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# Premiere Concert



# ModernMen

Coachella Valley Men's Chorus



Presents

# Unwrapped

Artistic Director - **Robert Seeley**  
Accompanist - **Bruce Mangum**

Wednesday December 4th 7:00PM  
Saturday December 7th 2:00PM

Modern Men is fiscally sponsored by **Desert Winds Freedom Band**



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**CREDENTIALS**

**Board Certification:** American Board of Dermatology

**Medical School:** SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY

**Residency:** Tulane University Medical Center, New Orleans, LA

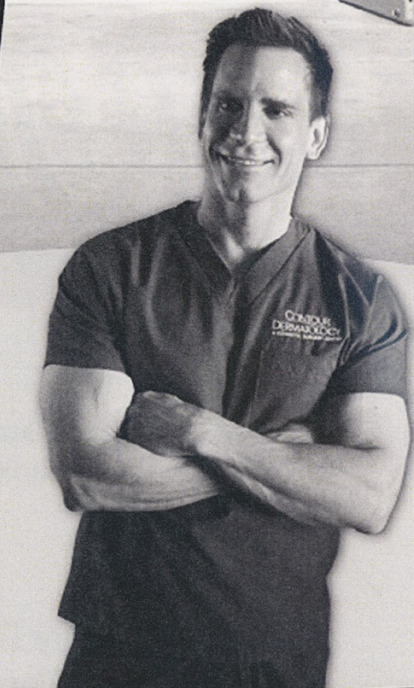
**Internship:** Internal Medicine, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA

**Hospital Affiliations:** Desert Regional Medical Center, Eisenhower Medical Center

Dr. Jochen has more than 10 years of experience and is in the top 1% of Botox injectors in the United States. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology, the American Society for Mohs Surgery and the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery, as well as a member of numerous other medical societies and associations.

*"What I enjoy most about dermatology is that you can see the results. There's an art to it and I probably enjoy the artistic element more than anything. It is rewarding to help people improve their self esteem as well as feel better physically."*

**Timothy M. Jochen, M.D.**  
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**ModernMen**  
 Coachella Valley Men's Chorus



*Welcome*

It's hard to imagine here in the Coachella Valley, so richly imbued with choral and instrumental ensembles, that any voice would be left unheard.

But as culture changes and perceptions shift, the reasons for singing often drift to loftier dreams and newfound ideals beyond just the moment and beyond the emotions one feels. And when that occurs, we are suddenly swept by the winds of possibility we did not expect. A restless yearning will only subside when music and its purpose is for the changing of lives.

A few short months ago, a small band of men found themselves swept and scattered by those winds of possibility. But its restless yearning did not provide a stage from which to sing their ideals. Nor did a baton magically appear to lead them into one collective harmony.

While it seemed no one felt their yearning, one man did. Many years earlier, that same restless yearning brought the winds of possibility into his life. So, in September, 2013, their inevitable journey together began. Under the artistic direction of composer Robert T. Seeley, the voices of these once scattered men have achieved a remarkable blend of both musical excellence and purposeful intent dedicated to changing lives.

A collaborative blend of 45 voices and a single baton, enhanced by the rich nuances of Bruce Magnum, a brilliant accompanist of whom most choruses only dream, will create a resonance that has quickly become the inimitable sound of MODERN MEN -- the Coachella Valley Men's Chorus. Today, they take the stage that has been waiting to warmly welcome them home.

The inception and development of a chorus requires more than poetic phrases to achieve it. The singers on stage today are gifted musicians, devoted men, and architects of the future. And these qualities are reflected in the hundreds of hours they have dedicated to an uncharted journey to structure a new chorus.

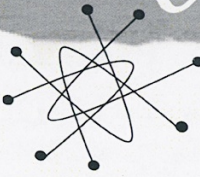
But their journey has not been unaccompanied. Modern Men extends to The Desert Wind Ensemble their extraordinary gratitude for graciously serving as their benevolent foundation in these months of inception. And we say to Temple Isaiah, which has welcomed them with open arms -- "It is good to be home." It is with humble hearts we embark on this journey: Men from all walks of life, who love to sing, dedicated to musical excellence while creating harmony through diversity.

**Robert S. Espindola**





# Unwrapped



## A Gift of Music

What a wonderful time of year it is for the unveiling of Modern Men - Coachella Valley Men's Chorus! We are so grateful you have joined us today for this special occasion.

