

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

Spring 2003 -- Issue #12

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

Spring Schedule, New Web Site, and the Feinstein Challenge! (Please see page 2 !)

MUSIC FOR A CHANGE at University of Hartford

Bill, Kay, Scott, and the Ensemble will return to the University of Hartford on May 16 to present "A Tribute to Harry Chapin". This is part of the "Music For a Change" concert series, which brings well known acts to perform for the benefit of local social service agencies.

Expect to hear all the Chapin favorites as well as some of Bill and Kay's award-winning original story-songs in the Chapin style. For ticket information and directions, call Tickets and directions: 1-800-274-8587 or 860-768-4228

PRESENTING:

www.LunchEnsemble.com

After more than a year of work, we are proud to present our new official LUNCH web site, at www.lunchensemble.com. More than 700 photos, covering events since 1991, all the lyrics for all of our recordings, a complete on-line store where you can get our CD's and other special items that you cannot get anywhere else -- not even at our shows. LUNCH mugs, special edition shirts, Reba the LUNCH Bear, and the official LUNCH LunchBox. All at the online store. Please stop in and sign the guest book. Look at photos of your favorite Ensemble members in the Who's Who gallery. All the past issues of the LUNCH newsletter are online -- some with color photos too.

We especially thank David Harkins of Mystic Net Marketing for working with us to make this exciting web site possible. Please visit and tell us what you think. We will be adding more things in the time ahead, like audio clips, and more photo albums. Our new direct e-mail address is info@lunchensemble.com.

THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE! See page 2

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS for 2003

CHAPIN TRIBUTE CONCERT

Friday, May 16, 2003 -- A Tribute to Harry Chapin, part of the "Music For a Change" concert series, University of Hartford, Showtime is 7:30pm. Tickets and directions: 1-800-274-8587 or 860-768-4228

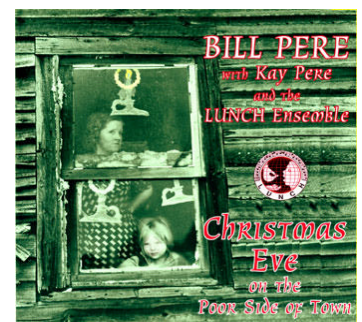
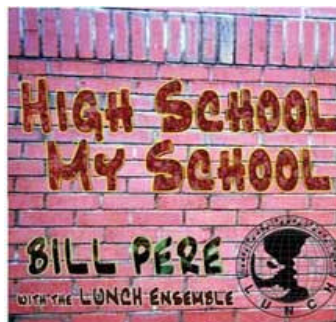
THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW

Saturday, December 6, 2003 -- The Annual LUNCH Holiday Show. This year: **SURVIVOR: North Pole!** More details in the Fall. Showtime: 7pm with live pre-show music beginning at 6:15.

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

This year's Music Camp at Camp Wightman (our 8th year!) will be July 13-19. For information about the program, contact Camp Wightman at 860-376-2179 or by e-mail at mrcamp@snet.net. Or on the web at www.campwightman.org

Our 2 newest CD releases have been getting rave reviews! If you haven't heard these great collections yet, check them out. (audio clips are on the web!)



SOME RECENT ACTIVITIES



The 2002 Holiday Show: SANTAPLICITY !

The 2002 Holiday Show "SANTAPLICITY!" was a great success, playing to a full house in Mystic. Bill presented checks for \$500, to Rev Ken Carpenter on behalf of the MASH shelter, and to Beth Ann Stewart, Director of Stonington Human Services. In addition, checks were mailed out on Christmas day to 12 regional social service agencies.

Joining Bill, Kay, and Scott for this event was original Ensemble member Dave Coxe, who came in from Ohio to be part of the festivities.

In addition to Dave, there were four other members of the cast and crew who had also been involved in the very first LUNCH event back in 1991., as well as a large number of first-time participants.

In addition to having Dave there, this also marked the last holiday Show appearance for our two high school seniors, Jackie Schwenk and Chris Kauffmann, both of whom have been with the Ensemble since their middle school days.



The Ensemble in Old Saybrook, doing a benefit for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen.

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

VERY IMPORTANT ! **PLEASE HELP US MEET** **THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE !**

The Feinstein Foundation of Providence RI is offering a challenge to organizations like LUNCH which help fight hunger and poverty. For all donations that we receive between March 1 and April 30 of this year, the Feinstein Foundation will add a proportional share of a 1 million dollar pool that it has designated for this purpose.

