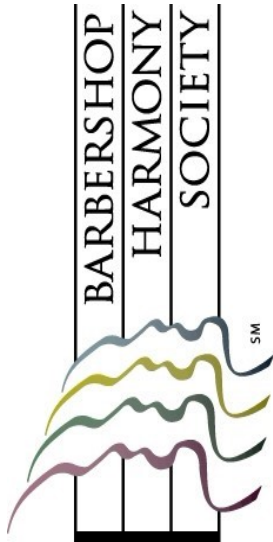




Notes 4 U

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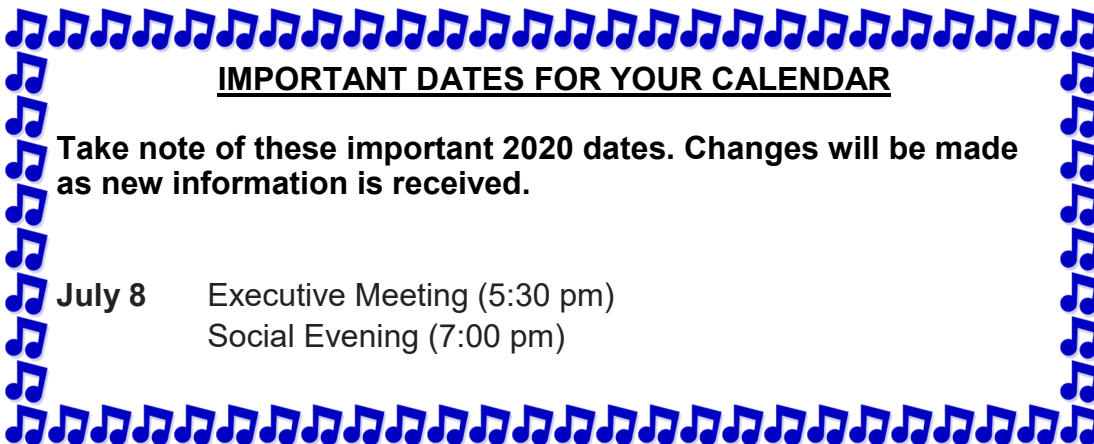


24 June 2020

Rehearsals - Wednesday 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at St. Andrews United Church (basement) - 255 Oak Street

Vol 2020 Issue 25

<p>PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE</p> <p>Please send any information for publication to Krista by Saturday noon at:</p> <p>kristahanisgervais@gmail.com</p> <p>Thanks, Krista ☺</p>	<p>PERMANENT ZOOM MEETING REHEARSAL LINK</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457343549? pwd=ZGJmeUIJTl5Nnp1Ly9sNGQxYkxPUT09</p> <p>Meeting ID: 844 5734 3549 Password: 974496</p>
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IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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

July 8 Executive Meeting (5:30 pm)
Social Evening (7:00 pm)

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24 June 2020

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CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE

From Paul Bullock

We are approaching our 72nd anniversary! The Winnipeg Chapter was chartered on July 17, 1948 - definitely a long and proud history! Our chapter membership currently numbers 43. We had the largest increase in membership of all the Land 'O Lakes Chapters and are one of only seven in the LOL that reported an increase! Please take a moment and pat yourself on the back (but only if you're not going to injure yourself!). Thanks to Gordon Billows for providing us with an update of our status in the District. Despite the unexpected turn of events in 2020, we still have much to celebrate. On July 8th, let's take a minute to reflect on where we are as a Chapter and the many years that have brought us to this point. Clearly, our predecessors built a solid foundation that has managed to carry us through a difficult time. It is a credit to them and to all of us that we have continued to thrive.

On Wednesday night, we had the opportunity to listen to the composite audio recording of Dream Lover. The work involved to put all the tracks together was far more than any of us had imagined. We can't thank Les Creek enough for his many, many hours of work. The recording elicited a sense of togetherness and shared accomplishment, which was very gratifying. Certainly, there were several rough patches that need improvement but there was generally a good sound and voice quality. The repeated number of recordings that we did outside of Wednesday's rehearsals has meant that we are singing more now than we were previously. Our voice is a muscle just like any other. The more we exercise it, the better its condition.

