



# VIENNA UNION HALL NEWS

December 2013

Volume 2, Issue 11

## Winter

### KEEPING UP TO DATE

#### NORTHFIELD CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Things are taking shape for the first (in many years) winter offerings at the Union Hall. The a cappella group of gifted voices known as Northfield has been singing and evolving over the past 30 plus years in our central Maine area. They produce lovely intense harmonies as they sing music from the early shape-note (New England folk hymn) tradition as well as music from the European Renaissance, both sacred and secular, with an occasional song from another genre thrown in.

For many years the group remained at eight singers but recently expanded to allow for new people to join. Although they are based in Farmington, members come from as far away as Rangeley and Wiscasset.

The ten current members are Margaret Cox, Laurie Hatch, Sue Downes-Borko, Mardie Porter, Joan Quinn, Dan Woodward, Mark Paddock, Dan Simons, Jim Crowley, and Joshua Grams.

For this classic Christmas performance they will be singing Ave Maria from the English Renaissance and one by Rachmaninoff (in Russian), pieces by William Byrd, Josquin des Pres, Claudio Monteverdi, and Michael Praetorius, among others. Join the Christmas celebration for a beautiful evening at the Union Hall on December 14 at 7:00.

### FIRST WINTER REVELS

Winter truly begins on December 21, the solstice. For us in Maine, it is the darkest day of the year; a day when we snuggle into our warm homes while the outside world is asleep and waiting under a blanket of snow.

It is also a time when we can open our hearts and thoughts to those closest to us and to those who have come before us. It is a time to share.



In this spirit, the Union Hall is bringing together a group of acts to celebrate the Christmas spirit as well as the day

when the sun will slowly begin to return to the Northern Hemisphere - **our first Winter Revels!**

This year we are pleased to present the homegrown vocal group "The Loons" and a children's play of the folk tale "Babushka" featuring children from the Mt. Vernon Elementary School. A special treat will be the performance of the The Maine Harp Circle. We are fortunate to have another local talent who is also nationally known, Michael Cooper, the Masked Marvel! He brings to us humor, mime and incredibly beautiful masks to delight children and adults alike. Get tickets early for this event since it likely to sell out.

# Upcoming Events

**December 14**

**Northfield Christmas Concert - 7:00 PM**

*Music from the early American shape-note (New England folk hymn) tradition, both sacred and secular music from the European Renaissance and more.*

*Donations at the door only - Suggested \$5.00*



**December 21**

**A Winter Revels - 7:00 PM**

*Featuring: The Loons, A Children's play, the Maine Harp Circle and Michael Cooper*

*\$8.00 Adults - \$4.00 children 10 and under*

*For advance tickets - email - [viennaunionhall@gmail.com](mailto:viennaunionhall@gmail.com)  
Or call Marianne - 293-2674, Dodi 293-2670 or Libby 293-2362*

## SUMMER PROGRAMMING BEGINS

Our December shows will be the last until next spring but we are already beginning to schedule an exciting summer season including another popular a-cappella night, a singer from NYC, Kyle Knuppel, a Steel Drum Band, Bearstow dancers, local plays, Theater at Monmouth and much more. As always the hall members are looking for new and exciting performers to bring to our community. Suggestions are always appreciated. Stay tuned for updates and fundraising dinners over the winter.

## SPONSORS

Thank-you to our most recent sponsors **The Eleanor Philbrick Trust** and **Woods End Laboratory** for helping us make our December programming possible and affordable.

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, December 11, 2013; 7:00 PM at the Vienna Community Center

## ONLINE

Visit our website at: <https://sites.google.com/site/viennaunionhall2012/> or email us at [viennaunionhall@gmail.com](mailto:viennaunionhall@gmail.com) drop us an email to be deleted from the mailing list.