

Paris

News!!

The Official Newsletter of

The Hartford Chorale's *"Americans in Paris 2014"* Tour

						BALANCE*
DUE DATE		5/1/13	6/15/13	9/15/13	1/15/14	4/1/14
	total*					
BASIC	\$3,800	\$400	\$900	\$900	\$800	\$800
L/O	\$2,500	\$400	\$900	\$800	\$400	
S/S	\$750		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$150
N/S	\$100			\$100		
E/D*						

Payment Schedule

The payment schedule is listed below!!!!

Legend--

Basic = Basic Tour including International Air Transportation

L/O = Land Only

S/S = Single Room Supplement

N/S = Non Singer

E/D = Other: Extension or Deviation *

(such as the formal extension tour or an extended stay in Paris, etc.)

* Costs are not yet firmly identified

Many have called or emailed, saying they have no idea what the payment schedule is, so here it is again!!!

Tour Financial Obligation Reminder and Trip Insurance

As you know, we are now well underway with our Paris tour project. It promises to be a fabulous musical and cultural experience! In order to make this the ultimate reality, all tour members have a financial obligation. **All payments are to be made as specified and on time and are non-refundable, even if you end up not going on tour.** As a reminder, since the contract signing with our main tour vendor, ACFEA, in May of 2013, all tour members are responsible for the entire cost of the tour. This is why we have repeatedly urged all tour members to obtain **some type** of trip cancellation insurance. There are many different types available through many vendors, including your own insurance agent, AAA and possibly AARP as well as the Travel Guard Insurance example sent out to all tour members in June. Should you have questions about Travel Guard Insurance, **contact them directly at**

www.TravelGuard.com/partners/ACFEA/003700

or telephone them at **1-888-385-4839**.

Again, we can't encourage you enough to obtain trip insurance to protect you in case of an unforeseen circumstance that could cause a cancellation or interruption of your travel experience.

Maestro Richard Coffey, our Musical Leader

(who is he?)

Richard Coffey, Music Director of the Hartford Chorale, is one of New England's principal choral conductors. He served as interim Music Director of the Hartford Chorale in the 2005-2006 season which led to his appointment as the permanent Music Director of the Chorale in June of 2006. Dedicated to music what appears to be 24/7, he is also the founding Music Director of CONCORA, Connecticut Choral Artists, a professional vocal ensemble, Organist and Minister of Music of the South Church of New Britain, where he conducts a choir of professional and amateur singers and serves as Artistic Director of its Music Series, which annually presents concerts by visiting artists.



Coffey holds degrees in music from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the School of Sacred Music of New York's Union Theological Seminary.

So what is he really like? (And why do we love him so?) He's a Southern

Gentleman. Honestly, he's a perfectionist. He worries about everything – details that wouldn't ruffle most are on his list. The very serious and dedicated Mr. Coffey starts rehearsals promptly, takes warming up as seriously as any phrase in Mozart, sees who sneaks in late from the corner of his eye, can hear a sour note or a rest with sound (oops – rests don't have sound - who did that!!) and know exactly who sang it from 200 paces. Rick has made the Hartford Chorale love and appreciate slapping their thighs and stomping their feet to even the most serious sacred or secular piece. And somewhere, in the midst of all that seriousness, his eyes will warm with a story which will often break all that seriousness apart in bits and fits of laughter just for a moment, and then 180 voices get back to their focused intent. That focused intent is why we are there. On Monday nights before rehearsal there is a long line of choristers at the local Starbucks. We power up with a *grande* blast – to be on the edge of our seats, and on top of our voices for Maestro Coffey.

***Our Paris Hotel, the
Mercure Paris Montmartre!***



Located at the foot of Sacré Coeur, the beautiful Maracure Paris Montmartre has been booked for our stay in Paris. It's in a great location – 10/15 min walk from Sacre Coeur, and a block or two from two metro stations. And with all the time we'll spend near the other main event locations on tour, this will give us a great chance to relax in Montmartre – such a fantastic neighborhood!



The Rooms



That All-Important Bar!



Nearby Attractions!

Close to the Moulin Rouge, the Basilique du Sacre Coeur, and the Haussman-Opéra district's stores, the Mercure Paris Montmartre Sacré Coeur hotel offers spacious and modern rooms. It is said to be perfect for business travel or romantic weekends in Paris and the hotel is within easy reach of the Gare du Nord station, St Lazare train station, and the metro which make main tourist attractions, such as the Eiffel Tower, and Champs Elysées easily accessible.

A Possible Tour Extension!

The tour committee has been working hard to identify a three day, three night extension to the Paris Tour. Right now it is looking like a trip to the Loire Valley would be a lot of fun.

Included would be coach transportation to Saumur, a bi-lingual courier to accompany us, three nights hotel accommodation, Breakfasts, one dinner, Wine tastings in the famous caves, entrance fee and guided tour of it's famous 14th-century chateau, the Chateau Aizay le Rideau, some free

afternoons for individual exploring and wine tastings and coach transportation back to the Paris airport for departure to the USA. It is expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$700 (USD), if we have enough interested travelers.

This would also be available to those making their own international air arrangements! You would just plan your return trip home on Friday, July 11, 2014 instead of Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Please consider this extension and let me (Dawn) know by 8/9/13 We will be over there anyway and it promises to be great fun!

Tour Communication – worth repeating!

Please make sure that you check your e-mails regularly. All singing tour members (for whom we have email addresses) will receive up-dates by e-mail and many of our guest travelers will receive the same up-dates. However, it is still the responsibility of singers to make sure each of their guests is up-dated. Please keep in close contact with your guest travelers.

All questions, payments, etc., should be directed to Dawn Bauer, Tour Manager at dbauer658@aol.com, 860-408-1277, 22 Highwood, Simsbury, CT 06070.

Can't Wait!!
