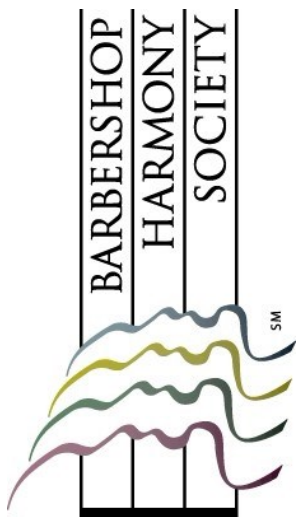


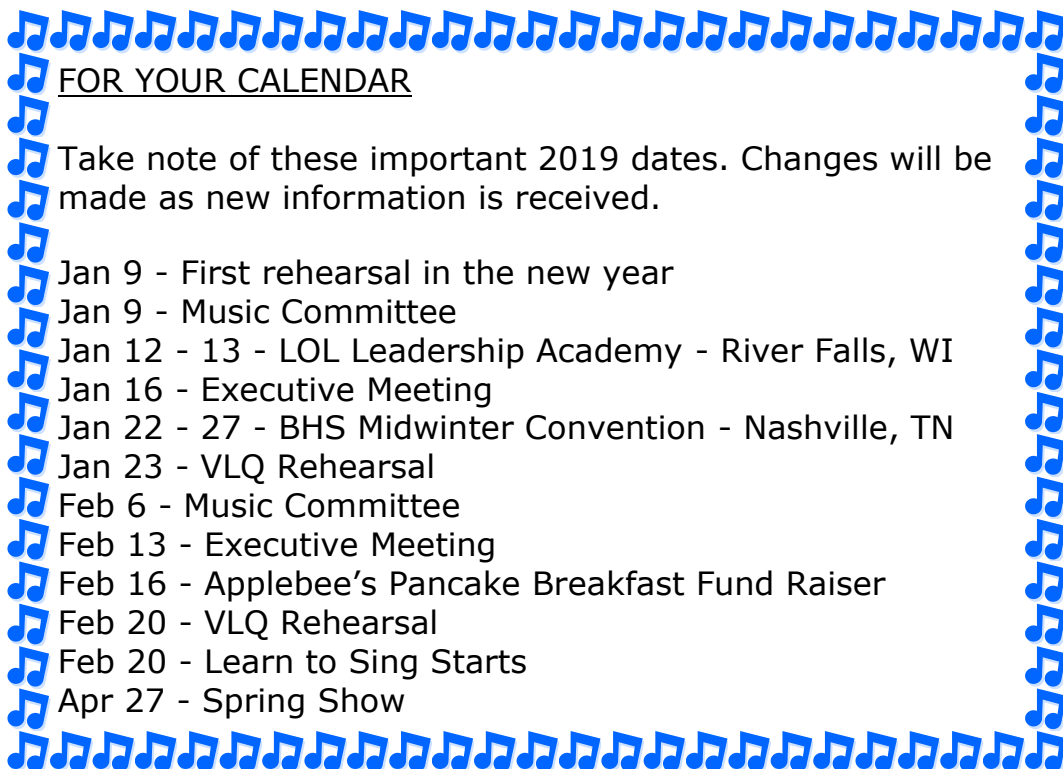


# Notes 4 U

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
Land O' Lakes, Barbershop Harmony Society  
[www.goldenchordsmen.com](http://www.goldenchordsmen.com)



9 January | Rehearsals - Wednesday 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at St. Andrews United Church (basement) - 255 Oak Street | Issue 1 - 2019



## FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Take note of these important 2019 dates. Changes will be made as new information is received.

- Jan 9 - First rehearsal in the new year
- Jan 9 - Music Committee
- Jan 12 - 13 - LOL Leadership Academy - River Falls, WI
- Jan 16 - Executive Meeting
- Jan 22 - 27 - BHS Midwinter Convention - Nashville, TN
- Jan 23 - VLQ Rehearsal
- Feb 6 - Music Committee
- Feb 13 - Executive Meeting
- Feb 16 - Applebee's Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser
- Feb 20 - VLQ Rehearsal
- Feb 20 - Learn to Sing Starts
- Apr 27 - Spring Show

### Inside this issue:

#### Past, Present & Future

Thank you to Brian Metcalfe for his work on Notes 4 U during the last couple of months. I will try to carry on with these issues in an informative and timely manner.

