

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Take note of these important 2020 dates. Changes will be made as new information is received.

- April 8 Executive Meeting & Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**
- April 15 Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**
- April 22 Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**
- April 29 Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**

Upcoming Performances:

- May 30 Chorus performance in Gimli - **CANCELLED**

Inside this issue:

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Please send any information for publication to Krista by **Saturday noon** at:

kristahanisgervais@gmail.com

Thanks, Krista ☺



QUOTES 4 U

Shared by Les Creek

“Heartfelt and interesting music has the greatest opportunity to affect an audience.....Only the person who sings from the heart can hope to reach the heart of another.”

- Larry Ajer

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CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE

From Paul Bullock

The latest Manitoba Public Health Order that came into effect this week limits gatherings to 10 or less indefinitely. Therefore, River City Sound chorus rehearsals will be cancelled until Manitoba Health indicates that it is safe to gather again. (http://www.manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/proactive/2019_2020/orders-soe-03312020.pdf)

Please note, that we will not be performing in Gimli on May 30. That event may be re-scheduled for later this year. If so, we may be able to perform at that time.

As stated last week, the chapter will continue to provide information and resources to everyone so that we can keep singing. We want to do as much as possible to encourage everyone to sing.

1. Duncan will provide a weekly Wednesday night practice schedule in the Notes 4 U. We encourage everyone to dedicate Wednesday evening for singing. Do a vocal warm up and sing the songs on Duncan's list plus any others that you enjoy. Sherrie and Larry will continue to provide information to help with your practice and singing technique.
2. If you have questions about specific songs or need some assistance with learning, you can contact the person below for your section:

Section	Leader	Residence	Cell	Email
Tenor	Duncan Zaluski	204-999-7233		dztenor@gmail.com
Lead	Chris Magas	204-669-3330	204-941-1639	magasman@mymts.net
Baritone	Paul Bullock	204-475-4278		prof.p.bullock@gmail.com
Bass	Larry Bredesen	204-477-8023	204-230-5464	larrybredesen@gmail.com

They will help you with your questions and if they need further assistance they will contact Sherrie Bredesen and Larry Hunter.

3. If you have issues with any of the learning tracks, please contact Duncan.
4. If anyone in our chorus has an urgent need that they are unable to deal with in this situation, RCS is offering to try and help you. Contact Chris Magas (see above). He has generously offered to be a point of contact for any of the people in our chorus who may be looking for someone to help in some way. Contact Chris and he will try to coordinate some help for those in need.

Thanks to everyone for sharing your humour and articles with the chorus in the Notes4U. I know that I look forward to reading it each week. Keep reaching out to each other. Be safe and stay healthy.

WORLD VOICE DAY IS APRIL 16TH. LET'S CELEBRATE ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 15TH.

From Paul Bullock

No doubt many of you received an email or alert from the Barbershop Harmony Society about World Voice Day (<http://world-voice-day.org/>) on April 16th. Of course, BHS is embracing this event (<https://www.barbershop.org/landing-pages/world-voice-day>). There are free online voice lessons and voice assessments on both April 16th and April 17th as well as vocal health tips.

I'll be honest. I never knew there was such a thing as "World Voice Day". But when I think about it, why not?! Our voices are so important and, even more so to all of us who are singers. Just read any of the "Getting to Know You" articles and it is absolutely clear that singing and our voices are very important to all of us and definitely something to get excited about.

On Wednesday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m., I will be hosting another chorus "zoom" meeting. The sole purpose will be to share ideas for singing and for celebrating our voices. Perhaps some members will sign up to participate in the BHS events for World Voice Day. If so, this will be a great time to let everyone know what you are planning. Of course, it will also be a time to ask questions or raise concerns. But most importantly, it will be a chance for us all to see each other and stay connected. Look for an email from Charlie Siegel a couple of days prior to April 15th with a link to join in the "zoom" meeting.



WORLD VOICE DAY

April, 16th

"It's gr-r-r-eat to be a barbershopper!"

