sing in every program.

The 2001 October program states that RainShadow “has been in existence for three years;” however, thanks to newspaper and journaled documentation from Leslie Lewis, we now know that RainShadow “began” under their newly chosen name and with two public performances in 1997, making the fall of 2001 their fifth year.

A New Director Comes to Town

In 2000, Rebecca Rottsoik and her husband Tony purchased a home in the area but traveled back and forth to Seattle so that Rebecca could maintain her role as director of the Northwest Girlchoir in its final year. They had retirement plans to travel extensively, but those plans changed.

Two members of Wild Rose Chorale, Sally Chapin-Kiely and Leslie Lewis, knew about Rebecca’s work with the Girlchoir. Sally, as a set designer for a Seattle television station, met Rebecca when the Girlchoir sang for one of its Christmas shows. When Sally heard that Rebecca was moving to Port Townsend, she invited her to come and hear Wild Rose; Sally then asked her to join and to be the director. Their current director, Leslie, was stepping aside to take on other commitments.

Leslie knew about Rebecca as a fellow American Choral Directors Association member, by her reputation, and by hearing the Northwest Girlchoir in Seattle but had not met her until she joined Wild Rose. Rebecca remembers being part of Wild Rose as “fun because I hadn’t sung in a group. And I became their conductor-ish” because Leslie was leaving.

As a member of Wild Rose, Rebecca became acquainted with the RainShadow singers who sang with Wild Rose. When these and several more RainShadow singers came together to sing Brahms’ “How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings” for Sally Chapin-Kiely’s father’s funeral, Sally asked Rebecca to conduct the piece. The singers realized that with this new director, they could “sound good in one rehearsal.” At this time Rebecca was not looking for additional directing work and had not done a lot of SATB work, but she had conducted two rehearsals for Community Chorus. Again, when the Community Chorus singers recognized how much better they could sound under Rebecca’s leadership, they asked her to be their director full time.

Changes Influencing RainShadow’s Development

In 2002, RainShadow had both spring and fall programs and began to add more singers. In the spring, a sixteen member group performed Bach’s “Jesu, Meine Freude” and Faure’s *Requiem*. Newly added singers were Linda Bach, Leslie Lewis, Ronald Bird, and Karl Bach. A major change came with Rebecca Rottsoik attending the spring performance directed by Kathleen Bird, listed on the program as “guest conductor.” By Fall 2002, Kathleen Bird moved out of town and Rebecca became RainShadow’s director. With Rebecca’s acceptance to direct, a new trajectory was put in motion for RainShadow’s development.

Rebecca directed her first RainShadow program entitled “Sing Me to Heaven” for Fall 2002. Twenty singers, with Beatus Meier as pianist, gave two performances in November, one in Port Townsend and one in Sequim. Singers Gerry Bergstrom, Sydney Keegan, Adam Burdick,

Al Thompson, Phil Harrington, and Roger Aue were added. The printed program claims that RainShadow “has been in existence for six years,” which is now correct.

For the Fall 2002 performances, free admission ended. Admission changed to a \$7 suggested donation. In April of 2004, the suggested donation was raised to \$8. By 2007, the suggested donation became \$10. For the Mozart *Grand Mass in C Minor* concert in 2014, St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic church set the ticket price at \$15. By 2016, RainShadow made the suggested donation \$20, the current amount.

In June of 2003, Rebecca directed a Port Townsend Choral Festival, uniting the singers from Victorian Chamber Singers, Wild Rose Chorale, The Community Chorus, RainShadow, the Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Choir, and the Suquamish United Church of Christ Choir. They performed “Elijah Rock,” “Anthem of Peace,” “We Shall Walk Together in the Valley of Peace,” “Amazing Grace,” and “How Can I Keep From Singing.” In November, RainShadow gave a concert of carols: “A Ceremony of Carols” by Benjamin Britten and a selection of carols and lullabies from around the world.

In 2004, Lisa Lanza began as RainShadow’s primary pianist. Now with a professional pianist available for nearly every program, Rebecca could select choral pieces with especially challenging piano accompaniment to further complement performances. The combination of their talents and their ability to work together gave the singers rich support, encouraging and enabling them to reach beyond their current expectations for themselves as a choral unit. The shift from primarily *a cappella*, or from having different available pianists, to having a director/pianist team not only enhanced musical selection possibilities for the director and inspired singers to rise to higher expectations, it also provided an additional draw for audiences. Lisa’s generous spirit and expertise also made it easy for Rebecca to add other instrumentalists for particular works with great success.

New singers who joined in 2004 and who currently sing with RainShadow: Dorothy Hensey, Marilyn Sterbick, Don Landstra, Weezie Jenkins, Ron Dionne, Bob McCauley, Malcolm Hepworth, and Will Kalb.

RainShadow continued to perform one or two programs per year [See Appendix A]. New singers, many who are currently in RainShadow, continue to be auditioned and added [See Appendix B].

Becoming Official to the State of Washington and the IRS

Sometime during the 2007 fall/winter rehearsal season, a small group of singers sat around a table after the rehearsal talking with Rebecca about the need to formally organize as a professional choir and apply for tax exempt status. Bev Schaaf, who had just joined RainShadow, said, “I’ve done this before.” She was asked to join the board to get the process started to officially incorporate with the State of Washington. Helen Lauritzen, then RainShadow Board president, and Marilyn Sterbick, representing Victorian Chamber Singers (VCS), discussed merger details. Working toward a 501c3 filing, a fairly formidable process at the time, Marilyn Sterbick suggested that rather than applying separately, RainShadow merge with the VCS as they already had 5013c status but were no longer active. Bev found this to be a simple

process. The merged choruses made VCS the surviving organization name. Helen and Franz Witte, president of VCS, signed the official document, dated July 6, 2009. At some point following the official merger, a name change was requested to both the State of Washington and the IRS to RainShadow Chorale. Bylaws were adopted.