Please send any information for publication to me at: [rickimiles@shaw.ca](mailto:rickimiles@shaw.ca)

Thanks, Ricki ☺

#### January Birthdays

- Chris Magas - 2
- Ray Lacroix - 6
- Charlie Siegel - 7
- Gordon Billows - 21

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Calendar & Past, Present & Future | 1  |
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# January 9, 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 6:55 – 7:00 | Assemble at chairs, get music ready  |
| 7:00 – 7:30 | Warm-up/Vocal Production/Singing Readiness   |
| 7:30 – 8:10 | NEW SONG – HOOEY<br>CACM learning Sectional 1<br>See Page 3 For Instructions<br>Have a pencil handy for marking your music |
| 8:15 – 8:30 | HOOEY – All Sections Together  |
| 8:30 – 8:45 | Business Meeting & Break   |
| 8:45 – 8:55 | BARBER POLE CAT<br>You Tell Me Your Dream  |
| 8:55 – 9:15 | Blue Moon 1 & 2  |
| 9:15 – 9:25 | THEORETICALLY SPEAKING<br>Review of note names, introducing Clefs  |
| 9:30 – 9:45 | Under The Boardwalk  |
| 9:45        | Draw, Final Song, Cleanup...   |

***Page 4 has repertoire lists current to January 3, 2019***

***Please have these songs with you at all rehearsals***

***If you don't have a Barber Pole Cat Pin, make sure you have your Barber Pole Cat Book (Volume 1) with you***



## Song Learning Method (Easy, Accurate and Fast!)

The key to fast song learning is to use the brain efficiently. Notes and rhythms are learned in one area of the brain. Lyrics are learned in a completely different part of the brain. When picking up a new song, the brain is capable of reading notes, rhythms and lyrics all together by “cross-firing” rapidly from one brain area to the other. Though the brain can accomplish the task, it does not remember well when cross-firing.

Instead, a method that allows the brain to focus only on notes and rhythms, then separately on lyrics, uses brain power much more efficiently for purposes of memorization. Accurate song learning becomes easier and faster.

**Method:** balance the left and right channels of your stereo so your voice part on the learning recording is loud enough to be easily heard above the other 3 parts.

**Listening Step**—While following your voice part notes on the sheet music (if you do not read music, follow the notes visually by contour—do not read the words, follow the notes), listen to your part without singing 2 to 4 times through depending on difficulty. Listen extra times to places that seem tough or that do not seem to match what you see on the sheet music.

[The recording and sheet music are pre-checked and should match—if you do find an error, please notify the music committee.]

**Doo-doo-doo Step**—Sing “doo-doo-doo” on your part 2 to 4 times through. Follow the notes with your eyes (as well as your ears)—do not look at the words. Learn to match the pitches and rhythms of the learning recording. Set the recording louder than your “doo-ing” and let it lead your learning. Again, “doo” extra times on the tough places. If there’s a place too tough to get from the recording, see your section leader—do not “shrug-off” and rehearse mistakes. On the final doo-ing pass, set the sheet music aside and let the recording lead your ears to the right pitches and rhythms.

**Muscle Memory Step**—Stand and silently mime the song 2 to 4 times through with the recording. Breathe and support as if actually singing words and notes. Form vowels and consonants with lips and tongue as if you were singing a perfect rendition. Silently create the physical throat and larynx formations for accurate pitches and freely produced tone as if singing a perfect unison duet with the recorded voice. On the final muscle memory pass, set the sheet music aside and let the recording lead your ears to the right muscle memory patterns.

**Full Singing Step**—Put it all together and fully sing with the recording. Let the recording continue to lead your learning on the first run-through or two. Then, on successive reps, gradually shift the channel balance on the stereo until you are tuning your voice to the other three parts quartet-style.