PLEASE REACH OUT TO YOUR PATRONS

From Paul Bullock

Many chorus members have people they contact each year who are regular patrons of our spring show. Herold Driedger has wisely suggested that we each reach out to the people that we normally would have contacted by now for spring show ticket purchases. Many have been faithful show patrons for years and they may be wondering about what is happening for spring 2020.

It would be good to let them know that we are not having a spring show in 2020. However, we have booked a venue for a fall cabaret on the evening of October 18. At the moment, we have no other details (ticket price, exact time, program) besides the date for the event. When you contact your "flock", you can ask them to put that date on their calendar and we will get back to them when we have tickets and other details available.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - APRIL 8, 2020

From Duncan Zaluski

New Song for 2021: Stand By Me

6:50 – 6:59	Assemble at seats, make sure music (if needed) is ready
6:59 – 7:00	Take a couple of Deep Breaths and relax, the music is about to start
7:00 – 7:20	Warm up
7:25 – 7:45	Sectional 1: Stand By Me
7:55 – 8:15	Stand By Me – As Chorus
8:20 – 8:35	Hello Mary Lou
8:35 – 8:50	Business Meeting & Break
8:55 – 9:05	Barber Polecat
9:10 – 9:25	Dream Lover
9:30 – 9:40	Directors Choice
9:45	Draw, Keep the Whole World Singing, Clean up

The Directors Choice area is where you can work on the songs you know you need work on...



THE COVID-19 DIARIES

From Wendy Lamont

Many of you may find these times of staying at home very difficult; I also found it trying particularly in my first week. We are social animals and need to be among other like-beings. Now into our third week I am finding it way easier. My house hasn't been this clean in a very long time, I am going through old magazines and finding the most delectable recipes and even taking the time to try some out not just filing them away for a future date.

My workouts continue and am enjoying the extra time not travelling to and from the gym on other things such as going through old travel photos, which is always fun. I am singing, not as much as I should but I plan to change that immediately.

It's also great having Paul at home; even though he's working, spending time at breakfast and lunchtime and the occasional Ping-Pong match has been wonderful. All in all the new normal has been a pleasant experience. Being a positive person, I always try to find the positive in every setback and that's all this is, a temporary setback.

I would be interested in learning about your practices as well during this difficult time so you may want to submit something to Krista for publication as well. Until then, I wish all of you a restful, safe, healthy experience while you celebrate life at home.

Wendy Lamont

From Sherrie Bredesen

Greetings to my fellow shut-ins,

In the midst of these unique and stressful times, we are likely to be feeling isolated, lonely, cut-off, inconvenienced or facing financial challenges. Life can look pretty grim these days, especially when there seems to be no end in sight. What can I do? What should I do?

I have decided to be thankful!

I am so grateful to have a home when many are homeless. I am thankful for family and friends who love and support each other. We have fresh air outside and are healthy enough to take walks or take a nice drive out of the city somewhere. We have enough food, comfy beds and easy chairs and a lovely television that entertains us when we are not watching the latest on the COVID19 scene. We have books to read, instruments to play and, oh yes, we have music to sing. It lifts my spirits to sing, to work on new material, to dream of entertaining again once this is over.

Many long put-off projects are becoming realized during finally. I do think God may have been rather drastic in making me stay home so I would work on my 16 year project that

is my **basement**. (I am not saying God *caused* this to happen but maybe He allowed it to happen so we could wake up and learn a very valuable lesson in how to respond and proceed when pandemics occur. And they will occur.)

As for my overwhelming Basement Project - There actually is a wreck – er- Rec room down there somewhere. Boxes and bags of stuff are being donated and much more will be recycled and/or delivered elsewhere when we are able to get out to do that. One added bonus is that the Red Sequined Scarves that were bought for the ladies of River City Sound jumped out of a pile of bags in our back entrance and declared to me in their sparkly voices, “*Wooo Hoooo!!! Here we are!!!!*”

- *Appropriate apologies have been made to both Les and Louise and our president Paul has been informed as to the Senior lapse of memory by one of our RCS Co-Directors. I am not saying who,
.....but it wasn't Larry H.*
- *Larry B may have had something to do with it though, as I found the bag under his stuff.....just sayin'*