Larger Choral Performance Goals, and Increased Demands of Singers

In 2010 RainShadow produced a major work with a chamber orchestra — the Mozart *Requiem*. The headline in *Jefferson County this Week* states that “RainShadow and guests pull out all stops with *Requiem*,” with half of the front page a photo of several singers in action. The article notes that “RainShadow is a chamber choir of select local singers” and that the group has “expanded to 45 voices” for the Mozart. Soloists from the choir were Linda Bach and Sydney Keegan, the tenor and bass brought in from out of town. Two performances at the newly renovated acoustics at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church were sold out. The new name RainShadow Chorale now appears on the program.

During this same time, Father John Topel, the priest at St. Mary’s, sang with RainShadow. He believed that the church should be used as a place of art and was willing to collaborate and support any effort toward that end. Prior to the church’s renovation, he invited Rebecca to the church to talk about how the sanctuary itself could improve singing. After looking around at the carpet halfway up the wall and the sound tiles on the ceiling, Rebecca said, no doubt with a sweet voice and gracious smile, “Well, I don’t think the best Lutherans would sing here. It’s like singing into a pillow. No one only wants to hear only themselves sing.” Father John must have laughed with Rebecca after her comment, because their conversation started the renovation of the sanctuary, carpet and sound tiles out and a beautiful cedar roof in.

The performance of one major work prepared the way for another — for St. Mary’s Jubilee Celebration Concert in 2014. For this event, Father John provided \$26,000 to produce Mozart’s *Grand Mass in C Minor* with a 21-piece orchestra for three performances. RainShadow Chorale was contracted to sing for all three. Professional soloists were brought in from the outside and housed, one soprano being Rebecca’s daughter Clara Rottsoik. Rebecca remembers: “It was a big deal. I got paid and Bev [Schaaf] got paid as the administrator of the whole thing. It was *smashing!*”

After the Mozart *Requiem* performances in January of 2010, Rebecca “felt like that was a turning point. This was the first major work we did with orchestra and we sold out the big church two times” [St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Port Townsend]

But after the “Hail Britannia” concerts in February of 2011, Rebecca decided to “take the bull by the horns and lay down the law about work ethic” with a choir that she could see had untapped potential. Too many members enjoyed just coming together to sing, would not get music learned, and would often complain, saying “you know, I don’t think I like this piece.”

Rebecca took action by writing a letter to the board with seven recommendations for RainShadow as a way for the chorus to “produce a more polished performance; to promote a more efficient, productive rehearsal-to-performance process; to provide more support in note learning early on in the rehearsal process; to do what is needed to help RainShadow maximize their potential” [See complete letter, Appendix C]. Her demands were high, as would be expected for a more professional choir. The board accepted her recommendations. As a result,

RainShadow Chorale singers, both with a desire to be as “good” as they could possibly be, and with a respect for Rebecca’s leadership and ability to take them to that place, rose to the challenge. The change from an informal, mostly retired, self-directed but determined-to-sing-quality-choral-literature collection of singers to a professional choir evolved over a number of years and continues to do so. Sectional rehearsals in addition to regular rehearsals began. Midi files for singers to use to practice at home were made available thanks to tenor Bob McCauley.

As an organization RainShadow did not have a board for a long time. Liz Hazen recalls RainShadow giving a concert in Sequim and going for pizza afterward. It was then decided to form a board; Norm Norton was elected president. But within a short time, Norm no longer wanted the position and Helen Lauritzen became president. Some available documentation guestimates a beginning date. A letter from the IRS giving RainShadow an Employer Identification Number is dated December 5, 2002. Later, a March 2006 letter to the Port Townsend Arts Commission applying for funds is signed by Helen as president and Carrie Muellner as treasurer. Helen recalls early years with a board as “informal.” Even “up through 2013 the board was rather invisible to the membership,” according to Jody Bowers, a former board member.

Between 2011 and May 2013, the direction and focus for the choir changed through RainShadow board decisions. These decisions came about in part with the frustration of two people, the director and the board president, each holding a different vision for the group. In an interview, Helen notes that in about 2012 “everything sort of changed. We got more professional and started paying people decent money and charging” more for concerts. Envelopes were added into performance programs for fundraising. Contractual agreements began. The president of the board at this time became unhappy with some of the decisions. Choir and board members as well disagreed among themselves about RainShadow’s future identity. According to one member, the group seemed to be in a somewhat “unsettled” period. For example, strong differences of opinion about men’s clothing – casual black pants and turtlenecks vs more formal black suits or tuxes — indicates member involvement on some issues. The strong objections to losing the casual attire spoke to the underlying philosophical tensions of RainShadow as an informal, relaxed group of singers just having a good time singing together or heading toward a more formal and professional group.

Also at this time the board decided to search for an additional director. Rebecca was only conducting one program each year as she was also directing Mirinesse, a women’s chorus in Seattle. The board wanted to do more than one program per year. Thus, Dr. Ed Hughes was hired and directed the Spring 2013 program.

A major shift occurred at the choir’s annual meeting in May of 2013. Amid the strong tensions among board members about RainShadow’s identity and the differing opinions among singers for its future direction, a choir member who was not a board member suggested that Rebecca be made Artistic Director, which would place her on the board, not as a voting member but with the ability to bring ideas and plans to the board for discussion and support. The Artistic Director title brought her expertise and leadership to the forefront. The vote passed. Thus, after years of being run by choir members, RainShadow had now adopted a concept new to the area: a choral arts organization with professional leadership.