[Sectional break-outs: First learning session 30 to 50 minutes depending on song length and difficulty. **Second “brush-up” session at next chapter meeting 15 to 25 minutes if needed.**]

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## **PERFORMANCE REPERTOIRE**

Can You Feel the Love Tonight  
Fun in Just one Lifetime  
Give Me A Barbershop Song  
He's Got the Whole World In His Hands  
Hello Mary Lou  
I'm Feeling Fine  
I've Been Working on the Railroad  
Imagine  
Irish Blessing  
Shenandoah  
Spiritual Medley  
The Lord's My Shepherd  
Under the Boardwalk  
White Cliffs of Dover  
When I'm 64

## **2019 Spring Show**

### **River City Chorus Songs**

Blue Moon 1 & 2,  
Daydream (possible Learn to Sing),  
Hooey (NEW),  
Imagine,  
Shenandoah  
Sloop John B.(NEW, Learn to Sing),  
Under the Boardwalk

### **Joint Songs**

Can You Feel the Love Tonight,  
Fun in Just One Lifetime,  
Harmony,  
If there's Anybody Here From Out of Town,  
Kokomo (NEW, with new/changed words),  
With Two Wings (Learn to sing),  
To Be Determined – Joint,  
And So To Sleep Again

### **\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\***

**New music designated for Learn to sing will be passed out & put on the website when the Learn to sing program starts  
Kokomo will be put on the website & distributed when the**

## HELP WANTED



We regretfully advise that Scott Webber has tendered his resignation as a member of the chorus and as Chapter Treasurer. We will miss both his voice on the risers and his contribution to the Executive!

As such, the Executive is looking for an individual to fill the role of Treasurer on the Executive. The task is not as daunting as it first appears, as Gary Miles does all of the accounting, so the responsibilities are reduced to the following:

- Making bank deposits and writing cheques only during November, part of December, January, part of February and part of March (periods of time when Gary is away).
- No accounting or preparation of financial statements required.
- Presentation of monthly financial information at Executive meetings. The only requirement for completion of the monthly statements would be a working knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- Participation in annual budget preparation, once again in Excel.

Scott has offered to help out with the preparation of the monthly financial statements during the transition to a new Treasurer.



## EVERYONE IN HARMONY

As many of you are aware, the Barbershop Harmony Society has decided that women can become members of the Society. Each Chapter is obliged to review the options available to them ----which range from staying as an all-male chorus all the way through to being a fully mixed chorus.

The Executive is going to devote an entire evening to discuss the options available to our Chapter on January 17th. The following Wednesday, January 23rd, the Executive will present the options available to our Chapter. The intent is to spend at least an hour at the beginning of the rehearsal to thoroughly discuss this issue and then to have a vote (by ballot) for the members of the Chapter to provide direction to the Executive.

After the Executive Meeting on the 17th, a package of information outlining the options available to our Chapter will be forwarded to each member of the Chapter for them to read prior to our meeting on January 23rd.

For those, who are not in town (and therefore unable to cast your vote), you can email your choice of a preferred option to me, and I will submit a ballot on your behalf.

This is an important issue which needs to have everyone's input. Please make every effort to attend the meeting on January 23rd.

# Christmas By The Fireside: Pros, Cons & Thank You's

by Brian Metcalfe



So that I might better meet the reading style of more chorus members, I will provide a relatively short overview of our recent Christmas show held at the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre (SOPAC) on December 15. At the risk of missing an important contribution that an individual chorus member made to the success of our "Christmas By The Fireside" performances, I will follow up with a more lengthy acknowledgment section.