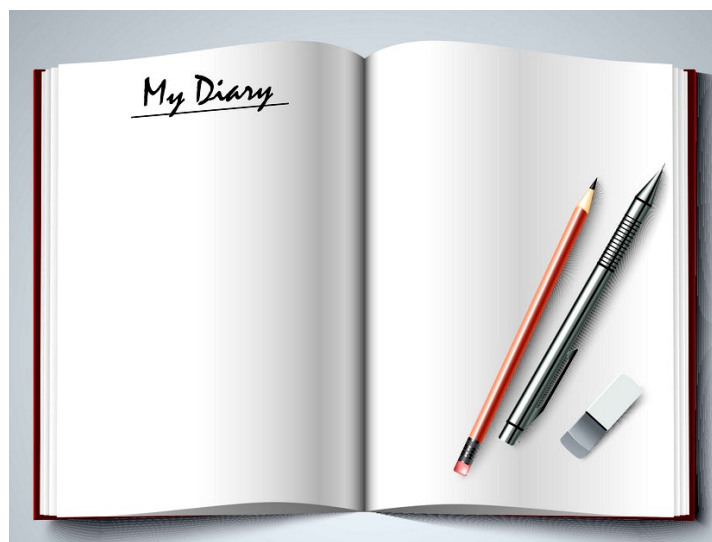
I am thankful for finding those scarves. I am even more thankful to be a Barbershopper, even though I AM just harmonizing the walls these days. Though it doesn't seem like it, I know this is temporary.

As Barbershoppers, we truly care for one another and will be there to help each other in any way we can. If someone needs something, one of us will gladly step forward. Though we cannot hug each other in person, we can feel the outpouring of love in a phone call or an email. We are supporting each other through prayer as well.

Let's continue to reach out with social contact without physically being there, and spread some good will and cheer to each other! This letter is my start! Hang in there. And be thankful!

Still smiling,

Sherrie



GETTING TO KNOW ... BECKI AMMETER

I am what is known in some circles as a T.O. or a P.K. (Theological Offspring or a Preacher's Kid), to name some of the nicknames given to us. My father is a Lutheran pastor (still is preaching at the age of 96!). I was born in a small town in Saskatchewan called Cabri. When I was almost 3 we moved to Alberta - Metiskow (small hamlet near Provost), then at Christmas when I was in Grade 1 we moved to Hussar (small village near Calgary). I was very happy being the baby of the family (older brother and sister) for almost 9 years until that baby BROTHER came along!!!! Again at Christmas when I was in grade 4 we moved to Lomond (small village near Lethbridge (close to Vulcan - Star Trek hadn't been invented yet)). Our next move was at the end of April when I was in Grade 9 (absolutely the worst time to move in a teenager's life!!) and we moved to the Peace River country to a small hamlet called Valhalla Centre (Norwegian for Land of the God's) near Grande Prairie. Met my best friend Linda there who has remained in my life ever since (rarely see each other now but we can pick up as if we'd just been for coffee the day before). Took piano lessons from my mom until my rebellious teens when I knew more than mom and so took lessons from a REAL teacher (sorry mom - she taught many successful pianists!)



I left home to go to Camrose Lutheran College for my Grade 12. I auditioned for the choir there and we toured western Canada. Also took voice lessons there. I knew I was going into nurses' training but the next year the choir planned to tour/sing in Europe at Christmas time (great experience) and I absolutely HAD to do that. So I took courses that I could put towards my nursing for the 1st semester and attended Bible School for the 2nd semester. I was also singing in an octet (we called ourselves LifeSong) and toured Western Canada. My summer jobs were unusual - I worked as a nanny to 3 kids (one a new born), painted roads signs for Canfor (logging company out of Grande Prairie), planted trees and camp counsellor (at age 18 this was my 1st time being at camp without my dad - went to camp every year of my life starting at the age of 2 - dad was in charge of all those Bible camps so my parents were ALWAYS there). I also worked at the Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton while in training as a coat check/canteen person and at the bar, and usher.