This means, for example that if all participating organizations raise a combined total of \$200,000, and we raise \$10,000 of that, that would be 5% of the total, so we would receive 5% of the 1 million dollars, or \$50,000. We will receive a percentage of the million dollar pool that is proportional to the amount we raise, compared to the total raised by all participating organizations.

What this means to you is that your donation made between now and April 30 is going to be made larger -- we don't know exactly how much, but the more we raise, the larger our share of the million dollar pie will be. Every dollar is important.

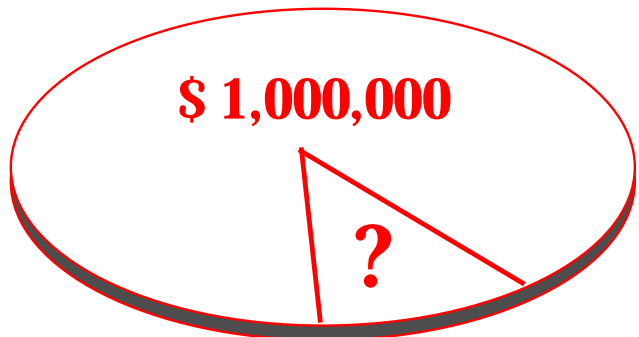
This is the best opportunity we have ever had to be able to significantly increase our level of contributions, and it matters now more than ever.

With the economy as it is, the closing of some state social service offices, and all the state layoffs in social services, the impact on children and on families in need of aid has been severe. Many agencies are having a difficult time finding beds for the homeless and food for those in need.

Here is an opportunity to make your donations reach a little farther. Please help us rise to this challenge and claim a good slice of the Feinstein challenge funds.

If you usually make a donation to us in the Fall, consider making it now instead, so that we can raise the largest possible amount before the end of April. Our teamwork will help make a difference in the lives of those who need a hand to help steady their course..

Please give generously and let's make the most of the Feinstein Challenge, On behalf of the almost 100,000 hungry children in Connecticut, thanks for caring.



The size of the slice is up to you!

YOU CAN DONATE RIGHT **FROM THIS WEBSITE !**

RIGHT ON THE BOTTOM OF THE HOME PAGE IS A PLACE TO SECURELY MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, USING YOUR CREDIT CARD, IF YOU WISH. IT IS CONVENIENT AND SECURE, AND HELPS US MEET THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE !

Your contributions are fully tax-deductible!

LUNCH -- SOUP TO NUTS TIMELINE

Concerts, Education Programs, Public Appearances

- Dec 7, 2002 -- The LUNCH Holiday Show -- "Santaplicity!"
- Jan 15, 2003 -- Bill is at Pawcatuck Middle School to discuss the Scientific Method with 7th Grade students
- Jan 31, -- Bill and Kay perform at the UUS:East Coffeeshouse in Manchester.
- Feb 1 -- The official LUNCH website, which is found at www.lunchensemble.com, is launched.
- Feb 15 -- The Ensemble performs a full concert for the Shoreline Soup Kitchens, in Old Saybrook
- Feb 19,-- Kay is at the East Hartford Community Center as a presenter at the annual entertainers showcase.
- Mar 29 -- The Ensemble is in Hartford to do a concert presenting the Chapin Legacy Remembered.
- Apr 4-- It's Resiliency Day at Tyl Middle School in Montville as Bill discusses positive character traits with the students
- Apr 11-- Kay and Bill participate in Music Night at all Souls in New London
- Apr 30-May 2 -- Bill is again at the Annual Science and Math Jamboree, presenting "Music, Math, and Computers" to hundreds of 8th grade students.
- May 16, -- **The Ensemble is at University of Hartford to present "A Tribute to Harry Chapin" as part of Music For a Change**
- May 22-- Bill gives a presentation on probability to gifted math students at Eastern College
- Jul 13-19, -- **The annual LUNCH Summer Music Camp at Camp Wightman**
- Dec 6,-- The Annual LUNCH Holiday Show in Mystic.
SURVIVOR: North Pole!

SOME LUNCH LETTERS

From a Chapin Fan: "I just wanted to drop you a line to say how much I enjoyed your concert at Cheney Hall. It was really a nice way for my son and I to spend an evening together. I enjoyed every one of your songs as well as Harry's which you stayed very true to. It's great to see Harry's legacy live on especially with the young folks. The world needs more people like you and Harry. "

From a Legacy Show Participant: "This was an experience I will never forget. I can't remember when I've ever had this much fun, and to know that it's helping needy people in our own community is the best feeling. Thanks so much!"

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 and the desire to help others in need.