There was a general sense on Wednesday that the composite was a good first attempt but that we can improve it. So, we are going to make a second attempt at a composite audio recording. Sherrie pointed out the importance of singing right on the beat and not being late to come in on our parts. If we focus on generating good in-tune and on-tempo audio tracks, the composite is going to sound much improved. To that end, Sherrie has offered to work one-on-one with individuals who want voice coaching. Duncan is going to create new audio tracks for each individual voice part in Dream Lover and they will all have the opening pitch and metronome beats. So, you will be able to record yourself while listening to your individual voice part rather than listening to the mix of all parts. In addition, each person should have their recording reviewed by their section leader before sending anything to Les. In fact, we want everyone to record and send 2 different tracks to their section leader:

1. Record yourself without using head phones or ear buds. Have your individual voice part track playing in the background while you record. Make sure the background music is audible but not too loud so that you can hear your

own voice clearly. This will give your section leader the chance to listen to your voice in comparison to the audio track. Remember, you can listen to it as well. If you can hear some sections where you are “off”, then you can contact Sherrie for help improving it before it goes to your section leader.

- Record yourself while listening to your individual voice part audio track using head phones or ear buds. Does your “voice only” audio track match the quality of the one with the music in the background? Again, you can listen to it and try to improve it before it goes to your section leader.

Once you have feedback from your section leader, you will know whether to send your “voice only” recording to Les at ltsbrcs@gmail.com. Let your section leader know if you are having difficulty with this. The goal is make an improved composite audio which requires all of us to do our part. It is almost like we are part of a chorus (Oh yeah! I guess we are!!).

Shirley is providing more information for you about the Social Evening on July 8. As mentioned, it is meant to be an opportunity to socialize in-person and to do so safely. There is also more information about how we can have small groups (quartets) sing safely at the event. We hope that the weather cooperates but if it rains, the backup date is July 15.

June 24 will be our last zoom rehearsal before the break on July 1 (is it really that close to half of 2020 having gone by!).

Let’s have a great rehearsal on Wednesday.

Section	Leader	Residence	Cell	Email
Co-Director	Sherrie Bredesen	204-477-8023	204-795-5610	sbredesen@gmail.com
Co-Director	Larry Hunter	1-204-785-8442		harlequinhouse@live.ca
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

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - JUNE 24, 2020

VIRTUAL SINGING WEEK 9

From Duncan Zaluski

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE:
ALL OF YOUR NEW MUSIC
CURRENT REPERTOIRE
BARBERPOLECAT SONG

6:55 – 7:10	Login and greetings
7:10 – 7:25	Warm up
7:25 – 7:40	Bridge over Troubled Water
7:45 – 8:05	Stand By Me
8:10 – 8:20	Business Meeting & Break
8:20 – 8:25	Barber Polecat: The Story of the Rose (Heart of My Heart)
8:30 – 8:45	Hello Mary Lou (Off the Page June 3)
8:45 – 9:00	Repertoire Review: When I'm 64 Shenandoah

Current Show Repertoire:

Blue Moon(s)
Can You Feel the Love Tonight?
Daydream
Dream Lover
Harmony Collage
I'm Feeling Fine
Imagine
Irish Blessing
O Canada
Shenandoah
Under the Boardwalk
When I'm 64



WARM UP - JUNE 24, 2020

From Sherrie Bredesen

1. INHALE and allow the ribs to expand. Flex the Intercostal muscles in between the ribs as this allows you to control your air flow much better. These muscles will strengthen over time and you will be surprised how much further you can go on one breath without skimping on the sound.
 2. Using notes 1-2-3-4 5-4-3-2 1 VVVVVV the notes. This requires lots of air and will strengthen those muscles.
 3. Then VVV the notes 1—5---1 Eg. Bb ---F---Bb or C---G---C
 4. Then VVVV the notes, rolling up the octave from 1 to 8 and back down again.
 5. Now repeat all these exercises using a strong, resonant HUM.
 6. Repeat singing the numbers and/or a vowel of your choice.
-

TUNING – Accompanied Choruses or choirs can sing “**Even-Tempered**”, *the way a piano is tuned*, each semitone equidistant from each other, but **we must sing “Between the cracks.”** This is why you might hear a director ask for certain notes to be sung slightly higher than “exactly on the tonal center of a note”. Tenors must do this on a regular basis.

