

## Kearns Scores Again

Middleburg, VA- March 21, 2014 – Tenor Anthony Kearns headlined a benefit for two veterans' assistance organizations at the Salamander Resort and Spa, held Saturday, March 1, 2014.

Kearns performed fourteen pieces, about half of which were from his native Ireland, climaxed by a touching rendition of the favorite, “Danny Boy”. Kearns' voice has a clear, effortless sound, which is capable of many shadings, from the humorous ditties of Ireland to his stirring finale, “God Bless America”. Perhaps the most emotional offering for this audience was his “Empty Chairs at Empty Tables” from *Les Miserable*, which left few dry eyes in the house.

Anthony Kearns is an international singing star, who first came to prominence as the youngest of the “Irish Tenors”, a perennial favorite trio throughout Europe and the United States. Kearns has been called “Washington's Tenor” in view of his numerous appearances in military-related benefits such as this, as well as before public and political audiences.



Anacostia Marine Color Guard



Anthony Kearns

The Kennedy family asked him to sing at John Kennedy's gravesite for the recent Washington remembrance of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kennedy's trip to Ireland in 1963. Kearns has also entertained the leaders of the U.S. government, including President Obama and Speaker John Boehner.

Anthony Kearns has become a troubadour in the image of his hero, John McCormack of an earlier era.

He sings with flawless technique and range, including the lower register which vexes many tenors. Anthony Kearns is one of the world's outstanding tenors.

Kearns' partner in this performance was Patrick Healy, frequent accompanist and master of humorous interludes in which he entertains the audience with his wit and charm. An audience favorite is a duet, written by Healy, called “Friendship”, which portrays a rivalry between an elder tenor (Healy) and a younger tenor (Kearns) who try to maintain their friendship amid withering barbs and sarcasms. Very funny.

Middleburg's Sean Clancy, notable jockey and now bloodstock agent, served as Master of Ceremonies and introduced the various participants, thanking an event planner, Kirsten Fedewa, for all her efforts. Both veterans' organizations are neighbors of Middleburg.



Anthony Kearns and accompanist  
Patrick Healy

Boulder Crest Retreat for Military and Veteran Wellness is a rural sanctuary in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains at Bluemont, Virginia. Boulder Crest provides free accommodations, recreational and therapeutic activities and programs to help our nation's military and veteran personnel and their families recover and reconnect during their long journey of healing from physical and invisible wounds of war. The retreat is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization and is entirely funded through private donations from individuals, foundations and corporations. For more information about Boulder Crest Retreat please visit [www.bouldercrestretreat.org](http://www.bouldercrestretreat.org).



**Ken Falke, Founder of Boulder Crest Retreat for Military and Veteran Wellness**

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, is based in nearby Leesburg, Virginia, Since 2004, the Coalition has provided direct financial assistance to thousands of America's wounded heroes. Its Emergency Financial Aid program regularly



**David Walker, President & CEO of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes**

provides gift checks to cover meals, medical and utility bills, clothing, car repairs, and the Coalition has even stopped foreclosure proceedings on veterans' homes and kept their vehicles from being repossessed. For further information, visit [www.saluteheroes.org](http://www.saluteheroes.org).

The final element of the evening's success was the Salamander Resort and Spa in Middleburg, Virginia which provided the venue for the event. Although open only six months, the 340-acre luxury resort and hotel provided a perfect atmosphere for an elegant event such as this. The buildings and the views are exquisite, and the service is outstanding. A further advantage is

its location, in scenic Middleburg, much closer to Washington than Greenbrier or Wintergreen.

The evening's presenting sponsor was Veterans Management Services, Inc. Other major event sponsors included A-T Solutions and American Target Advertising, Inc.

In summary, funds were raised for worthy causes, the donors were entertained by a great tenor and his cohort, the venue did justice to the event, and the evening was deemed a success by all.

-- Lawrence J. Fedewa