

The L.U.N.C.H. MENU

LOCAL
UNITED
NETWORK to
COMBAT
HUNGER



Founded 1989 by Bill Pere
continuing the legacy of Harry Chapin

Since 1989

Using the power of popular music to produce positive social action

Fall 2001 -- Issue #10

There Are
almost 100,000
Hungry
Children Under
the Age of 12 In
Connecticut

The Three Scrooges! (Mo' Lara, and Shirley)

Help our local
community as
well as the
Sept 11 Relief
Agencies

The 5th LUNCH Holiday Show

This year has simply flown by. It seems just a short time ago that we were preparing for last year's Holiday Show, "A Dilbert Christmas". Then, last May, we assembled a great cast from a dozen different schools to put on our biggest production ever, Excalibur! Our long time keyboardist Dave Coxe even drove in from Ohio to participate in the event. In July, we held our annual week-long Summer Camp in July, for more than 40 kids.

Now it's time again to turn to our annual Holiday event as we prepare to present "The Three Scrooges" - the tale of how Mo, Lara, and Shirley visited a despondent Santa and helped rekindle his motivation to celebrate Christmas -- just as the three spirits did for their great grandfather Ebenezer, a century ago.

The LUNCH Holiday Show will be held on Saturday, December 8, 7-9pm at Union Baptist church, corner of Route 1 and High Street, in Mystic. Bill Pere and the LUNCH Ensemble will be on hand with songs of the season, and original music, to go along with this original play, which is LUNCH's 18th stage production.

This event will seek to raise money to help provide food baskets or provide shelter for local families in need at holiday time. In addition, we also want to do our part to help the relief efforts for the September 11 events.

If you can't attend our events but would like to help, consider sponsoring a seat for kids and their families who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Our goals as always are: (1) To raise money for fighting hunger and poverty in our region (2) To show kids that they can make a difference in the lives of others; (3) To provide a fun-filled family entertainment event

Take Note!

In light of the recent events of September 11, we are making a special effort to assist with the relief efforts there as well, but we do not in any way want to compromise our support of the many local agencies who serve the needy people of our local communities. Hunger and poverty remain as a root cause of violence in a society, and now more than ever, it is important to address the causes of violence. We remain committed to our primary goal of helping local social service agencies. See the enclosed sponsor sheet to see how you can help.



The 6th Chapin Legacy Show -- "Excalibur", May, 2001, Stonington

SOME RECENT ACTIVITIES



The 2001 LUNCH Summer Camp at Camp Wightman



The 2000 LUNCH Holiday Show "A Dilbert Christmas"



Bill presenta a check for \$2,000 to Rev. Dr. Ken Carpenter, to benefit the MASH shelter.

Also,, we've participated in events to support the Animal Shelter of West Haven, United Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, and more. Most importantly, we give a kids a chance to be involved and show them that they can make a difference. We're happy to help out wherever the power of popular music and the involvement of kids can come together to help those in need.

YOUR LUNCH DOLLARS AT WORK

LUNCH is a tax-exempt charitable organization founded in 1989 by Bill Pere. Most LUNCH projects are funded through grants or specific donations. Proceeds generated by our projects are used to help hunger relief and family service efforts in Connecticut. As an all-volunteer organization, we have no administrative overhead.

More important than financial support is the involvement of kids in our programs. By showing tomorrow's leaders that their individual efforts can make a difference in the lives of others, we hope they will grow to shape a kinder, more caring future. To date, more than 1,000 kids, grades K-12 from around the state, have participated in our programs. Our shows have provided quality family entertainment for tens of thousands of people. We have produced 6 Chapin Legacy Shows, 5 Holiday Shows, 3 Steve Chapin Concerts, 6 Summer Camps, a Show by Nancy Tucker, 10 CD's, and hundreds of other statewide concert events

Last December, at the Holiday Show, we presented a check for \$2,000 to MASH, in Groton. This was our third donation in that amount to this new organization which has been providing shelter for families in need. When they were just getting started, LUNCH was the first major contributor to the startup effort. Similarly, many years ago, when the Sunshine Kitchen was just being formed, LUNCH provided much of the funding in the early years. We support a student assistance fund at Stonington High School, and donate to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, the Groton Food Locker, and many others. We also give \$1,000 each year to World Hunger Year. We hope to add more agencies to the list this year. The number of agencies to whom we have given support continues to grow:

