



For Immediate Release

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Songs help celebrate the lives of cancer battlers

The Forty Niners Chorus added some pep to the steps of walkers at the 2010 Central Chester County Relay for Life on May 22. The event, celebrating its Sweet Sixteen, helps participants including cancer battlers, survivors, and loved ones of those who lost their fight with the disease raise funds for cancer research.

With a mix of standards, such as Fly Me to the Moon and Let's Call the Whole Thing Off, and heartfelt anthems such as Let There Be Peace on Earth, the Chorus serenading a rain-dampened but enthusiastic crowd.

The opportunity to take part in the event had special meaning for the group, which has lost eight members to the disease: Carol Eckel, Cam Hitchcock, Marilyn Lefevre, Ralph Matlack, Barbara Nickey, Harry Sandstedt, Charlotte Trego, and Mel VerSteeg. Many members also have family or friends who have faced the disease, including Kelly Lyman, who's walking with her family to celebrate the victory of her father, father-in-law, and both grandfathers—all of whom are cancer survivors. Peggy Pastino remembered her first husband, Bob Bean, who lost his battle against thyroid cancer.

Along with their vocal chords, Chorus members also used their feet for the cause, achieving Bronze level fundraising status. Whether walking on the track or singing on the outdoor stage, The Forty Niners Chorus were honored to participate in the 2010 Central Chester County Relay for Life.

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The Forty Niners Chorus is an all-volunteer community group made up of approximately 50 men and women from Chester County and surrounding areas. In existence since 1952, their performances raise money every year to provide cash awards for local high school graduates planning to major in music in college. Its mission is to keep community music alive by encouraging young musicians to develop their talents and give back to their communities through groups like The Forty Niners Chorus.

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For more information on the Forty-Niners Chorus, please contact Rebecca Cichetti by calling 610.715.8248 or via email at rebecca@49erschorus.org, or visit the Forty Niners website at www.49erschorus.org