WARM-UP- is a time to connect the Breathing Mechanism to the Voice. Warming up also helps us to escape the “day” and begin to focus on singing. Like any muscle, it needs to be warmed up before giving it a workout.

Breathing Ex. “Panting” – exhale in a sharp “Huh! Huh!” until out of air (keep good posture)

Ex. “Blow out a candle” – the air will feel cool against your finger. Now fog up a mirror to “clean” it – the air will be warm. **Using warm air will: Lift the Palate, Engage the Diaphragm.**

Ex. 1 **HUM** – 1-2-1-7-1 Up ST. Use easy, relaxed breathing.

* Note that the “7” is a step BELOW the 1 before going back up to the 1.

Ex. 2 **BUBBLE** - Roll up 1...5...1 then 1....8...1 Bubbling brings the sound forward, loosens the muscles, engages the diaphragm for better control of air.

Ex. 3 Sing the word “Hu**NG**” 5...5.4.3.2.1 Sing Whole notes for each, *which means 4 counts or beats on each note* , Half notes (2 beats on each note), then Quarter notes (one beat on each note) **As you go downward, think of going up.**

Ex. 4 Sing **DOOBEE** 1-3, 2-4, 3-5, 4-6-, 5-7, 6-8, 7-9, 8 // 10-8, 9-7, 8-6, 7-5, 6,4, 5-3, 4-2, 1

Eg. C-E, D-F, E-G, F-A, G-B, A-C, B-D, C Then Reverse this and go back down.

VOICE COACHING INFORMATION

From Sherrie Bredesen

- I have offered to give some feedback/coaching for any of our chorus singers who are interested in receiving some one on one time, either on FACETIME or by phone.
- The hours I would want to devote to this would be on Tuesdays, usually from 1 PM until 2 PM or so - *except for this coming Tuesday as the hours I am available will be a bit different this coming week (June 23rd).*
- I have evening hours from 7 PM until 8 PM on Tuesday evening as well but will try to be somewhat flexible now and then, if necessary.
- I will try to accommodate everyone as well as I can.
- Each slot will be at least 20 minutes or more if you want/need more and I am free. (My voice lesson students would have been paying about \$25 for this time but for this one time offer....book it now at absolutely no cost!)
- Call me at home (**204-477-8023**) or email me at: sbredesen@gmail.com to book your mini voice lesson while time permits.
- One way to approach this type of coaching is to record yourself singing with the learning track in the background, loud enough for me to hear, but not too loud in that it overpowers your singing. Send this to me and I will listen to it and give you feedback. And work with you on Facetime or phone.
- You could then record again (with the learning track in your ear) so only your voice will be heard on the recording. This one can be sent to Les for our chorus recording adventure.
- I hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity. I have been teaching voice students for around 40 years and have learned a thing or two about Barbershop as well through those same years.
- Let's take the skills you bring and continue to develop them a little further.
- Let's have fun with this! You all are talented singers or you wouldn't be in the River City Sound Chorus!
- *By the way, please remember that your section leaders (and Co-Director Larry H.) are also available to give you feedback and they would also be happy to receive any recording (with the track in the background) you make.*

INFORMATION ON PERMANENT ZOOM REHEARSAL LINK

From Paul Bullock

You can use the same link to join the Wednesday night zoom rehearsals every week (see below). It was shared with Jay Althof to be included in the list of virtual rehearsals in the district so that members from other chapters could join us.