The board president resigned as president. The new board president elected that May, Rick Kirkwood, and other board members (Hazel Johnson, Bob McCauley, Pat Vaughan, Jody Bowers, and Weezie Jenkins) began to facilitate a broader vision for RainShadow's future, taking a more proactive approach toward making the Chorale professional. As one former board member said, Rick expected board members to work hard and accept responsibility in order to achieve the newly undertaken professional vision for RainShadow with the guidance of an artistic director. Because the bylaws allowed for nine board members, Ron Dionne and Pat Nerison were added to the board in May of 2015. Outside funding from local scholarships and art commissions were now sought. Periodic fundraising events began as a way to produce any larger work requiring a chamber orchestra.

With Rebecca's new standards of expectations in place for choir members and her selection of music that she knew would work well with the voices of RainShadow members, the singers rallied and gradually began to take ownership as a more professional and committed choir. One singer notes:

"I think what changed was that we got the leadership conscious about what was wanted. Before then it was just more recreational, come together and sing, we'll have fun. Yes, we wanted to sound good, sing in tune, and sing artistically, but something shifted in the consciousness. Maybe that's what actually happened at that point in time."

Rehearsals under Rebecca's direction allowed singers to realize that "if we work hard, we do something beautiful." The joy of producing a "good" sound became the internalized reward and continued to inspire singers to work toward all that was asked of them. Rebecca said:

"I would *hear* the potential." The singers recognized that "it's not just singing *at* a piece of music. It's *being* the music. That to me is the essence of it. If you're not giving yourself shivers when you sing, what's the point?"

Outstanding Performances Continue, Community Outreach Expands

Each year, Rebecca continued to conduct only the fall program, with the exception in June of 2014 for St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church's Jubilee Celebration Concert. Another exception occurred when Rebecca conducted the Community Chorus of Port Townsend and Jefferson County, along with a hand-selected orchestra, in the Fall of 2015 for a performance of Handel's *Messiah*.

Spring programs varied. In 2013, Dr. J. Edmund Hughes conducted "Music for the Heart & Soul." In 2015, RainShadow women joined the NorthWest Women's Chorale, Joy A Lingerfelt conducting, for two May performances. Dr. Gil Seeley conducted the next two spring seasons, 2016 and 2017.

Increasingly, the carrying out of details involved in planning for each performance became more work than the board could easily coordinate. In 2016, since Bev Schaaf was doing an increasing amount of the work as a volunteer, the board decided to offer her a contract as a Concert Production Manager. Having one person in charge who knew all aspects of production allowed the process to be more efficient. In 2019, Bev's independent contractor title changed to Administrative and Concert Manager, increasing her role with financial and budget

responsibilities to give consistency and assistance to the board treasurer, a position more susceptible to personnel changes.

By Fall of 2017, Rebecca knew it was time for another major work. RainShadow gave two concerts featuring two contemporary composers to open the program prior to the Mozart *Requiem*. Complete with a chamber orchestra of area musicians and three of the vocal soloists from within the choir, two performances were held at Chimacum High School auditorium to accommodate space for the larger chorale and orchestra as well as more seating for audiences.

At board meetings during 2017, ideas about extending community outreach were bantered about. In addition to being a hotel and a restaurant, the new ownership at the Old Alcohol Plant in Port Hadlock initiated a program to provide housing for community members in need, to create jobs for the area, and to offer a location for local events. Selected board members and Rebecca met with personnel at the Plant to discuss how the RainShadow organization could contribute to this program through music.

Subsequently, Rebecca organized a small group of singers from the RainShadow membership to rehearse separately and be prepared for smaller event performances at the Plant, such as a Christmas program. In the spring of 2017, arrangements were made to hold a fundraiser at the Plant as a way to raise the money needed for the orchestra instrumentalists for the aforementioned Mozart *Requiem* scheduled for fall. The dining room could seat fifty.

A silent auction and a fifty-dollar-a-plate dinner fee nearly reached the goal. Chorus members donated gourmet *hors d'oeuvres* and desserts. Don Corson, owner of Camaraderie Cellar Winery, a friend, donor, and occasional singer with RainShadow, provided the wine at no cost. After dinner, the RainShadow Chorale performed several pieces as well as selections by smaller groups from within the chorus.

During this same time, Rebecca decided that she now wanted to become involved in spring programs as well as fall, even though she was still co-conducting the Mirinnesse Women's Chorus in Seattle. She had retired as director of the Community Chorus after the 2015 performances of *Messiah*.

With Rebecca's suggestion and the board's full support, it was decided that the spring program would be held at the Old Alcohol Plant, thus drawing audience awareness of the Plant's community program and encouraging audience members to utilize their restaurant. Another decision was to make this concert different from fall programs, to focus on lighter repertoire to give RainShadow's attendees variety and to show that a RainShadow quality performance of more popular music can be as outstanding as classical repertoire. Three performances were given in April of 2018 with "RainShadow Chorale At The Movies" as the theme. May of 2019 was again performed at the Plant with the theme "On Broadway."

In recent years, the term "RainShadow sound" has come from comments by audience members as well as from Rebecca as she works with the group to achieve it. Through her auditioning of singers, through voicing the SATB sections, and through her consistent leadership and teaching as well as conducting every rehearsal, current singers know the sound and the goal.

A Guest Composer to Conduct

For the fall 2019 program, Rebecca Rottsolk was able to attract composer Jake Runestad to conduct two of his pieces, one a favorite among numerous choruses – “Let My Love Be Heard” – and his latest major new work, “The Secret of the Sea.” RainShadow Chorale was able to work with Jake for two rehearsals prior to two performances at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Chimacum, WA. In addition, a special piano solo of “Troubled Water” by Margaret Bonds was performed by Lisa Lanza.