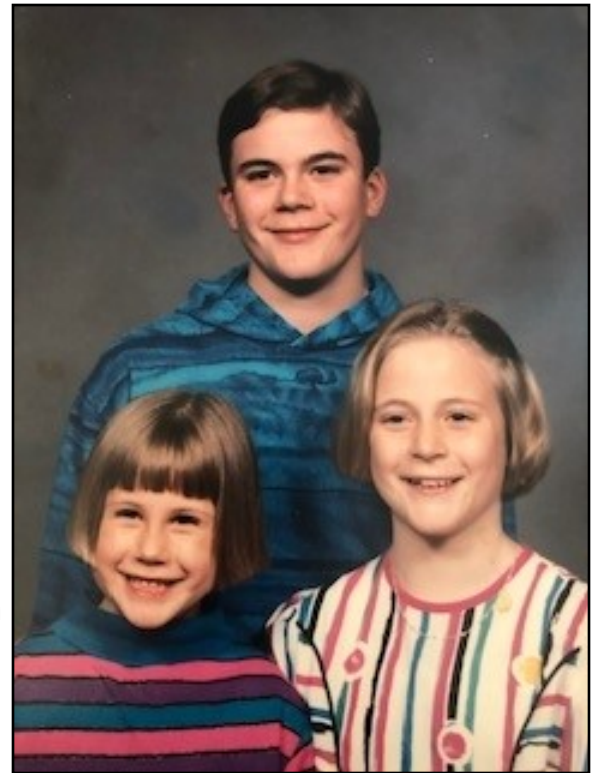
When I was 4 years old I knew that I was going to be a nurse. Mom would create nurses' caps for me and I'd take care of all the dolls/teddies etc. that I could find. I took my training at the University of Alberta Hospital and graduated as an R.N. I worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit there, moved to Yellowknife to work as a Labour and Delivery nurse - and everything before and after (gotta love those babies). While I was in nurses' training my parents moved to Starbuck, Manitoba. I moved to Winnipeg from Yellowknife. My mother BRIBED me - she'd teach less piano students and we could do things together like go to the opera. Finally, I was NOW going to the opera in April (cancelled due to Covid-19) how many years later! The 1st time mom met my husband at church in Starbuck, she thought - "wouldn't he make a great son-in-law". Talk about matchmaking! (Did not tell me this until after we were married.) I worked at the Victoria Hospital here in Winnipeg on the maternal/child unit and finished my career as a nurse with Rural Home Care (lots of driving gravel roads. There should be a policy that all patients should live on paved roads, all have hospital beds (in their own home) "ha", and never need care during a blizzard or heavy rains!



My sisters-in-law had to dare my shy, quiet husband Ken to ask me out on a date - he took me to the drag races in Gimli along with my younger brother and his young cousin. As I had never been to Gimli or any drag races, I said 'I'd try anything once'. The rest, as they say, is history. We've been married 39 years, have 3 adult children (Karl/Carolyn; Kate/Mitch; Pauline/Eric) and 2 energetic grandchildren who live across the field. Ken is now a retired mink rancher (his father started the farm in 1946) and now collects (finished collecting coins/paper money

and is now into collecting antique bottles (we have over a thousand in the house - so far!). My mother-in law is also 96 years old and is legally blind living on her own in a suite in Starbuck with no Home Care. My parents live in Winnipeg now (assisted living also without Home Care) - dad 96, as I said, and my mom is 91 years young. So we have their care to consider as well as our children (they're always your kids) and our grandchildren to entertain us and keep us young.

I love sports. I did figure skating (then we moved), Girl Guides, (then we moved), curling (not an asset to the team but we had fun), hockey wearing figure-skates and often in water as a chi-nook would have melted our ice - then we moved). While in nurses' training I played tackle football - we'd come to the ward all bruised up which concerned our patients (and if you look really, really hard, I have an old football injury on my hand)!! No sport has suffered greatly from not having me on their teams anymore. I've had trouble with shoulder pain - in 2003 I had unsuccessful shoulder surgery - so I still take anti-inflammatory meds and have pain which is why I use a cane to support my shoulder (aches less) when standing/sitting for any length of time. I travelled to Europe 3 times before I was married. Since marriage limited travel as Ken was 'tied' to the farm.