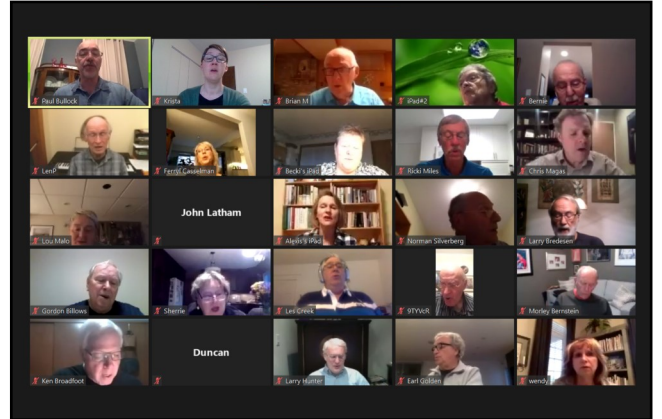
You should be able to click on the link itself or enter the meeting ID and password.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457343549?pwd=ZGJmeUIJTjXI5Nnp1Ly9sNGQxYkxPUT09>

Meeting ID: 844 5734 3549

Password: 974496



CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON REHEARSALS

From Paul Bullock

The Province of Manitoba continues to recommend avoiding in-person singing and music gatherings (<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/music-guidelines.html>). As mentioned last week, the Executive of River City Sound do not want to risk contributing to the spread of Covid-19. We will continue to rehearse virtually until we can be confident that returning to in-person rehearsals will not put our chorus members at risk.

PASSING OF DEBBIE SIEGEL

From Paul Bullock

Sadly, we must inform our members about another loss. Debbie Siegel, wife of Charlie, passed away on June 18 after a long battle with cancer. She was a kind and upbeat person who raised the spirits of everyone she encountered.



We send sincere condolences to Charlie and want him to know that Debbie will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

BARBERSHOP SOCIAL EVENING - JULY 8TH AT 7:00 P.M. (RAIN DATE IS JULY 15TH) - 12 PHIL-CHRIS WAY

From Shirley Christie

We've all been missing a chance to get together to socialize and visit with our fellow barbershoppers as well as wives/significant others, so we are scheduling an evening where we can see each other in person and enjoy an evening of camaraderie.

Every precaution will be taken to ensure the safety of each and every person who is willing and able to be there. We are purchasing a temperature monitor so each of us can be checked when we arrive. If you are feeling unwell we would ask that you enjoy your evening by staying at home. Another evening is planned for some time in August if you have to miss this one.

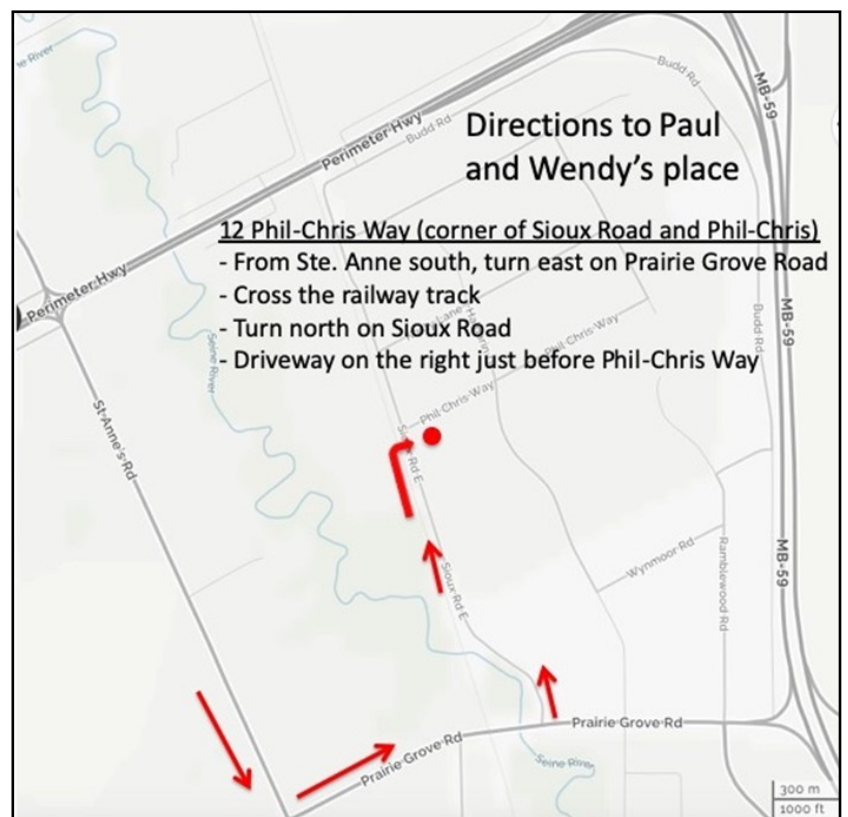
As a precaution, there will be not be refreshments provided. However, you are free to bring your own food and drinks with the necessary accouterments (glasses, cutlery, etc.). Chorus singing will not be encouraged but quartets may entertain using Harlequin's sound system so that they can distance themselves from both each other and the audience.