For the 2020 spring program, the board determined that due to a raised fee for performances at the Old Alcohol Plant in relation to a donation to the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Chimacum and its excellent acoustics, the collaboration with the Old Alcohol Plant ended.

In March of 2020, RainShadow had to abandon plans for its spring performance due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

The fall of 2021 brought creative and careful ways to resume singing together. With vaccinated, masked, and socially distanced singers, the Chorale rehearsed outdoors for one rehearsal before moving indoors at the recently remodeled Community United Methodist Church in Chimacum, leaving windows and doors open and a fan running for air circulation. Singers learned to find masks allowing for singing ease and gradually added warmer clothing as the weather began to chill. It was assumed at first that a performance would be recorded, but more research revealed a way to have two performances with live audiences, limited to proof of vaccination and only 150 persons per concert, at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Chimacum. This season was one of joy and sadness as Rebecca Rottsolk retired as Artistic Director. Jolene Dalton Gailey will be guest conductor for Spring 2022.

Acknowledgements

Without Liz Hazen and singer friends in 1988, today’s RainShadow Chorale may not have existed. Without their dogged determination to have such a group, and the subsequent love for choral music from each new member joining, it may not have continued to evolve and develop beyond a small group of good singers just enjoying themselves. Rebecca’s eventual involvement initiated and generated the RainShadow Chorale sound and reputation it holds at this writing in 2019.

The Story of the RainShadow Chorale was updated in November, 2021.

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Appendix A

Churches/Venues for Performances

(Information from performance programs from Leslie Lewis and Helen Lauritzen)

Oct. 13, Assumed 2001 – Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Bach “Bourrée,” Byrd “Mass for Five Voices,” Lauridsen’s “Les Chansons des
Roses” and several more short pieces
This program states: “RainShadow has been in existence for three years...”

Feb. 23, 24, 2002– QUUF and Trinity United Methodist Church, Sequim
Program: Bach “Jesu, Meine Freude” and Faure *Requiem*
This program states: “RainShadow has been in existence for five years...”

Nov. 2, 3, 2002– QUUF and Trinity, Sequim
“Sing Me to Heaven” – and “Missa Kenya” plus a Copland opera selection
Program states: “RainShadow has been in existence for six years...”

Nov. 17, 2003 – First Presbyterian Church, PT
[named pieces] “Ceremony of Carols” and “Carols and Lullabies, Christmas
In the Southwest”]
Program states: “RainShadow has been in existence for seven years...”

Titled themes began with April 2004

April 4, 5, 2004 – The Beach Club, Port Ludlow, and Grace Lutheran Church, PT
“A Concert of Choral Songs and Dances”
Program: “...in existence for seven years...”

Nov. 19, 20, 2004 – Grace Lutheran Church
“Stars I Shall Find”
Program: “...in existence for seven years

April 10, 11, 2005 – Trinity United Methodist Church, PT
“Sing Joyfully!”
Program: “...in existence for seven years...”

March 29, 30, 2006 – Trinity United Methodist Church, PT
“Mostly Mozart”
Program states: “RainShadow has been in existence since 1997...”

March 10, 11, 2007 – First Presbyterian Church
“I Dream a World” Celebrating music of the African American heritage
Program states: “RainShadow, formed in 1997, has...”

Feb. 24, 25, 2008 – QUUF
“Viva Italia”

Jan. 30, Feb. 4, 2009 – St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic C and QUUF
“Baroque Treasures”

[Dec. 5, 2009 – Chimacum HS Auditorium for Christmas concert with PT Community
Orchestra, Community Chorus, and RainShadow.]

Jan. 29, 31, 2010 – St. Mary Star of the Sea **Now called RainShadow Chorale**
 “Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *Requiem*”

Feb. 11, 13, 2011 – St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
 “Hail Britannia!”

Nov. 17, 20, 2011 – St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
 “Bach’s Magnificat and Cantata No. 140”

Nov. 11, 15, 18, 2012 – QUUF
 “Mainly Mozart”

March 2013 – First Presbyterian and QUUF
 “Music for the Heart & Soul”

Nov 9, 10, 2013 – QUUF
 “This Shining Night”

Jan 31, 2014 – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, PA
 “This Shining Night” with NorthWest Women’s Chorale

June 13, 14, 15, 2014 – St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
 “The Jubilee Celebration Concert: Mozart Exultate Jubilate Motet and Grand
 Mass in C Minor” Jubilee Singers and RainShadow Chorale & Friends

Fall 2014 – Trinity Lutheran Church, PA and QUUF
 “Breaths...when the fire’s voice is heard...”

May 1, 4, 2015 – Trinity United Methodist Church, PT and Holy Trinity Lutheran
 Church, PA
 “For the Love of...” NorthWest Women’s Chorale and RainShadow Chorale
 [2015 – Chimacum HS
 “Handel’s *Messiah*” with Community Chorus of PT & East Jefferson County]

Jan. 29, 30, 31, 20, 2016 – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, PA and QUUF
 “I dreamed of rain...”