We managed some - honeymoon in San Diego, Hawaii, Mexico x2, Jamaica, Panama Canal, Scotland/Northern England (my grandpa was born in Yorkshire).

I have always loved to sing. Sang in glee clubs at school, at weddings with my sister (early teens), in my mom's church choirs, Camrose Lutheran College choir (it's now Augustana affiliated with the U of A), The Richard Eaton Singers in Edmonton, the Yellowknife Choral Society, church choirs, The Manitoba Sacred Music Choir (all but church choirs auditioned). When I retired, I told my husband that I was going to join a auditioned choir (I love my church choir but) I was getting lazy with my voice technique, etc. The Assiniboine Chorus of Sweet Adeline's came and sang at our church soon after I said that and I went to their very next rehearsal and auditioned as soon as I could. As soon as I heard that the Barber-shoppers were accepting women, I jumped at the chance and came and then auditioned as soon as I could. I now have 2 dilemmas - my church choir rehearses on Wednesday nights (I also play handbells at church, we practice after choir) - so I have to alternate which I attend - RCS and church) AND my 2nd dilemma - singing lead with the Assiniboine Chorus (while I'm singing tenor here RCS). I practice ALOT with lead and tenor and try to keep them straight in my head (some are the same songs with slightly different arrangements).

I want to be remembered as a caring, kind, strong Christian woman with a good sense of humour.

My name is Becki. I love to sing, laugh, and drink coffee and wine with friends!

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS IN THESE TRYING TIMES

From Yvonne Applewhaite



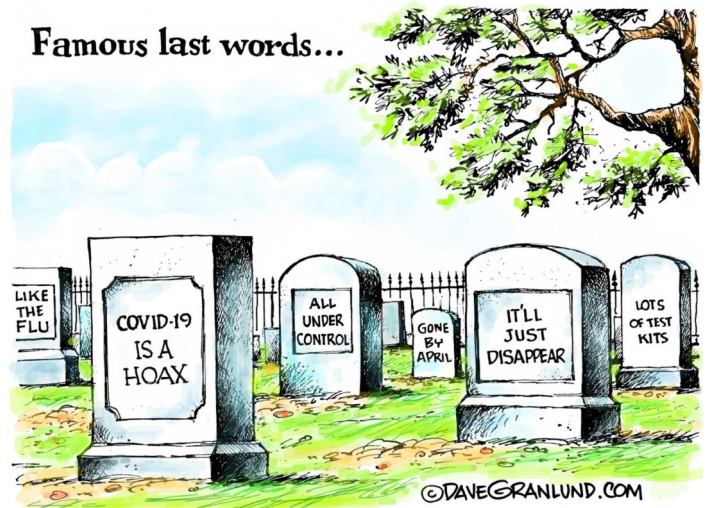
Do Re Me—Covid 19 Version

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=MMBh-
eo3tvE&feature=emb_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=MMBh-
eo3tvE&feature=emb_logo)

