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| Code | 311006 |
| Subject | William C. Boehm, founder of Singing Angels Youth Choir |
| Date | 11/10/2005 |
| Interviewer | chester willey |
| Special Notes | relation to masonic temple, arts and theatre, very dramatic and enthusiastic subject |

minutes:

- 1 introduction
- 2 personal background
- 3 "life in the theatre has been my calling in life..."
- 4 Cleveland Friends of Music helped "launch the singing angels"
- 5 beginnings and growth
 - "the walls at the masonic temple were bulging out [due to popularity and size of
- 6 group]"
- 7 teaching children to perform
- 8 "it grew and grew and we have something precious today"
- 9 natural growth of program, styles of music performed by singing angels
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- 11 support from masonic temple and masonic patrons
- 12 touring the world with the choir, performing in competitions and for foreign dignitaries
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- 16 Russia, 1980s: "we're ambassadors for peace. we take that very seriously"
 - visited thailand during Thai-Chinese Conflict (possibly meant taiwan? refers to US
- 17 diplomatic intervention)
- 18 "everyone paid their own way" in order to go on tour
- 19 teaching children to perform
- 20 story about Tom Neil (barbershop harmony trainer)
- 21
 - first few years "worked without salary", payment depended upon yearly budget
- 22 fluctuations and much-appreciated corporate sponsorship
- 23
 - "the reason I'm into the arts... it must be what the good lord puts in your heart... it's a
- 24 gift"
- 25
- 26 "you have to know how to protect [your gift and the program]
- 27
- 28 the necessity of capital
- 29 amusing fund-raising story
 - coming out of retirement to take care of family, "life begins at eighty-five"; hopes for
- 30 the future of the group
- 31 "there's chaos all around us... we've got to look after the arts"
 - hopes for own personal legacy, "when children come up and give you a hug... that's
- 32 the real payoff for me"
 - Singing Angels alumni who've gone on to bigger projects (pennsylvania opera and
- 33 ballet, tony award winner, pittsburgh orchestra)
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- 35 [Data loss. End of recording]