Modern Men was formed only a few short months ago to provide our valley with a chorus that strives for musical excellence and to ensure that you, our audience, are inspired and entertained. I am overwhelmed by the strides we have made so far, and I hope you enjoy the fruits of our labor.

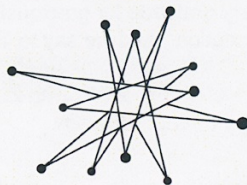
Tonight, we perform a diverse selection of holiday songs, aptly reflecting the diversity existing within our chorus. We are a chorus of men with very different backgrounds and of all ages and musical experiences.

Yet, we all share one thing in common: We love to sing; we love to sing together; and most of all, we love to sing for you. You are the reason we exist, and we hope our collective voices will help make your holidays just a little brighter.

Often when I drive to rehearsal each Tuesday evening, I wonder if I'll have the stamina to conduct a three-hour rehearsal after a long day at work. But as soon as the chorus begins to sing, I am rejuvenated. How lucky I am to have these men in my life and to share the gift of music with them each week. Now it's time for us to share it with you.

Through song, we hope Modern Men will enhance the rich musical tapestry of our valley and the lives of those in our community. On behalf of Modern Men, I thank you again for spending your time with us today, and I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season!

**Robert Seeley,  
Artistic Director**



# Modern Men Committees

## Steering Committee

Dave Gooding (Co-chair) Dan Spencer (Co-chair) Charlie Mercer (Treasurer)  
Chuck Wilhelm (Secretary) Joel Mugge (Fundraising)  
Jamie Norton (Membership) Robert Seeley (Artistic Director)

## Fundraising Committee

Nick Clark, Dave Van Wess, Chuck Wilhelm, Joel Mugge (Chair)

## Legal/501(c)(3)/Bylaws Committee

Art Healey, Dave Morrison, Burton York, Sid Galton (Bylaws), Chuck Wilhelm (Chair)

## Marketing Committee

Mark Cohen, Lyle Boatman & Trevor O'Connell (Co-Chairs)

## Membership Committee

Billy Blaylock, Mark Cohen, Jim Gillen, Rusty Kaplan, Jamie Norton (Chair)

# Special Thank You's

Paris Aguirre & the Alibi staff

Billy Blaylock - Dinner desserts

California Desert Chorale

Ken Chapman and Canyon Copy & Print

Mark Cohen - Modern Times

Reverend Clinton Crawshaw

Kurt Cyr - Graphic Design

Desert Promotional & Embroidery

Desert Winds Freedom Band

Robert Espindola

Founding Members, Modern Men

Sid Galton - Program, Food Bank benefit, GALA liaison

Gary Hawthorne - Groupanizer

Art Healey

Chris Holcombe - Dinner silent auction

Joaquin Galeano & Ricky Man - Concert volunteer coordinators

Bruce Jewett

Dwight Joyner & Jay Baumgartner - Dinner reception

Barbara Kaye - Midi files, tailoring

Bruce Kenady & Philip Chesterman

Lydia Kramer

Dean McDowell

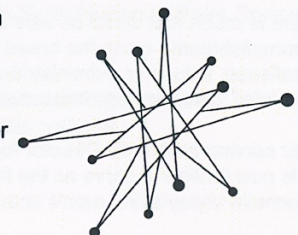
MCC of the Coachella Valley

Nest Egg Food Bank/LGBT Center

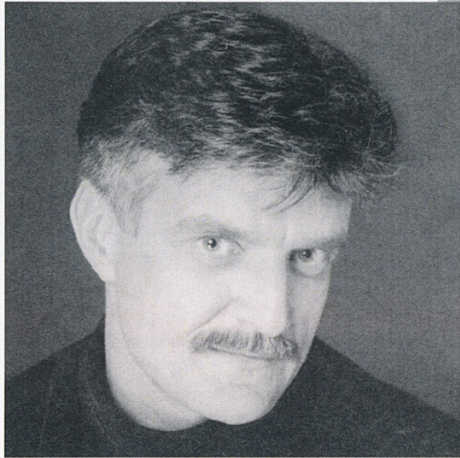
Doug Romney - Stage manager

Temple Isaiah

Chuck Wilhelm - Dinner







## Robert Seeley Artistic Director

**Robert T. Seeley**, composer steps onto the stage again this holiday season, but this time as the Artistic Director of MODERN MEN, the Coachella Valley Men's Chorus.