- The Groton Food Locker
- Connecticut Hospice
- Manchester Youth Services
- Waterford Youth Services
- Stonington Youth Services
- Alliance for Living
- FoodShare, Hartford
- H.O.P.E.
- WARM Shelter, Westerly RI
- The Noank Group Homes
- Catholic Charities of Norwich
- Covenant Shelter, New London
- Samaritan Shelter, Manchester
- Children of the World
- Connecticut Food Bank, New Haven
- Community Service Ministry of New London
- Community Resources Commission, New London
- World Hunger Year, New York City
- The Sunshine Kitchen, Stonington-Groton
- The Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center
- Mystic Area Shelter and Hospitality
- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens, Essex
- St. Vincent DePaul Shelter, Waterbury
- Cornerstone Soup Kitchen, Vernon
- Stonington High School Student Assistance Fund

In addition to our local outreach, we are making a special effort to help the agencies providing relief for the families of victims of the September 11 tragedies. Please assist us as we seek to provide comfort both within our local community, and our extended community.

If you would like to have a LUNCH show at your school, civic group, church, backyard, or anywhere, give us a call: 860-572-9285 (E-mail -- wdpsongs@aol.com)

LUNCH -- SOUP TO NUTS TIMELINE

Concerts, Education Programs, Public Appearances

- May 5 - The 6th Harry Chapin Legacy Show: Excalibur! at Stonington High School in Pawcatuck
- May 18 - The Connecticut Commission on the Arts brings together all of the Connecticut State Troubadours for a concert at the Performing Arts Center in Ridgefield.
- June 12 - Bill presents a Collaboration Workshop for songwriters in Old Saybrook
- July - 15 - Melody releases her first CD single, "Oom the Cow"
- July - 15-21 the Annual LUNCH Summer Music Camp at Camp Wightman
- August 13 -- Bill gives a presentation to the students at Papermoon Production's summer acting camp
- August 14-18 -- Kay is in Boston at a songwriting camp, at the Berklee School of Music.
- Sept 15 -- the annual LUNCH Fall kickoff party
- Sept 16 -- the annual Rally Day presentation at Union Baptist church, as the ensemble does "Song of Love"
- Sept 19 -- Kay headlines a songwriters showcase at the Acoustic Cafe in Bridgeport, with an appearance by Bill as well.
- Sept 22 -- Bill is the special guest on CyberstationUSA's internet radio show, Songwriters Network.
- Sept 25 -- Bill presents a music technology workshop for songwriters
- Oct 16 -- Bill presents an encore Collaboration Workshop for songwriters in Old Saybrook
- Oct 20 -- the Ensemble presents a program for the Children of the World organization in Groton
- Oct 25 -- Bill presents his annual songwriting workshop for teachers through LEARN
- Nov 9 -- the Ensemble performs at Redding Elementary School
- Nov 30 -- Bill presents music, math and science at Bethany Community School
- Dec 8 -- the 5th LUNCH Holiday Show -- "The Three Scrooges" , in Mystic.

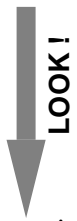
LUNCH programs are open to anyone from grade 5 through adult, who wishes to help others through music and theater. There are no auditions required, and you do not have to have great talent -- all you need is a song in your heart.

We always need adult volunteers to help with transport, event organization, logistics, costumes and construction, and many other tasks

We also are happy to accept donations of equipment and materials such as office supplies, musical items, items that can be auctioned or given as prizes, etc. All donations are tax-deductible. We also greatly appreciate donations of services, in any capacity.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

(And Get a FREE LUNCH T-Shirt!)



LUNCH is a part of SNET's Community Connections Program. If you have SNET as your long distance phone carrier, you can request that they make a regular donation to LUNCH equal to 5% of your monthly long distance phone bill. This is at no cost to you, and can mean a great deal to us. The donation is entirely from SNET.

All you need to do is call 1-800 635-7638 and request that you would like LUNCH to receive this donation. Our organization code is #3020. Let us know that you have done this, and we'll gladly send you a FREE LUNCH T-shirt! (please specify size: Med, Large, or XL).