## **SOPAC Pros:**

- No need to bring & setup risers since SOPAC allowed us to use their equipment
- Comfortable seats with good sight lines throughout this new theatre
- Change & warm-up rooms met all our needs
- State-of-the-art sound & lighting equipment in theatre
- Ben Ross, the SOPAC theatre manager, was helpful and professional

## **SOPAC Cons:**

- Parking limited to surrounding neighbourhood & no proper drop off spot at front doors
- Theatre stairs, without hand rails, were too difficult to navigate by many of our seniors
- Although theatre had powerful sound and lighting equipment, the technician responsible had difficulty balancing piano and guitar/ukulele with voices in quartets and chorus
- Theatre in afternoon show was so dark that patrons were unable to read programs and this area was so cold that many seniors wore their coats throughout the performance

## **Revenue:**

- I want to thank all WGC chorus members for their efforts to sell tickets to our show. A special mention should be made to the top three ticket sellers: Bruce Wilton (21); Brian Metcalfe (19); and Jerry Moscovitch (17). The total revenue raised from the combined sales from both choruses was \$7940. Obviously, our outstanding bills (SOPAC rental, ticket & program printing, SOCAN fees, etc.) will reduce our actual income.

## **Behind The Scenes Thank You's:**

The three musical directors, Sherrie Bredesen, Larry Hunter & John Wiens need to be

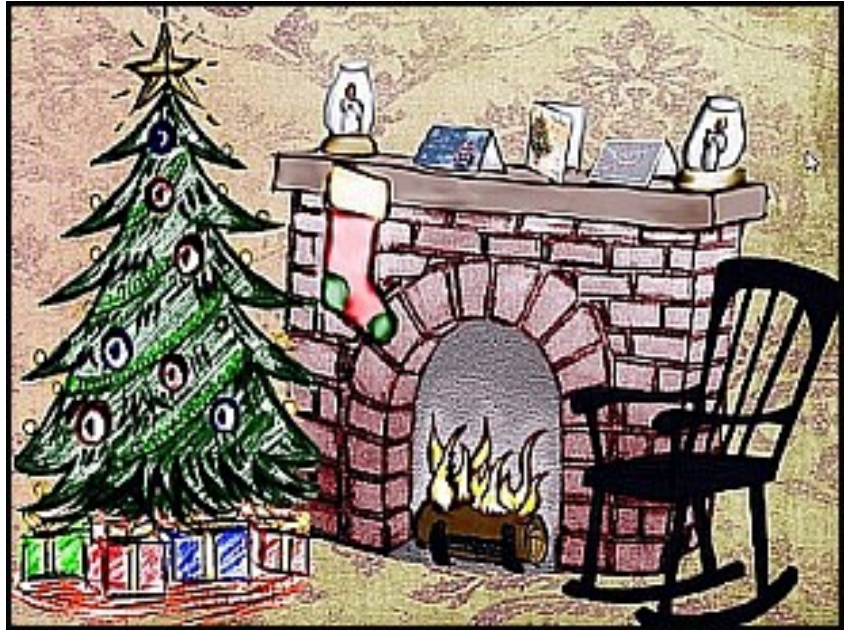
thanked for all their effort in selecting and helping us learn music that was both entertaining and demonstrated the talents of our various chorus members. True, our patrons did enjoy a polished performance similar to the display above but, at the risk of missing the contributions by some individuals, I would like to at least acknowledge the extra “behind the scenes” effort that I witnessed by some of our colleagues.