For over 25 years, Robert T. Seeley has been writing music for the gay, lesbian, and feminist choral movement. In 1996, his ground-breaking choral and orchestral work, *NakedMan*, commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, garnered national acclaim.

Its controversial text coupled with Seeley's extraordinary musical interpretation was unlike any choral music that had preceded it. While six additional major works would follow in the ensuing years of his career, *NakedMan* would remain his signature piece. This work established his as one of the groundbreakers not only for the gay, lesbian, and feminist choral movement but also for the broader movement of contemporary choral music in an ever-shifting cultural paradigm.

Seeley, a longtime member of GALA, (the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses), has become one of the most recognized names on their roster of American Composers. His creative mastery and inimitable style have provided the largest cadre of compositions of any single composer. His music has been performed in some of the most highly esteemed concert and symphony venues in America, Canada, and Australia. From Carnegie Hall to The Kennedy Center, American vocalists who have sung the deeply moving passages of his music know instinctively and recognize almost immediately a "piece penned by his hand."

And that "hand" has never stopped. His signature is etched on some of the most widely sung choral works of the last two and a half decades: *BraveSouls & Dreamers*, *Only Human*, *Songs of My Family*, *To A Dancing Star*, *Exile*, and *Metamorphosis*. Along with some of the most glorious Christmas cantatas, these definitively set him apart from others before him and those who will follow.

On September 11, 2010, his musical excellence was recognized by the City of New York and onlookers from around the country when the Portland Gay Men's Chorus sang at the 10th anniversary commemoration of the 9/11 tragedy. Approved and designated as sacred music by the Archbishop of New York, *BraveSouls & Dreamers* was performed at St. John The Divine Cathedral.

There is much that could be said about Robert T. Seeley. The array of his accomplishments cross the broad spectrum of diverse artistry and professional excellence: Educator, administrator, vocalist, instrumentalist, theatrical director, jazz performer, composer, orchestrator, arranger, artistic director, and choral founder.

After serving as Artistic Director for the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus from 2011-2013, he is now thrilled to serve as the founder and Artistic Director of MODERN MEN, the Coachella Valley's first men's chorus.

## Bruce Mangum Accompanist



**Bruce Mangum**, pianist, hails from Nampa, ID, and grew up in a musical family. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Applied Piano in 1992 from the College of Idaho in Caldwell, ID - 8 miles from his home. He completed one year toward a Master's in Piano Performance from the University of Idaho in Moscow, ID. Bruce began piano at age 7, and has studied with the late Dr. Fern Nolte Davidson, Dr. Jay Mauchley, Jeffrey Payne, Carol Rich, and most recently Tim Bruneau.

Bruce lived in Portland, OR, for 7 years where he accompanied local university music students and served as musical director for a number of community theatre productions. He won Musical Director of the Year for his work in *Irene* in 1997.

From 1999 to 2002, Bruce joined up with Princess Cruise Lines as an Atrium Pianist, and was able to see much of the world in his travels. It was out on the high seas where Bruce developed and perfected his romantic piano playing in the style of John Tesh, with a little George Winston thrown in. In his leisure time, Bruce enjoys listening to a wide variety of music including Eva Cassidy, Amy Grant, Judy Collins, Manhattan Transfer, k.d. lang, Keiko Matsui, Zero 7, and even Lady Gaga!

He moved to Palm Springs in 2005 from Denver, CO, where he had accompanied the Denver Opera Company (now defunct). He currently serves as Music Director for Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church in Indio and was accompanist for the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus. From 2006 to 2010, he played piano for the Palm Springs Opera Guild's Outreach Program every June, during which he played piano for young opera stars who introduced opera to more than 3,500 kids each year within the Palm Springs Unified School District. In April 2008, Bruce serenaded the crowds at the Opera in the Park with prelude and Intermission music.

Performances in the Coachella Valley include: *Little Shop of Horrors* and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* [2000], both at Palm Desert High School; *Love's Embrace* 2007 at his church in Indio; *A Grand Night For Singing* at the Joslyn Theatre (Palm Desert); *13 - a Teen Musical* at IPAC in Indio; and was Music Director and Accompanist for *It Had To Be You: A Musical Tribute to Betty Hutton* in Palm Springs, May 2009.