Those of you who have already signed up are really making a big difference for us.

**IT'S SO
EASY TO
HELP!**

LUNCH is seeking to build an endowment that will provide scholarships for deserving students, and which will enable our benefit shows to become totally self-funding. This will in turn enable us to offer more direct support to social service agencies.

LUNCH is a part of the Leave a Legacy Connecticut program. If you are considering charitable bequests as part of your estate planning, please consider us. You can consult with your estate planner, or for more information about Connecticut Leave a Legacy, check out www.CTphilanthropy.org

RECORDING UPDATE

For the last few months, we have been having kids come to the studio to record songs for our new CD, "High School, My School".

Recording sessions will be continuing for awhile, and then we'll put it all together and release the CD.

We hope to have a CD release show sometime next Spring. .

When in doubt, do something -- Harry Chapin

A MOMENT to REFLECT

by Bill Pere, a Connecticut State Troubadour

LUNCH wishes to express its heartfelt condolences to the many families who have been affected by the tragedies of September 11. Not only did almost 5,000 innocent people lose their lives, but there are also 2,000 children who lost one or both parents, and countless people who lost friends, relatives, and their livelihood. Eighty nations of the world community lost citizens to these acts of violence.

People often look to entertainers as role models and heroes, but the real meaning of heroism was etched in our minds as we saw the selfless and unyielding efforts of men and women of the rescue units, and all those who supported them.

Songwriters and performers are not there on the front lines with their lives in the balance, but they can have a special role in the tapestry of our society. Not only do we entertain, but we can take important thoughts, feelings, and messages, and package them in the unique way that is the gift of the songwriter -- lovingly crafted words, woven into the fabric of sculpted sound, that can galvanize the hearts and minds of the people they touch.

There will undoubtedly be many songs born of the deep emotions from our time of national tragedy. Perhaps in some small way, those songs will help soothe part of the pain and help focus people's collective consciousness on things that are really crucial to the time ahead of us -- the need to be tolerant of others; the need to seek understanding; the need to honor ordinary people doing extraordinary things; the need to appreciate the way of life that our father fought for, and which we often take for granted. More songs have been written about love than about anything else. Perhaps now it is time to turn up the volume.

...LUNCH ON THE WEB...

To find LUNCH CD's on the internet, go to www.AMAZINGCDS.COM and CDBaby.com

Also, checkout www.csalunch.org and www.schoolshows.com

E_MAIL: wdpsons@aol.com

LET'S NOT FORGET

The events of September 11 have touched all of us in some way. We've seen the great outpouring of support for the families who have lost loved ones, and the heroic efforts of rescue workers. It is entirely appropriate that we open our hearts and give whatever monetary contributions we can to help. It is also important to remember is that our local social service agencies are still in need of your support as well, as the hungry and homeless people of our region have not suddenly gone away. Some local agencies have noted that all of the financial support going toward the September 11 funds has affected the rate of contributions to local efforts.

LUNCH wants to be sure that we continue to support the agencies that serve the needs of our local citizens, in addition to doing our part to support the September 11 relief efforts.

That's why you will see an extra space on our contribution form this year -- one for local efforts and one for the special agencies helping the September 11 relief efforts. We hope you will continue to remember the almost 100,000 hungry children here in Connecticut as we approach this winter and the Holiday season, as well as continue to stand united with those who have suffered loss in our national tragedy.

The needs this holiday season will be great, and together we can help provide a bit of warmth, comfort, and joy to those who would otherwise face a cold and lonely time ahead.

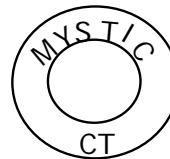
If a man tried to take his time on earth and prove before he died what one man's life could be worth, I wonder what would happen to this world? -- Harry Chapin

MARK THAT CALENDAR --- !

<-> Sat Dec 8 -- LUNCH Holiday Show : The Three Scrooges ! <->
Bill Pere and the LUNCH Ensemble, and other guest artists.



L.U.N.C.H.
 40 Bruggeman Place
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**The 5h LUNCH
 HOLIDAY SHOW
 The Three Scrooges
 Dec 8, Mystic**