

July 2023

In This Issue

- Check out TCC at the Taunton River Festival
- 45 years of Singing
- Save the Date

TCC - On the Road at the Taunton River Festival

Taunton Civic Chorus took its show on the road to the Taunton River Festival sponsored by the Taunton River Watershed Alliance.

The TRWA holds the annual event on the banks of the Taunton River, an event which features music, food, crafts, and exhibits.

Taking its cue from the river, the chorus sang such songs as "The Water is Wide" (an old Celtic tune, harkening back to Scotland in the 1600's), and "Down to the River to Pray" an American spiritual about keeping faith in times of trouble.

Two other songs which have become signature pieces of the chorus included the up tempo "Music Lead the Way" and the haunting "Old Irish Blessing."



Dick Shafer Sings His Way Into the TCC Record Book

Walk down Main Street in Taunton and ask any business man or woman if they know the name Dick Shafer. You'd be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn't.

Dick Shafer has been a fixture in economic and community development in Massachusetts, and specifically Taunton for years. But he also has a long association with the Taunton Civic Chorus, celebrating 45 years with the group. Shafer believes his first season with TCC began with the 1977 Holiday concert. That was when TCC practiced and sang at Pilgrim Congregational Church.



Shafer began singing in high school and went on to join the University of Kentucky chorus. He enjoys singing a variety of music genres.

That's what appealed to him about TCC, as well as the different venues where the chorus performs, and the welcoming nature of the group to all ages.



One of Shafer's most memorable moments in the chorus was the 1979 Holiday Concert at St. Mary's Church. There 90+ voices, a 14-piece orchestra and 6-piece brass chorale, and the church was packed. Only problem was the big price tag for the union musicians. It took 3 years for TCC to get out of debt.

He joined the Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce in 1976. He went on to hold positions in the Taunton Development Corporation, the Industrial Development Commission, the Office of Economic and Community Development in the City of Taunton, and his present position in the Taunton Development Corporation. He continues to be a vital part of the community holding positions on area boards and associations. He does all this in his mid 70's, and shows no sign of slowing down.

Contact us:

- Like us and follow us on Facebook
- Web - tauntoncivicchorus.org
- Email- Taunton.ma.civic.chorus@gmail.com
- P.O.Box 217
E. Taunton, MA
02718

Save the Date; Join the Chorus

Taunton Civic Chorus will begin its Fall Concert Season on Thursday, August 24th. Music Director Chris Hoskins has prepared an exciting program with traditional and modern selections.

There will be a three-week open enrollment period for prospective members to check out TCC.

The chorus meets every Thursday from 7-9 pm at Berkley Congregational Church, 13 So. Main St., Berkley.

Visit Us, Join Us at the New TCC Website!
tauntoncivicchorus.org