April 30, May 1, 2016 – Trinity United Methodist Church, PT
 “Four Pastorales”

Nov 13, 19, 20, 2016 – Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Chimacum; Trinity United
 Methodist, PT; Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, PA
 “A Heaven Full of Stars”

May 12, 13, 2017 – Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Chimacum and Trinity UMC
 “Let My Love Be Heard”

Nov. 18, 19, 1017 – Chimacum HS
 “Luminous Night of the Soul” and Mozart *Requiem*”

April 21, 22, 2018 – Old Alcohol Plant
 “At the Movies”

Nov 10, 11, 2018 – Trinity Methodist and Lutheran C of the R
 “all sounds became music”

May 4, 5, 2019 – Old Alcohol Plant
 “On Broadway”

Nov. 16, 17, 2019 – Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Chimacum
 “The Secret of the Sea”

Nov. 19, 20, 2021 — Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Chimacum
 “The Promise of Living with Hope and Thanksgiving”

Appendix B

Singers

(when listings available in program information)

Assuming 2001: Helen Lauritzen, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Grey Pohl
Cheryl Brunette, Elsa Golts, Liz Hazen, Carrie Muellner
Julia Beaman, Jennifer Johnsen, Kees Kolff
John Marckworth, Norm Norton, Malcolm Ottaway, Gary Swett
Same singers for Christmas program

2002 Spring: Linda Bach, Sally Orsborn, Grey Pohl
Mezzos: Liz Hazen, Leslie Lewis, Katy Ottaway
Helen Lauritzen, Carrie Muellner
Ronald Bird, Jennifer Johnson, Kees Kolff
Karl Bach, John Marckworth, Norm Norton, Malcolm Ottaway

2002 Fall: Linda Bach, Gerry Bergstrom, Grey Pohl
Mezzos: Liz Hazen, Leslie Lewis, Katy Ottaway
Cheryl Brunette, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Carrie Muellner
Adam Burdick, Marj Iuro, Gary Swett, Al Thompson
Baritones: Karl Bach, Phil Harrington, Malcolm Ottaway
Roger Aue, John Marckworth, Norm Norton

2003: Linda Bach, Gerry Bergstrom, Marj Iuro, Helen Lauritzen, Leslie Lewis, Katy Ottaway
Lorraine Burdick, Sydney Keegan, Carrie Muellner, Sheridan Schroeter, Valerie Sloane,
Marianna Van Blair
Adam Burdick, Chuck Helman, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith, Al Thompson, Jo Thompson
Karl Bach, Bill Ham, George Harper, Phil Harrington, John Marckworth, Malcolm
Ottaway

2004 Spring: Linda Bach, Gerry Bergstrom, Dorothy Hensey, Marj Iuro, Sally Orsborn, Katy
Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Lorraine Burdick, Liz Hazen, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Carrie Muellner,
Sheridan Schroeter, Valerie Sloane
Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith, Al Thompson, Jo Thompson
Karl Bach, Bill Ham, John Marckworth, Malcolm Ottaway

2004 Fall: Linda Bach, Gerry Bergstrom, Anne Marie Gibson, Dorothy Hensey, Weezie Jenkins,
Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Liz Hazen, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Bobbie McMahan, Carrie Muellner,
Susan Reid, Valerie Sloane, Marianna Van Blair
Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith
Bill Hamm, Phil Harrington, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, John Marckworth, Malcolm
Ottaway, Ray Steinberg, Al Thompson, Franz Witte.

2005: Gerry Bergstrom, Sharon England, Anne Marie Gibson, Dorothy Hensey, Weezie Jenkins, Leslie Lewis, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Liz Hazen, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Bobbie McMahon, Susan Reid, Sheridan Schroeter, Marianna VanBlair
Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, David Schroeder, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith, JoEllen Thompson
Bill Hamm, Phil Harrington, Will Kalb, John Marckworth, Malcolm Ottaway, Ray Steinberg, Al Thompson, Franz Witte

2006: Karen Barrows, Gerry Bergstrom, Sharon England, Dorothy Hensey, Weezie Jenkins, Rita Mandoli, Sally Orsborn, Jenny Pack, Katy Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Liz Hazen, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Bobbie McMahon, Carrie Muellner, Susan Reid, Valerie Sloane
Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith
Bill Ham, Phil Harrington, Will Kalb, Daniel Nidzgorski, Malcolm Ottaway, Ray Steinberg, Franz Witte

2007: Linda Bach, Gigi Callaizakis, Sharon England, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Rita Mandoli, Jenny Pack, Katy Ottaway, Clare Sherley, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Bobbie McMahon, Carrie Muellner, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf
Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Richard McGuffin, Phil Smith, Sandy Smith
Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, John Marckworth, Daniel Nidzgorski, Malcolm Ottaway, Ray Steinberg, Kurt VanderSluis, Franz Witte

2008: Linda Bach, Sharon England, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Helen Lauritzen, Rita Mandoli, Jenny Pack, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Jody Bower, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Bobbie McMahon, Carrie Muellner, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf
Jim Fitzmorris, Dave Hundhausen, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Richard McGuffin, Sandy Smith, Dave Spaun
Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Daniel Nidzgorski, Malcolm Ottaway, Ray Steinberg, Franz Witte

2009: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Rita Mandoli, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Marilyn Sterbick
Sigrid Cummings, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Marianna VanBlair, Sheila Hunt-Witte
Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Richard McGuffin, Sandy Smith
Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, John Marckworth, Malcolm Ottaway, Dave Spaun, Ray Steinberg, Franz Witte

2010: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Jeanne Battenburg, Linda Davis, Heather Gordon, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Leslie Lewis, Rita Mandoli, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Jenny Pack, Lindsay Pattin, Barb Sachi, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sigrid Cummings, Liz Hazen, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Carrie Muellner, Lynn Nowak, Susan Reid, Susanne Skadron, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Don Landstra, Richard McGuffin, Tom Reis, David Schroeder, Sandy Smith, Laurel Solano

Paul Becker, Todd Carlson, Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Blaine Lewis, Malcolm Ottaway, Dave Sachi, Fr. John Topel, Franz Witte

2011 Feb: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Jeanne Battenburg, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Weezie Jenkins, Colleen Johnson, Rita Mandoli, Katy Ottaway, Lindsay Pattin, Barb Sachi, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Elsa Golts, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Bobbie McMahon, Carrie Muellner, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Ron Dionne, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Richard McGuffin, Sandy Smith, Laurel Solano, John Stafford

Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Malcolm Ottaway, Dave Sachi, Franz Witte

