

A BIG BAND SALUTE

Valerie's mom sang around their Cleveland home. She told Valerie many times how much she loved singing in the mixed chorus when she was single. Valerie's dad played the piano and also taught her. He was great at playing old boogie tunes and when he was single, and also played in 1950s bands. He told Valerie that it was his favorite genre of music. No one in the family wanted to hear Mom play her opera records, and she complied.

When Valerie was in college, her old flame just had an AM radio in his car. It only played oldies, including big band tunes. She had heard about them growing up, and especially loved "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy." Valerie paid particular attention to the Andrews Sisters, as she adored their sound. This led her to buy many recordings of theirs. She wanted to do more than just sing along, so she decided to form a trio. Along with their tunes, they sang many big band hits, as well.

While living in San Antonio, TX, Valerie was told about the Sentimental Journey Orchestra. When she heard about them a second time, she took note, contacted them, auditioned, and was hired. Valerie loved every minute of it. She knew that she wanted to keep singing these great jazz tunes.

When Valerie moved to Phoenix, she auditioned for Swing Memories Big Band. Singing with them since 2010 has been the joy of her life.

In this show, A Big Band Salute, you will hear:

1. Hits from the 1930 - 50s.
2. Background knowledge for most of the tunes which captivates listeners.
3. Enjoy great dialogue for the *World War II Segment* with fascinating musical background and how it relates to major worldwide events from 1941 - 1945.

Delight in every moment as you listen and watch Valerie Saunders in...

A Big Band Salute!