From Larry Bredesen

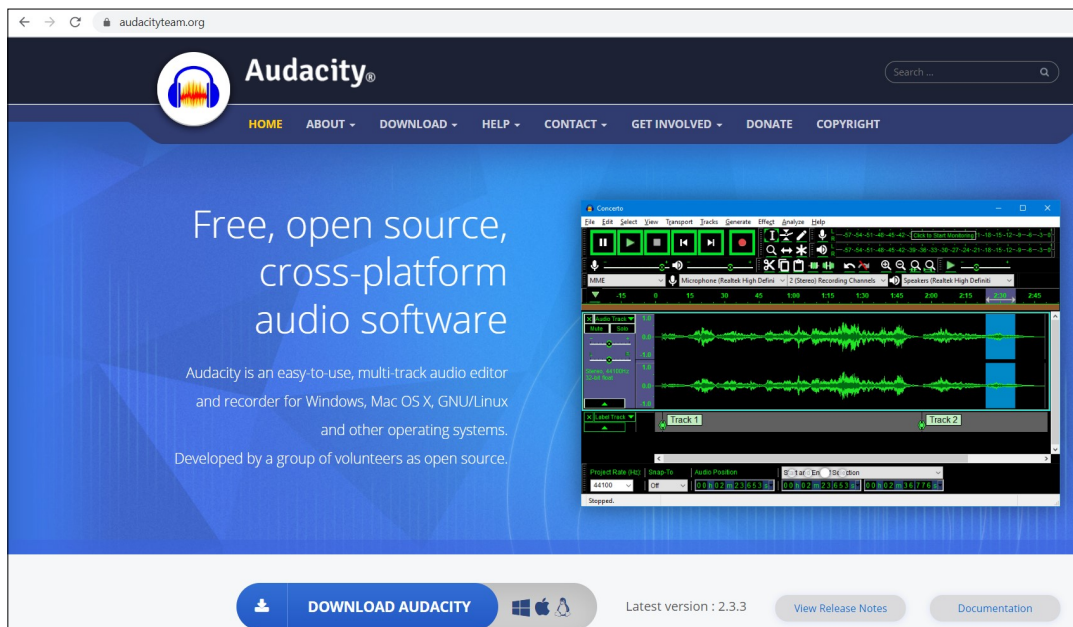
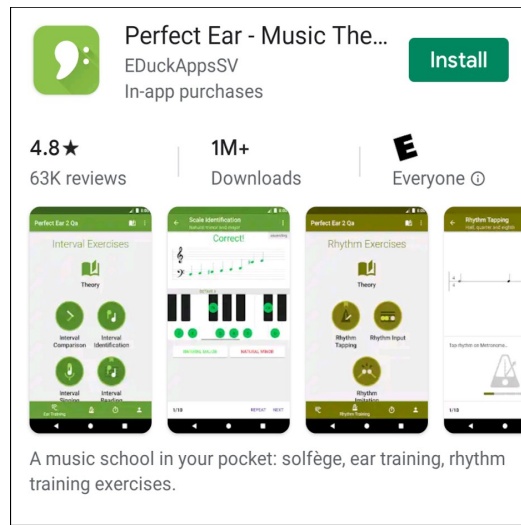
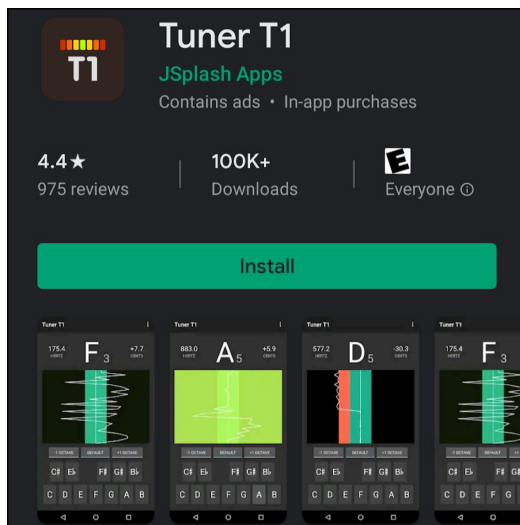
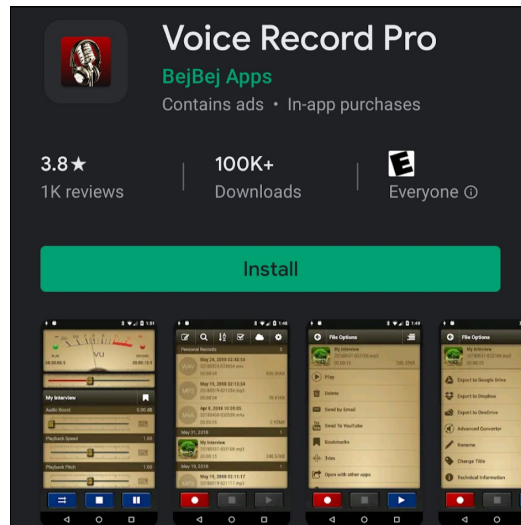
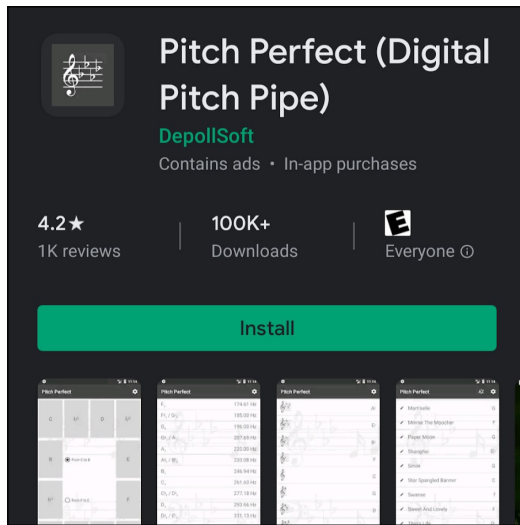
- Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.
- I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- Still haven't decided where to go for Easter ----- The Living Room or The Bedroom
- PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
- Homeschooling is going well. 2 students suspended for fighting and 1 teacher fired for drinking on the job.
- I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.
- This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.
- So, after this quarantine.....will the producers of My 600 Pound Life just find me or do I find them?
- Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.
- My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.
- Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.
- I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
- I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.
- Classified Ad: Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.
- Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year" I'm offended.
- Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under.