2011 Nov: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Jeanne Battenburg, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Shannan Kirchner, Leslie Lewis, Rita Mandoli, Sally Orsborn, Katy Ottaway, Laurel Solana, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Elsa Golts, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Lynn Nowak, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Mariana VanBlair, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Ron Dionne, Brian Goldstein, Bob McCauley, Richard McGuffin, Sandy Smith

Paul Becker, Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Don Landstra, Malcolm Ottaway, Franz Witte

2012: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Jeanne Battenburg, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Shannan Kirchner, Rita Mandoli, Katy Ottaway, Lindsay Pattin, Phina Pipia, Kathleen Schott, Laurel Solana, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sigrid Cummings, Elsa Golts, Sydney Keegan, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Mariana VanBlair, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Brian Goldstein, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley

Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Franz Witte

2013, March: Linda Bach, Karen Barrows, Jeanne Battenburg, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Rita Mandoli, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Elsa Golts, Sydney Keegan, Hazel Johnson, Sydney Keegan, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Ron Dionne, Scott Gienow, Bob McCauley, Dave Spaun

Todd Carlson, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Franz Witte

Nov 9, 10, 2013: Linda Bach, Jeanne Battenburg, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Shannan Kirchner, Helen Lauritzen, Rita Mandoli, Katy Ottaway, Phina Pipia, Barbara Sachi, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick

Carrie Andrews, Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sigrid Cummings, Elsa Golts, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Pat Nerison, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Brian Goldstein, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Richard Noll
Paul Becker, Chris Hawley, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Dave Sachi Ray Steinberg, Franz Witte

Jan. 31, 2014: Linda Bach, Jeanne Battenburg, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Shannan Kirchner, Helen Lauritzen, Rita Mandoli, Katy Ottaway, Phina Pipia, Barbara Sachi, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick

Carrie Andrews, Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sigrid Cummings, Elsa Golts, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Pat Nerison, Susan Reid, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Jim Fitzmorris, Brian Goldstein, Don Landstra, Bob McCauley, Richard Noll

Paul Becker, Chris Hawley, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Dave Sachi Ray Steinberg, Franz Witte

2014 June: No singers listed

2014 Fall: Linda Bach, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Shannan Kirchner, Helen Lauritzen, Phina Pipia, Kathleen Schott, Diana Seifert, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sigrid Cummings, Pat Nerison, Elsa Golts, Susan Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Brian Goldstein, Claus Janssen, Kristoffer Lott, Bob McCauley, Doug Rodgers, Mike Wallace

Paul Becker, Todd Carlson, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Don Landstra, Franz Witte

2015, May: Linda Bach, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Shannan Kirchner, Helen Lauritzen, Phina Pipia, Kathleen Schott, Diana Seifert, Marilyn Sterbick

Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sigrid Cummings, Pat Nerison, Susan Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Brian Goldstein, Claus Janssen, Kristoffer Lott, Bob McCauley, Doug Rodgers, Mike Wallace

Paul Becker, Todd Carlson, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Don Landstra, Franz Witte

2015-Jan 2016: Jeanne Battenburg, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Ayla Favati, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Shannan Kirchner, Katy Ottaway, Phina Pipia, Diana Seifert, Marilyn Sterbick

Susan Auer, Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Elsa Golts, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Susan Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Sheila Hunt-Witte

Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Kristoffer Lott, Bob McCauley, Doug Rodgers, Gil Seeley

Paul Becker, Bob Bindschadler, Chris Hawley, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Don Landstra

2016 Spring: Linda Bach, Patricia Hauschildt, Liz Hazen, Dorothy Hensey, Colleen Johnson, Jane Kepner, Ginger Moore, Katy Ottaway, Diana Seifert, Kathleen Schott
Susan Auer, Jody Bower, Sally Chapin, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Susan Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Laurel Solana, Pat Vaughan
Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley, Jonathan Stafford, Mike Wallace
Owen Brummel, Todd Carlson, Malcolm Hepworth, Jeff Johnson, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Joel Peterson, Doug Rodgers

2016 Fall: Linda Bach, Jeanne Battenburg, Peggy Bauserman, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Ayla Favati, Stephanie Gale, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Diana Seifert, Marilyn Sterbick
Susan Auer, Jody Bower, Liz Hazen, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Laurel Solana, Pat Vaughan
Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Jeff Johnson, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley, Mike Wallace
Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Joel Peterson, Doug Rodgers, Stephen Sklar

2017 Spring: Linda Bach, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Stephanie Gale, Heather Hanson, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Colleen Johnson, Jane Kepner, Sarah Moran, Katy Ottaway
Susan Auer, Sally Chapin, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Jeff Johnson, Don Landstra, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley
Bob Bindschadler, Owen Brummel, Todd Carlson, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Greg Lewis, Joel Peterson, Doug Rodgers, Walter Vaux

2017 Fall: Linda Bach, Jeanne Battenburg, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Ayla Favati, Stephanie Gale, Heather Hanson, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Jill Hoins, Shannan Kirchner, Leslie Lewis, Sarah Moran, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick
Sally Chapin, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Lynn Nowak, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Don Corson, Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Don Landstra, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley, John Polm, Doug Rodgers, Mike Wallace
Paul Becker, Bob Bindschadler, Owen Brummel, Todd Carlson, Tony Costa, Malcolm Hepworth, Mark Johnson, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Greg Lewis, Wayne Lowe, Dan O'Brien, Joel Peterson

2018 Spring: Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Stephanie Gale, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Jill Hoins, Sarah Moran, Rebecca Nerison, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott
Susan Auer, Sally Chapin, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Weezie Jenkins, Kathleen Knoblock, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley, John Polm
Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Greg Lewis, Wayne Lowe, Dan O'Brien, Joel Peterson, Doug Rodgers