- Much effort and planning were done by Bruce Wilton (Show Chairman) and Larry Bredesen (Show Producer) and the Christmas Show Committee comprised of the following dedicated members from both choruses: Sherrie Bredesen, Drummond Brown, Shirley Christie, Larry Hunter, and Gayle Wharton. These individuals took time out of their busy daily schedules to meet over several lunch hours to focus on the many aspects of putting on a Christmas show which demonstrated the talents of both the members of the Assiniboine Show Chorus (aka Sweet Adelines) and the River City Sound (aka Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen). These leaders comprised an amazingly dedicated team who demonstrated that successful “Christmas By The Fireside” performances result from a shared vision, with strong action, and complete follow-through.
- Sarah Gratton’s artistic creativity should be acknowledged for her outstanding efforts designing the “Christmas By The Fireside” poster, tickets, and program.
- In an effort to make certain that members of both choruses received the same information and to answer questions about the reserved seating ticket sales, Brian Metcalfe visited a Sweet Adelines rehearsal and provided information to help clarify this unique seating procedure.
- Thanks to Ben Ross, the SOPAC theatre manager, for providing choral risers, and a fireplace and all his help to get us settled in and operational in this new venue.
- Thanks to Louise Malo & Brian Metcalfe for managing the ticket distribution and balancing ticket sales for both choruses.
- Thanks to all those who provided me with their “pick-up at the door - paid tickets” at our last rehearsal, rather than wait until the show day and then, when there are so many other distractions, forget to leave their paid tickets at the door for pick-up.
- Knowing that parking would be a challenge at the SOPAC, thanks should be extended to Larry Hunter for purchasing “No Parking” signs and for Bruce Wilton for strategically positioning them at the front door of SOPAC creating a temporary space where drivers could more easily drop off patrons at the front door.
- Chris Magas should be acknowledged for gaining permission for chorus members to park their vehicles off-site on the Safeway lot at McPhillips & Jefferson.
- Thanks should be extended to our “chauffeur”, Art Gross for picking up the 15 passenger van and shuttling chorus members between the Safeway parking lot and SOPAC. This strategy provided much more neighbourhood parking for our patrons.
- Bruce Wilton & Drummond Brown, in their role as parking attendants, distributed parking maps to drivers and helped many of our elderly patrons travel safely from the tem-

porary curb-side drop off area to SOPAC's front door.

- Thanks to Joyce Gittins for her handiwork in creating the Christmas theme staging.
- A special thank you should be directed to Larry Bredesen & Les Creek for their important emcee duties and the way the creative narration linked the songs together. As one who has done much writing over the years, I know how difficult this script writing process can be and I appreciate all the efforts that were expended in creating "one more improved version" as their segues were crafted, timed, and honed to perfection.
- Sometimes we take for granted the chart that displays the song order with starting pitch for each performance. Chris Magas needs to be thanked for providing this important resource on a regular basis.

- Our hula dancer, Louise Malo, should be thanked for her entertaining performance.
- Thanks to Brian Duplak for not only adding his harmonies to the tenor section but also demonstrating his accompanying talents on both electric guitar and ukulele.
- It is so important that we preserve important highlights in our musical journey. Thanks to John & Mary Latham for taking and sharing pictures of our combined choruses immediately following the afternoon performance.



- If you are still reading this article, it is time for a "reader participation" question. I ask you ... "What gentleman, who sang in both performances, is not shown in the previous picture and why?" (The answer can be found at the end of this article.)
- Thanks to Bonnie Van Norman for organizing our on-site meal, between the two performances at SOPAC.
- Ken Finnbogason & Rosemary Komadowski should be acknowledged for following up with Tom Dercola of CJNU so that we can improve our complimentary "at the door" ticket pick-up procedure.
- Drummond Brown & Chris Magas must be commended for contacting music teachers at various schools to invite their students to our evening show. When Larry Bredesen encouraged these students to move from the rear of the theatre to fill vacant seats near the front, the students' enthusiasm acted as a catalyst which enhanced our evening performance dramatically.
- As one who is retired, I often think that I am hard pressed to acquire the lyrics and



melodies of the songs that our individual and mixed choruses must learn. It is then that I have to step back and acknowledge all the extra rehearsal time that our quartet members spend to learn songs over and above the minimum number for which I am responsible. Furthermore, a significant number of these quartet members are working full time and have other major commitments. I don't know how they accomplish so much, but I am so appreciative of their hard work and effort to perform with us!

- Brian Metcalfe continued to send out email reminders about our Christmas performance to past patrons and to update our database with names of new patrons who want to be made aware of upcoming shows.
- Drummond Brown's tough decision must be acknowledged. Unfortunately, Drummond's car was stolen and he was without his vehicle for six weeks just prior to our Christmas show. As one who listens to learning tracks and sings along in his car when travelling to and from work, and when visiting clients, his learning of new songs was impacted severely. Since he felt that he did not know all the Christmas songs to his high stand-

**ANSWER:** *Immediately after our afternoon performance, pictures of both choruses were taken by John Latham. Unfortunately, Bruce Wilton was not on stage at this time because he rushed outside the front doors to help our patrons proceed to vehicles that were picking them up in the temporary loading/unloading zone that he created.*

ards, he did not sing with the chorus and "fake it" like many of us have done at rehearsals. Thank you Drummond for practicing what you preach and for coming out to SOPAC for the show to help volunteer.