Famous last words...



MUSICAL PROGRAMS & APPS 4 U

Recommendations From River City Sound Chorus Members



~ April 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Music Committee Mtg Regular rehearsal CANCELLED	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Executive Meeting Regular rehearsal CANCELLED	9	10 <i>Good Friday</i>	11
12	13	14	15 Regular rehearsal CANCELLED	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Regular rehearsal CANCELLED	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Regular rehearsal CANCELLED	30		

~ May 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Victoria Day</i>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Performance in Gimili CANCELLED

River City Sound

Notes 4 U

This is the official weekly bulletin of the River City Sound Chorus. For more information about us, go to our website:

www.rivercitysound.ca

Editor - Krista Hanis-Gervais

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.



2020 Chapter Executive

President: Paul Bullock

Executive VP: vacant

Past President: Bruce Wilton

VP Membership & Chapter Development: Larry Bredesen

VP Music & Performance: Duncan Zaluski

VP Marketing & Public Relations: Drummond Brown

Secretary: Charles Siegel

Treasurer: Bruce Wilton

Chorus Manager: Chris Magas

Board Members at Large

Ken Broadfoot, Les Creek, Shirley Christie, Gayle Whar-ton, Henry Graham

2020 Music Committee

VP Music & Performance: Duncan Zaluski

Co-Directors: Sherrie Bredesen & Larry Hunter

Assistant Director: vacant

Tenor Section: Duncan Zaluski

Lead Section: Chris Magas

Bass Section: Larry Bredesen, Asst. Bruce Wilton

Baritone Section: John Latham

2020 Leadership Positions

Accountant: Gary Miles

Attendance & 50/50: Norm Silverberg

Awards Banquet Chairs: Gary & Ricki Miles

Charities: Harold Casselman

Church Xmas Chorus: Bruce Wilton

Learn To Sing Program: Les Creek, Len Paluck, Paul Rondeau

Grey Cup Pool Chair: Ken Broadfoot

Historian: Gordon Billows

Music Librarian: Wendy Lamont

Notes 4 U Editor: Krista Hanis-Gervais

Program Director: Duncan Zaluski

Refreshments: Norm Silverberg, John Latham, Len Paluck

Sing Canada Harmony: Gordon Billows

Sunshine: Brian Metcalfe

Wardrobe: Les Creek, Charlie Siegel, Louise Malo

Website: Chris Magas

Youth Outreach: Drummond Brown

2021 Show Producer: Les Creek

2021 Show Chairman: vacant

Chapter Advocate for the Winnipeg Chapter: Gordon Billows