Bruce released a CD of original songs and religious piano arrangements in October 2010, and soundbytes of this music may be heard on his website - [www.brucemangum.com](http://www.brucemangum.com) - as well as on iTunes.





**Hodie**

**Music by Robert Seeley**

"Today Christ is born. Today the Savior has appeared.  
Today on earth the angels sing; archangels rejoice, saying:  
"Glory to God in the highest!" Alleluia  
*Remembering Herbert Kraft*  
~ Mark Rose

**Coventry Carol**

**Traditional English Carol**

*To Tom Harper, with deepest gratitude and love*  
~ Chris Holcombe

**Night of Silence/Silent Night**

**Words and Music by Daniel Cantor**

Arranged by S.K. Hill  
*In honor of Walter and Ann Lindley - recently deceased - the finest  
uncle and aunt a fellow could have*  
~ Larry Bye

**Caroling, Caroling**

**Music by Alfred Burt**

Arranged by Hawley Ades  
*For Dad, who showed us the love and joy of music*  
~ Dan and Tom Spencer

**Carol of the Bells**

**Music by M. Leontovich**

Arranged by J. Wilhousky  
*Per il mio amore Fiorentino-Antonio Ciciliano*  
~ Armand Rouleau

**Way Down In Bethlehem**

**Music and Lyrics by Jay Althouse**

*I dedicate this song in loving memory of my beautiful Mother, Eldora Anderson*  
~ Curtis Anderson

**Ave Maria**

**Music by Franz Biebl**

Soloists: Stephen Owen, Paul Stein, Jan Bergman  
Trio: David Morrison, Chuck Kaye, Billy Blaylock  
*Dedicated to the loving memory of my Gordon D. Wolf, a lover of music forever.  
We found more joy and beauty in five years than most people find in fifty.*  
~ Steve Caldwell

**Not In Our Town**

**Music by Fred Small**

Arranged by Kevin Robison  
Chris Holcombe, Solo  
*In memory of my pro-equality, generous, and beloved mom, Toni Galton*  
~ Sid Galton



**Ding Dong Merrily On High**

**Traditional French Carol**

Arranged by Howard Helvey  
Bruce Mangum and Jim Gillen, piano  
*Saluting Jim Gillen's pianistic excellence...*  
~ Chuck and Barbara Kaye

**Suo Gan**

**Traditional Welsh Lullaby**

Arranged by Lawrence Wilford  
David Morrison, solo  
*In memory of my grandmother who sang this to me in Welsh*  
~ Chuck Wilhelm

**Some Children See Him**

**Words by Wihlan Hutson**

Music by Alfred T. Michael Collura-Ringe, solo  
*To Robert Espindola, who blesses my life every day with his faith, courage and love*  
~ Robert Seeley

**Boogie Woogie Hannukah**

**Words & Music by Eric Lane Barnes**

*To all at Temple Isaiah for their kindness and gracious support*  
~ Modern Men - Coachella Valley Men's Chorus

**Everybody's Waitin' for the Man With the Bag  
Brooks**

**Words & Music by Dudley  
Harold Stanley & Irving Taylor**

*In Celebration of our 22nd Anniversary*  
~ Mark Cohen & Charlie Mercer

**O Holy Night**

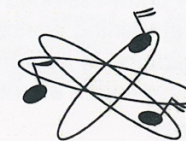
**Music by Adolph Adam**

Arranged by John Leavitt  
David Morrison & Phillip Moore, duet  
*To Rita and Barbara, with love*  
~ Art & Joe

**Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas**

**Words by Ralph Blane**

Music by Hugh Martin  
*To my beloved Palmer Hagestrom with whom every day is Christmas!*  
~ Billy Blaylock





# Modern Men Members

## Tenor 1

Jan Bergman  
T. Michael Collura-Ringe  
Art Healey (LOA)  
Bill Mason (SM)  
Timm McBride (LOA)  
Phillip Moore  
David Morrison (SL)  
Lou Nanez  
Daniel Walthall (LOA)

## Tenor 2

Mark Baranowski (LOA)  
Jim Blondheim  
Larry Bye  
Nick Clark (SM)  
Mark Cohen  
Chuck Kaye (SL)  
Sal Lanza  
Dan Kelley McBride (LOA)  
Chester McLemore  
Mark Rose  
Armand Rouleau  
Rick Soto  
Robert Van Dyke