2018 Fall: Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Stephanie Gale, Sarah Gustner-Hewitt, Heather Hanson, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Marci Melvin, Sarah Moran, Rebecca Nerison, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick
Susan Auer, Cass Dahlstrom, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan
Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Bob McCauley, John Polm
Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Bob Kapp, Rick Kirkwood, Glen Koch, Greg Lewis, Wayne Lowe, Dan O'Brien, Orion Pendley, Doug Rodgers

2019 Spring: Jeanne Battenburg, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Sarah Gustner-Hewitt, Heather Hanson, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Marci Melvin, Sarah Moran, Mary Munford, Rebecca Nerison, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sally Kiely, Kathleen Knoblock, Pat Nerison, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Pat Vaughan, Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Claus Janssen, Kris Lott, Jon Polm, Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Tony Costa, Chris Hawley, Malcolm Hepworth, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Gregg Lewis, Wayne Lowe, Dan O'Brien, Doug Rodgers

2019 Fall: Linda Bach, Jeanne Battenburg, Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Stephanie Gale, Sarah Gustner-Hewitt, Heather Hanson, Patricia Hauschildt, Dorothy Hensey, Lisa Hoffman, Susan Levitt, Marcie Melvin, Sarah Moran, Mary Munford, Glenna Nelson, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Marilyn Sterbick, Susan Auer, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Sheila Hunt-Witte, Weezie Jenkins, Sydney Keegan, Sally Kiely, Kathleen Knoblock, Helen Lauritzen, Pat Nerison, Lynn Nowak, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Lee Singer, Pat Vaughan, Bruce Cowan, Ron Dionne, Kris Lott, Bob McCauley, John Polm, Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Tony Costa, Chris Hawley, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Gregg Lewis, Wayne Lowe, Dan O'Brien, Orion Pendley, Joel Peterson, Doug Rodgers

2021 Fall: Elizabeth Bindschadler, Cherry Chenruk-Geelan, Stephanie Gale, Sarah Gustner-Hewitt, Patricia Hauschildt, Lisa Hoffman, Marcie Melvin, Mary Munford, Glenna Nelson, Rebecca Nerison, Katy Ottaway, Kathleen Schott, Cass Dahlstrom, Liz Hazen, Sheila Hunt-White, Sydney Keegan, Kathleen Knoblock, Pat Nerison, Sue Reid, Pat Rodgers, Bev Schaaf, Lee Singer, Pat Vaughan, Bruce Cowan, Bob McCauley, Doug Rodgers, Bob Bindschadler, Todd Carlson, Will Kalb, Rick Kirkwood, Wayne Lowe, John Ward.

Appendix C

February 2011

Dear RainShadow Board,

I was pleased with our "Hail Britannia" concerts this past weekend. Once again I was reminded of the potential of RainShadow to make a significant artistic contribution to our community. The singers also seemed to feel the satisfaction of a job well done.

However the process to get to that result for me this season was unnecessarily arduous. I frequently left rehearsals disappointed and frustrated with the level of preparation of a group who says they like challenging repertoire. I perceived very few people 'doing their homework' and coming prepared with specific assignments. I lowered my expectations every week and was still amazed and puzzled at the lack of preparation. Among the singers who did come prepared each week frustration was also experienced. It would be unfortunate to lose these leaders because others are not working as hard as they need to in order to meet our artistic goals.

My recommendations to you, Board, are what I think need to be in place to prevent this kind of thing from happening in the future. If these are not implemented (and you certainly have the right to do what you think is best for RainShadow), I am probably not going to be the person you want to lead the choir in the future. RainShadow simply is not a good fit for me under its present structure.

Recommendations for RainShadow

- To produce a more polished performance
- To promote a more efficient, productive rehearsal-to-performance process
- To provide more support in note learning early on in the rehearsal process
- To do what is needed to help RainShadow maximize their potential

0. Shorten the rehearsal-to-performance time frame to a maximum of 10 weeks.
This will create more urgency in getting notes learned, will make goals more clear and will help to avoid the put-it-off-until-later attitude. People can make a full commitment to an intensive timeframe. I suggest a concert performance in early to mid-November.
2. First 4 weeks of rehearsals are intensive note learning rehearsals – including *required* sectionals in addition to regular rehearsal. My experience with RainShadow is that unless they are singing familiar pieces like the Mozart REQUIEM, singers *need* the assistance of sectionals to get them started learning notes. Midi files are helpful – but this group needs a jumpstart to make individual practice meaningful and that needs to come at the beginning of rehearsal time – not when panic sets in.
3. Assessment/review of progress after first 4 weeks.
–could include random name drawing for double-octets to sing selected pages to demonstrate proficiency. This review will determine if choir is on track to meet goals, if sectionals need to be continued for all or some parts, etc.
4. Establish a graceful exit policy. One would assume that if goals and expectations are clearly stated before rehearsals begin – those signing on would do so in good faith. But stuff happens – and if someone simply cannot meet the artistic goals in the timeframe spelled out, they should have a graceful way to leave. Also, if the director determines that the choir as a whole is simply not meeting goals – she has an opportunity for a graceful exit at this point as well.

5. Sectional leaders are determined on or before the first rehearsal. Sectional times are set for the first four weeks – at a time when working members can attend. Section leaders are paid by participants like they are with Community Chorus.

6. Uniform requirements are determined and spelled out before the first rehearsal. (If we actually upgrade our performance level, then I suggest that the men upgrade their concert dress to represent the seriousness of our purpose.)

7. Board develops a concrete concert production plan and timeline with clearly defined tasks and assignments nailed down from the start – and holds regular meetings to keep the process on track.

I want to maximize the potential that I believe RainShadow possesses. I would hope that with an improved structure we would experience an uplifting rehearsal environment, continuous growth in our artistic development, and the satisfaction of a job well done.

