

Tremble Clefs Arizona



Kirk Hall and a Community Grant from the Parkinson's Foundation

Kirk Hall wrote, "I would love to see TC become available to everyone with PD in the U.S. Personally, when I see the impact Sun Joo and singing has on our group, I am deeply moved and impressed by the difference it makes in our lives."

Diagnosed by a movement disorder neurologist with Parkinson's disease in 2008, Kirk Hall's initial response was to learn everything he could about PD. After the shock was over, his faith helped him to refocus his energy from himself to helping others with PD.

Eleven years later, Kirk is a nationally recognized Parkinson's author, speaker and advocate. His book "Carson and His Shaky Paws Grampa" written for youngsters is the first in a series about the relationship between a grandfather who has PD and his seven-year-old grandson.

Living in Colorado, Kirk sang regularly with his church choir and occasionally with Tremble Clefs groups. Kirk met Patti Meese when both were research advocates with PDF, which is now Parkinson's Foundation (PF). Patti brought him to a West Side TC practice. When he bought a "snowbird condo" in Surprise several years later, Kirk dropped in at a WSTC practice and he states "the rest is history."

In his blog posted May 31, 2019, Mr. Hall described how he came to write a grant to the Parkinson's Foundation (PF) for Tremble Clefs Arizona (TC AZ). When he found PF was offering community grants up to \$25,000, he immediately thought how TC could use it. He talked with Sun Joo and Jim Hstand about the possibilities. They were keen but had no one with experience to write it. Kirk wrote. "Though I had never written one, I had some experience with them from my consulting days. I told Jim I would give it a try."

He researched, learning of future needs in Maricopa County. At this time existing Tremble Clefs are stretched to the limit. After discussions with Sun Joo and Jim Hstand, Kirk wrote a proposal for a community start-up grant for two new Tremble Clefs.

Thanks to Mr. Hall's work, TC AZ received a grant for \$20,000 from the PF to create two new music therapy groups. The North West TC started in May and meets in Sun City West. A second new group is planned for the Sun Lakes-Chandler area. We all appreciate the work Kirk did obtaining a community grant from the Parkinson's Foundation.

By Donna Rosenheck, Secretary of the Board of TC AZ

For more about Kirk Hall, check out his website: www.shakypawsgrampa.com.

In Memoriam

Dan Courtney
Cal Crane
Steve Eckhoff
Stan Milstein
David Morrison
Jim Slattery
Jim Williams

To submit information for upcoming issues, contact the newsletter editor:
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Trembleclefsarizona.org

We thank Barbara Powers-Ruff for her work on our first website. Gail Dailey, experienced in website design, developed our new website with the help and support of TC AZ board members. We deeply appreciate Ms. Dailey's volunteering to help Tremble Clefs. As you check out her good work, you will note our domain name is now "org."

Our New Video

Ovi Balc of Mind Maze Productions created a motivational video about TC AZ to attract new members and donations. It concludes with our performance at Chase Field. Sun Joo Lee and Donna Rosenheck coordinated the project, using funds earmarked for publicity from the Parkinson's Foundation's grant.

Notes from the President

It is a pleasure for me to communicate with all of our Tremble Clefs members in Arizona.

We were so pleased and honored to be invited on May 15 to sing the National Anthem at the Diamondbacks baseball game at Chase Field. Members of Original Tremble Clefs and West Side Tremble Clefs got together to do this. It was a wonderful experience and we got an amazing response from the audience. I'm ready to do it again!

I want to welcome our third group in the Valley the North West Tremble Clefs.

Their first meeting was May 5th. They meet Tuesdays starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Sun City West Christian Church, 20803 N. 151st Ave., Sun City West. We welcome these new members and look forward to adding to the membership. You can help spread the word about the new group to anyone whom you think might want to join.

Tremble Clefs Arizona received a generous \$20,000 donation from the Parkinson's Foundation to help organize and staff two new groups. The North West is up and running. The second new choral group will come later this fall in the Southeast Valley area.

So, we're doing great things for the Parkinson community and you can be proud of what we do for our people!

By Don Dotts, President of the Board of TC AZ & Chairman of the OTC Steering Committee



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Tremble Clefs sing “The Star Spangled Banner” - Chase Field, Phoenix, May 15, 2019

Tremble Clefs combined to sing the National Anthem to open a National League baseball game at Chase Field, Phoenix. The Arizona Diamondbacks routed the Pittsburg Pirates 11 to 1. Special thanks to Kevin Riley & Sun Joo Lee for their work in making this exciting performance possible.



Jane Burke

I thought we did really well. I felt it was a great experience. It felt like we were important and that we meant something to people. - Bonnie Bailey

I enjoyed it and I thought we did a good job. The crowd seemed to enjoy it too. It's too bad the Diamondback organization didn't arrange for our group to get in the air-conditioned stadium in a timely manner considering our circumstances. - William Vaughan

Nothing but outstanding comments from fans. Wonderful chance to get out the word about PD. Need other sports teams to do the same. - Charles Barber

I thought we sounded great. An experience we'll never forget. Thank you Sun Joo. - Donna Faye

It was fun for us to be at the ball field and to sing for the crowd. I don't feel that they took very good care of us while we were waiting outside. - Theresa Sylvester

I think our performance was very impressive. Amazed at the effort it took. I had never been to a baseball game, so it was a treat and education for me. - Toby Pollack

It is a wonderful feeling singing with the Tremble Clefs. You feel like you belong to a very important group. - Greg Owens



Wonderful experience. First time on professional field. A great group of people to sing with. Thank you for the experience. - Mary Morgan

I think it was one of the better concerts we've done. Heard a lot of comments from others at the game that were positive. Did not like the wait outside in the sun. - Dennis Arend