

The DIANA SINGING

Promoting great a-capella congregational singing since 1969

Hello Diana Singers and Friends of The Diana Singing!

This year, 2023, brings the 54th Anniversary of The Diana Singing! We are excited about the singings that are planned for June 9 & 10 and Sept 8 & 9 and look forward to seeing you there.

Much has been and is happening with The Singing since our last gathering in September. Last year we communicated 'A large need, a small need, and an opportunity.' The generosity from many is helping toward our goals, even though the details of those goals have changed in very exciting ways. Here is an update, in reverse order:

An opportunity: We are thrilled to report that The Diana Singing has a contract to purchase the adjoining property to the south of the Singing Shed. This property greatly increases the amount of parking for personal vehicles. Previously the biggest challenge for The Singing, this acquisition will be a blessing for those attending for years to come. The best part... the purchase price is only \$38,000.

A small need: Last year we requested donations of a specific songbook. The goal was to build toward replacing the songbook we have used for almost 30 years. Several hundred songbooks were donated and two congregations donated money toward the purchase of songbooks. However, in October, we learned that the book previously sought was not being printed anymore. Research was done and another, even better book was found. That book, Songs of Worship and Praise published by Robert J Taylor, has been ordered and is currently scheduled to be delivered in July. Lord willing, we will be using it exclusively for the September singing. Yes, The Singing has committed to purchasing several thousand of these books. The total cost will be almost \$60,000. This book will be a blessing to Diana singers as it has a vast selection of both old favorite standards and newer songs. We are so excited about this step taken to address this 'small need.'

A large need: The campground at The Diana Singing was created around 1978 and initially wired to supply 30-Amp power for most campers manufactured at that time. In the last number of years, volunteers and workers are bringing larger RVs/campers to The Singing, RVs/campers that work best with 50-Amp power. It cannot be overstated how vitally important these volunteers who camp at The Singing are to The Singing. The work required during the 3 weeks prior to each singing weekend in June and September could not be completed were it not for those who come weeks in advance to camp and work. In order for The Singing to continue to meet the needs of those volunteers and all who camp, The Singing NEEDS to upgrade the campground to supply 50-Amp power throughout. A recent informal quote provided for the work is \$110,000.

Why are we asking?

For the last 30 years, the year-to-year expenses of The Diana Singing have been primarily covered by the patronage of those attending and their purchases from the Gift Shop, the Ham Shed and the Tape Shed. The annual fixed expenses of The Singing total about \$11,000 per year, even if we do not have a singing, the bulk of which is our insurance premium. Without having singings in 2020 and 2021, about \$18,000 was still expended to maintain The Singing without having much of any revenue. Cash reserves that had been slowly built over the last 30 years were nearly completely drained. Therefore, these asks are specifically for our Capital Improvement Fund to answer the need of the campground, new songbooks, and the opportunity of more property for parking availability.

It is our goal for sales at the Ham Shed and Gift Shop to cover the operational expenses of The Singing and little more. The Singing does not make much money at all on sales at the Ham Shed and Gift Shop. Items are sold with just a little margin above cost. This is intentional, as we desire that a family's visit to The Singing be wallet-friendly. Additionally, as it is the goal of The Singing "to promote great congregational a-capella singing", providing recordings FREE is one of the best ways to meet that goal. To that end, MP3 recordings of the singing will be downloadable **without charge** from The Diana Singing website, www.dianasinging.com. Anyone, anywhere in the world now has access to these recordings without cost or location being a barrier!

It is our hope that Capital Improvement needs be met and supported by donations. Can we count on your help?

The Diana Singing Inc is registered with the state of Tennessee as a not-for-profit entity. The Board of Directors recently re-applied for the renewal of The Singing's 501(c)(3) not-for-profit status with the IRS, initially granted in 1974.

How can I donate?

- Checks made to The Diana Singing Inc may be mailed to:
The Diana Singing Inc
c/o: Jack Parks, Treasurer
2506 Nancy Green Ridge Rd
Prospect, TN 38477
- You may also choose to donate electronically via EasyTithe using one of these three options:
 - Visit www.dianasinging.com, click the "Donation/Gift" button on the main page, or...
 - Text "gift" to (615) 219 - 4460, or...
 - Use your phone's camera on this QR Code:



Thank you for your interest in The Diana Singing! To those who have already made a donation, we are so very thankful for you and your support. Please continue to remember us in the future. To those now considering a donation, thank you for even considering it! If you have questions, contact with us can be initiated using our website, <http://dianasinging.com/contact/> or our Diana Singing page on Facebook.

May we be forever in His service,
Board of Directors
The Diana Singing Inc