**Artistic Director**  
Robert Seeley

**Accompanist**  
Bruce Mangum

## Baritone

Curtis Anderson  
Mike Bell  
Doug Foss (SM)  
Jim Gillen (SL)  
Charlie Mercer  
Jamie Norton  
Trevor O'Donnell  
Roy Pitluk  
Mike Scacco  
Tom Spencer  
Paul Stein

**LOA** - Leave of Absence  
**SL** - Section Leader  
**SM** - Section Manager

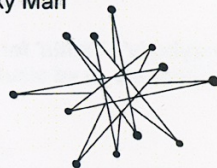
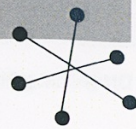
**GALA**  
CHORUSES

## Bass

Billy Blaylock  
Lyle Boatman  
Steve Caldwell  
Sid Galton  
Dave Gooding  
Gary Hawthorne (SM)  
Chris Holcombe  
Rusty Kaplan  
John Malo  
Joel Mugge  
Stephen Owens  
Doug Romney (LOA)  
Dan Spencer

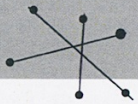
## Associate

**Members**  
Jay Baumgartner  
Robert Espindola  
Joaquin Gaelano  
Dwight Joyner  
Barbara Kaye  
Ricky Man



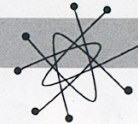
Founded in 1982 by fourteen choruses, GALA Choruses has become the leading international association of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied choruses. The mission of GALA Choruses is inspiring and strengthening member choruses to change their worlds through song. By fostering the artistic and organizational development of member choruses through a wide variety of programs and services, GALA Choruses produces choral festivals, educational conferences and several publications. GALA Choruses engage in advocacy; provide grants for the commissioning of new choral works; facilitate networking within the Association; and serve as a resource center for choruses from around the world. Since its inception GALA Choruses has produced nine international festivals, provided more than \$60,000 in matching grants for commissioned works and has provided more than 30 conferences and vocal training workshops. GALA Choruses supports more than 180 choruses singing to audiences totaling more than one million individuals. For more information about GALA Choruses and its programs visit [www.galachoruses.org](http://www.galachoruses.org).

# Modern Men Donors



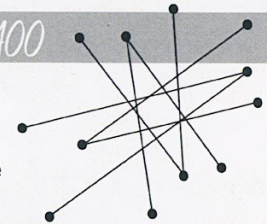
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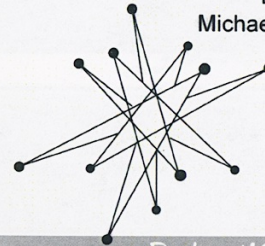


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Chris Holcombe  
Charles Mercer & Mark Cohen  
Mark Rose  
David Vogel



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Nick Clark  
Coachella Valley Repertory  
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*-Kurt*



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2:00pm Sunday April 13th

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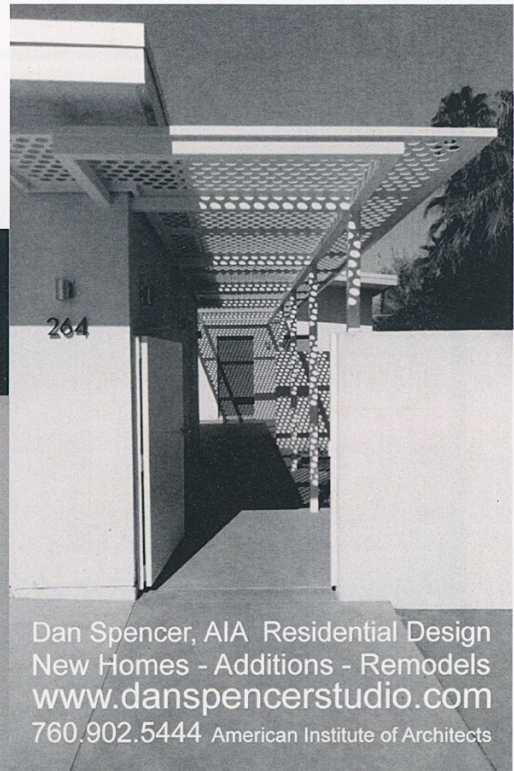
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*To my loving Dennis  
 Thank you for all the support  
 during these past 12 weeks.  
 I love you dearly  
 and always will.  
 Dave*



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