- An extra-special "Thank You" should be directed to all the volunteers who worked "behind the scenes" to make our performances a real success. True, it is easier to gain assistance from various chorus members before the show, but on the day of the performance, they are all on stage. It is critical to be able to request volunteers from non-performing chorus members, spouses, family members, and friends who support our musical hobby. Regardless of whether you sold walk-up tickets, greeted patrons, helped usher them to their seats, or performed other necessary tasks, your assistance was so very much appreciated!
- In closing, I want to also thank the volunteers and colleagues who provided me with constructive criticism and feedback about the show and the venue. These observations were shared with the Show Committee and will help us continue to improve.



Undoubtedly, it takes a complete team to put together a joint Christmas show. Thanks to all my friends and team members for their amazing contributions.

Take care & keep smiling :-)

# SOME-BUDDIES PROGRAM

*Sherrie Bredesen, Facilitator*



## What do we need to do?

**Be available at the beginning of the evening** to be enlisted to befriend a guest in your section

**WEAR YOUR NAME TAG**

**Become a FRIEND** to a guest, not just someone who “takes care of him/her” for the first evening

Be there each week and stick like glue (almost) for at least several weeks. If you have people to see, make sure he/she is talking to someone who will stay with him/her until you can be back

What does **BE A FRIEND** mean?

- Get to know him/her – music experience, hobbies, interest, skills, etc.
- Tell him/her about yourself too – **BE ENTHUSIASTIC!!!!**
- Be there for him/her on a weekly basis until the guest knows other people and branches off – this may take several weeks – remember that he/she knows no-one, or almost no-one ... yet!
- Introduce him/her to your friends in the chorus so that he/she gets comfortable with them too
- Introduce him/her to those sitting around them
- Always BRING them to others in order to get to know them – never *send them over*.

**WHO** should he/she meet? **When** and in what order? (USE NAMES FREQUENTLY so that he/she gets used to who they are)

- Membership personnel – does he/she know how to become a member? (this may not be the first question they have but when the time comes that he/she wants to know - Did he/she receive this info?)
- Director, Assistant Director(s), Section Leaders, Music Chair, Treasurer (at some point)
- Other members who are sitting beside or near them

**Answer his/her questions:**

- Reading Music: Treble or Bass Clef? Stems up or down – which notes should they sing on the music? What do the “X’s” mean on the music? Etc.
- Learning tapes – who will get these for him/her and when?
- When do they get to keep music and take it home to work on? Your membership personnel can answer these questions but you should make sure they are answered as they come up.

## Barbershop genre is different from other choruses/choirs - How?

- We have creative license in timing and delivery (Ballads are Ad Lib or have freedom to change time and delivery - “We rob Peter and pay Paul....”)
- Wall to wall sound (smooth, legato, with emphasis on vowel sound, which should hit on the Downbeat, with softer consonants.) The *in tune* VOWEL sound is what makes our chords ring!
- The melody is surrounded by harmony parts instead of being on top
- Balance of each part is different and not equal, unlike other choral sound that is equal in volume
- Instead, Barbershop is triangular, Cone-shaped sound with Basses being the broadest, loudest sound, Baritones filling in the place between Lead and Bass with rich resonance, LEAD being predominant as they expressively carry the melody line, and Tenors singing clear and pure (mostly thirds in the chord structure) on top of the melody line
- Our chord structures, when sung correctly with correct notes and matched vowel sounds, will set off a series of higher pitched sounds that are called *OVERTONES*.
- Our music sounds “greater than the sum of its parts” in that the sound expands to sound like many more voices and notes.