We always need adult volunteers to help with transport, event organization, logistics, costumes and construction, and many other tasks. If you'd be willing to give us some time, please give a call. We really do need adult helpers.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

And it really does make a difference!

ONE PHONE CALL !

**PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE SNET
COMMUNITY CONNECTION PROGRAM**



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 have to do is ask. Just one simple phone call.

Simply call 1-800 635-7638 and request that you would like LUNCH to receive this donation. Our organization code is #3020.

Those of you who have already signed up are really making a big difference for us, and we really appreciate it!

IT'S SO EASY TO HELP !

SOME LUNCH LETTERS

From a Parent: "You have made an impression on my little girl regarding helping and caring for others. She listens to your CD regularly and often quotes your words. Your packages [in the mail] definitely bring a ray of sunshine to my daughter's life."

From a Social Service Agency Director: "I am always impressed with the leadership and innovation you have demonstrated in the area of hunger and with what LUNCH has accomplished in raising and distributing money for this cause. By involving youth in these efforts, it is a double blessing. You are the perfect example of how one person and a small group can make an enormous difference!"

From a Teacher: "I want to thank you for your presentation at our school. I am particularly pleased because one of the young men who was helping you had given up on education. Seeing your performance has made him rethink again that perhaps school isn't so bad after all."

From a Grandparent: "My grandson and I listened to hours of your tapes on our trip. Your music really does bring peace and has such a deep understanding of young people and all people's inner feelings about themselves and others. Thanks so much for this ministry of yours with so many dimensions."

From the Governor of Connecticut: "On behalf of the State of Connecticut, it is a pleasure to extend greetings and thanks for your remarkable contribution through LUNCH. I commend your efforts in the community and your dedication to helping the homeless. Your selfless commitment is an example to us all and an inspiration to the State of Connecticut. "

When in doubt, do something -- Harry Chapin

LUNCH LETTERS

Last fall we received a \$5 bill in the mail, with the following note:

Dear Bill and Ensemble:

You may not remember me, but I remember you. When I was younger, you taught me along with countless others to appreciate music at Camp Wightman. I am now a junior at Palmer high School in Massachusetts and I am the Chorus Advisor for my grade. I hope to be on the to Boston College in a couple of years. I plan to continue in music as long as I can. Thank you for inspiring me. I wish I could contribute more. It's such a worthy cause.

Sincerely,

Lisah

By taking what we teach and incorporating it into her life, I'm sure Lisah will touch many others, and thus be contributing far more than she knows.

From a LUNCH Participant: "I had a great time singing on stage. I love to be able to tell everyone that I sang at the Garde with the Steve Chapin Band. Thank you for the great pictures and certificate. I already have them framed on my bedroom wall."

...LUNCH ON THE WEB...

One-Stop Shopping for information about LUNCH at
www.lunchensemble.com

E_MAIL: info@lunchensemble.com

HIGH SCHOOL MY SCHOOL

LUNCH is always growing. In addition to the many kids who are in their 2nd through 5th years with us, we've had lots of new faces join us this season. Our first-year participants for the 2002-2003 season include:

Amy Henion, Michelle Kerr, Amanda Micklus, Cassie Rasmussen, Megan Rasmussen, Samantha Schaufler, and Earl Vogel,

Another LUNCH Wedding!

In 1999, Bill and Kay were married in Mystic. This year, Scott Sivakoff will be married on April 27 to Marcie Miller, in Piermont, NY. Scott has been playing bass and doing solo slots for LUNCH since 2000, and Marcie can always be found at shows helping out with photography. Bill and Kay will be guests at the wedding. We wish Scott and Marcie a joyous day and a bright, happy future.

LUNCH SHIRT DAY

Friday, May 16 is the next official LUNCH Shirt Day. If you have a LUNCH shirt, wear it on that day. The more people that see the logo and ask about it, the more the word gets out about our community service outreach. Do you have a friend or know anyone who might like to participate in our activities? Let them know about us. Wearing your LUNCH shirt helps people learn about who we are and what we do. Please help.

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

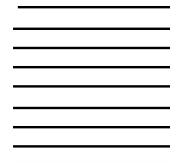
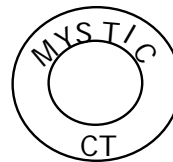
MARK THAT CALENDAR --- !

<> Fri May16 -- Music For a Change - Univ. of Hartford <>

Bill Pere and the LUNCH Ensemble,



L.U.N.C.H.
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Mystic CT 06355



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The 6th LUNCH
HOLIDAY SHOW
SANTAPLICITY!
Dec 7, Mystic

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LUNCH -- Using the power of popular music to produce positive social action