Sincerely,
Rebecca

ps. Also, should these recommendations be adopted and I agree to continue as director, I would like the line in my contract that says that the Board has to approve my repertoire be stricken. I certainly agree with consulting regarding budget issues, instrumentalists etc, and I may personally choose to consult with members about ideas, but I have never had to get approval for my repertoire choice from any choir board in my past. It feels like I somehow cannot be trusted to select appropriate repertoire and that the Board somehow knows more than I do about what is good for the choir.

Appendix D

Churches for Rehearsals

Assuming 2001 – Community United Methodist Church, Hadlock
2002 Spring – United Methodist Church, Hadlock
2002 Fall – Community United Methodist Church, Hadlock
2003 – Community United Methodist Church, Hadlock
2004 Spring – Christian Science Church, PT
2004 – Quimper Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, PT
2005 - Quimper Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, PT
2006 – Trinity United Methodist Church, PT
2007 – First Baptist Church and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, PT
2008 – St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
2009 – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church and Quimper Universalist Unitarian Fellowship
2010 – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2011 Spring – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2011 Fall – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2012 – First Presbyterian Church
2013 – First Presbyterian Church and Quimper Universalist Unitarian Fellowship
2013 Fall – Jan. 2014 – Grace Lutheran Church
2014 June – probably St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church?
2014 Fall – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2015 May – non named
2015 Fall – Jan. 2016 – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2016 Spring St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2016 Fall – PT Friends Meeting House
2017 Spring – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2017 Fall – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2018 Spring – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2018 Fall – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2019 Spring – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2019 Fall – St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Church
2021 Fall – Community United Methodist Church

Directors

Assumed 2001 – Sally Orsborn and Helen Lauritzen
Christmas 2001 – same
2002 Spring - Kathleen Bird
2002 Fall – Rebecca Rottsolk
2003 – Rebecca Rottsolk
2014 Jan – Rebecca and Joy Lingerfelt
2015 May – Joy A. Lingerfelt
2015-Jan. 2016 – Rebecca Rottsolk
2016 Spring – Gil Seeley
2016 Fall – Rebecca Rottsolk

2017 Spring – Gil Seeley
2017 Fall to Fall 2021 – Rebecca Rottsolk

Pianists

Assumed 2001. – Helen Lauritzen
2002 Spring – Helen Lauritzen
2002 Fall – Beatus Meier
2003 – Beatus Meier for rehearsals
2004 Spring – Lisa Lanza, Helen Lauritzen
2004 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2005 – Lisa Lanza, organist
2006 – Lisa Lanza, organ and piano
2007 – Lisa Lanza and (once) Vanessa Wells (The Sound of the Northwest Singers
2008 – Lisa Lanza for rehearsals; Beth Noelle
2009 – Lisa Lanza
2010 – Lisa Lanza plus instrumentalists
2011 Spring and Fall – Lisa Lanza
2012 – Lisa Lanza
2013 March – Lisa Lanza
2013 Nov – Lisa Lanza
2014 Jan. – Kristin Quigley Brye
2014 June – nothing listed
2014 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2015, May – Kristin Quigley Brye
2015-Jan 2016 – Lisa Lanza
2016 Spring – Lisa
2016 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2017 Spring – Lisa Lanza
2017 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2018 Spring – Carol Rich
2018 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2019 Spring – Linda Dowdell
2019 Fall – Lisa Lanza
2021 Fall – Lisa Lanza, John Ward

Audience cost for admission

2001 – 2002 Spring	Free. Donation appreciated.
2002 Fall – 2003 Fall	\$7 suggested donation
2004 Spring – 2006 Fall	\$8 suggested donation
2007 Spring – 2009	\$10 suggested donation
2010 Jan – 2011 Spring	\$12 suggested donation
2011 Fall – 2015	\$15 suggested donation
2016 Jan	\$15 in PA, \$20 in PT suggested donation
2016 Fall – 2021 Fall	\$20/Adult, \$10/Student (10-18) suggested donation

Board Members

2012: Karen Barrows, Hazel Johnson, Pat Vaughan, Bev Schaaf, Bob McCauley
2013: Rick Kirkwood, Hazel Johnson, Pat Vaughan, Jody Bower, Bob McCauley
2016: Rick Kirkwood, Hazel Johnson, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Pat Vaughan, Jody Bower, Bob McCauley, Weezie Jenkins
2016 Fall: Rick Kirkwood, Hazel Johnson, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Pat Vaughan, Bob McCauley, Weezie Jenkins
2017: Rick Kirkwood, Hazel Johnson, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Pat Vaughan, Patricia Hauschildt, Bob McCauley, Weezie Jenkins
2018 Spring: Rick Kirkwood, Lisa Hoffman, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Patricia Hauschildt, Bob McCauley
2018 Fall: Rick Kirkwood, Lisa Hoffman, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Patricia Hauschildt, Dan O'Brien
2019 Spring: Pat Vaughan, Lisa Hoffman, Ron Dionne, Pat Nerison, Patricia Hauschildt, Dan O'Brien
2019 Fall: Pat Vaughan, Lisa Hoffman, Pat Nerison, Ron Dionne, Rebecca Nerison, Patricia Hauschildt, Wayne Lowe
2021 Fall: Pat Vaughan, Lisa Hoffman, Rebecca Nerison, Wayne Lowe, Ron Dionne, Pat Nerison, Stephanie Gale, Rick Kirkwood

Administrative Manager

Bev Schaaf

Flyer and Program Preparation over the years

Bob McCauley, Helen Lauritzen, Carrie Muellner, Linda Duryea, Rebecca Rottsolk, Sally Chapin-Kiely, Bev Schaaf

Website

Sue Reid, Sally Kiely