## WHAT CAN WE DO TO KEEP HIM/HER HAPPILY COMING BACK EACH WEEK?


- **Call the guest the first week and tell him/her how much you enjoyed singing with and getting to know them**
- BE A FRIEND, not just a new buddy. **HE/SHE SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT STANDING OR SITTING ALONE.**
- What, ideally, would you like to have experienced when you were brand new to this chorus?
- Does he/she have transportation to the rehearsal each week? Does the guest live near you or one of our other members? Without putting another member on the spot, see if you can facilitate a ride
- Write down his/her phone number, address, etc. and have it with you each week
- Write down any ideas you might have regarding making this person into a friend
- What should you do if you and the guest just don’t “click”? Talk to your Membership rep.
- What do you do if he/she stops coming out? A friend would phone to inquire...



~ January 2019 ~

| Sunday  | Monday    | Tuesday                    | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday    | Saturday  |
|---|-----------|----------------------------|---|-----------|-----------|---|
|   |           | <b>1</b><br>New Year's Day | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                   | <b>9</b><br>First rehearsal —Music<br>Committee Meeting | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br>Leadership Academy<br>River Falls, Wisconsin |
| <b>13</b><br>Leadership Academy<br>River Falls, Wisconsin | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>                  | <b>16</b><br>Executive Meeting                          | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>   |
| <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                  | <b>23</b><br>VLQ Rehearsal 5:30                         | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                  | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b> |           |   |
|   |           |                            |   |           |           |   |

~ February 2019 ~

| Sunday    | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday    | Saturday   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|-----------|--|
|           |           |           |  |  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>Music Committee Meeting              | <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br>Executive Meeting                   | <b>14</b><br> | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b><br>Applebee's Pancake<br>Breakfast Fund-Raiser |
| <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b><br>VLQ Rehearsal 5:30<br>Learn to Sing | <b>21</b>  | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b>  |
| <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b>  |           |  |
|           |           |           |  |  |           |  |

# Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen

## Notes 4 U

This is the official weekly bulletin of the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen Chorus. For more information about us, go to our website:

[www.goldenchordsmen.com](http://www.goldenchordsmen.com)

Editor - Ricki Miles

Unless carrying a by-line or some form of credit to borrowed sources, all items in this bulletin are by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the chapter or board. If anyone wishes to contribute anything to the next Notes 4 U, wishes to subscribe or un-subscribe, or has questions about any of the items in Notes 4 U, contact the editor or email distributor.



### 2019 Chapter Executive

President - Bruce Wilton  
Past President - Drummond Brown  
Executive VP - Vacant  
VP Membership & Chapter Development - Larry Bredesen  
VP Music and Performance - Duncan Zaluski  
VP Marketing & Public Relations - Drummond Brown  
Secretary - Bruce Wilton  
Treasurer - Vacant  
Chorus Manager - Chris Magas

### Board Members at Large

Larry Hunter Les Creek Charlie Siegel

### 2019 Music Committee

VP Music and Performance - Duncan Zaluski  
Co-Directors - Sherrie Bredesen & Larry Hunter  
Assistant Director - Art Gross  
Tenor Section - Duncan Zaluski Asst. Art Gross  
Lead Section - Larry Hunter Asst. Charles Siegel  
Bass Section - Larry Bredesen Asst. Bruce Wilton  
Baritone Section - John Latham

### 2019 Leadership Positions

Accountant - Gary Miles  
Attendance and 50/50 - Norm Silverberg  
Awards Banquet Chairs - Gary & Ricki Miles  
Charities - Harold Casselman  
Xmas Chorus - Vacant  
Learn To Sing Program - Larry Bredesen  
Grey Cup Pool Chair - Vacant  
Historian - Gordon Billows  
Music Librarian - Duncan Zaluski  
Notes 4 U Editor - Ricki Miles  
Program Director - Duncan Zaluski  
Refreshments - Norm Silverberg, John Latham  
Sing Canada Harmony - Gordon Billows  
Sunshine - Harold Casselman  
Wardrobe - Les Creek, Charlie Siegel  
Website - Chris Magas  
Youth Outreach - Drummond Brown  
2019 Show Producer - Larry Bredesen  
2019 Show Chairman - Bruce Wilton

Chapter Advocate for the Winnipeg Chapter - Art Gross