So, bottom line, please plan to come and enjoy an evening with your fellow barbershoppers if you feel safe to do so. Bring your own chair, your own food/drink and if you feel more comfortable doing so, wear a mask.

The location is the home of Paul Bullcock and Wendy Lamont. You can park on Sioux Road or on Phil-Chris Way next to the yard. Please note, that public transit does not service this area. So, if you need a ride, please talk to your fellow barbershoppers.

We hope to see you there!



ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

By Wendy Lamont

Approximately one year ago I joined River City Sound. What an amazing adventure this has been. I have loved singing for as long as I can remember. Cher, Diana Ross and Roberta Flack were some of my idols way back when. I had no idea growing up that I would ever be part of an organization such as ours.

Although everyone of us would prefer to travel to and from the Church to practice every Wednesday evening, visiting with everyone in person sharing the camaraderie and fellowship that exists, the only alternative for now is to visit all of you via Zoom.

Although hearing the blending of our voices in person is more favorable than singing in front of a screen, when we sing our parts, the opportunity is there to watch you on the screen. In doing so, I can tell how much you are enjoying singing the songs, in fact, sometimes when I am watching you I lose my own place in the song so I need to work on that. Seeing your faces each week is one of the things that keeps me coming back week after week. No it is not ideal, but for now this is the next best thing to being there in person.

I have been so impressed with the efforts of our Executive and Music teams and would like to thank each one of you. I appreciate all of the time that you spend each week putting together the Zoom rehearsals. When I sent in my audio to Les, I had no idea how many hours it would take compiling the audio for the song, Dream Lover. OMG...how many hours did you spend?

When I am practicing at home, sometimes I think I've got it and I am proud of what I have accomplished and there are other times when I listen to myself on audio and think, I sound awful. However the moment passes and I remember what we were told in the Learn To Sing Better Program, that we are learning to sing better and that's why I'm here.

I am so thankful that Sherrie is willing to spend time reviewing our audio tracks prior to being submitted to Les for compilation. Sherrie, your comments will be welcomed in my quest to improve. Thank you so much for your willingness to help. What I have learned is that for those of us who want to become better singers, there are people in the Chorus who are there to help us achieve our personal goals as well as assisting the Chorus become better.

Thank you also to Duncan for the re-pitched version of Bridge Over Troubled Water. I love this song so am glad that you are reworking the notes so that some of the Leads can sing it. I hope that in so doing, it doesn't become challenging for the other sections

and that we can adopt this re-pitched version.

Sorry for my rambling.... I just wanted to jot down a few notes to say thank you Executive, Music Committee and all of the faces I see each week enjoying you enjoying the music.

I recently asked Paul's four year old granddaughter, Charlotte, what she wanted for her birthday and her reply was 'for the Coronavirus to go away'. Don't we all.

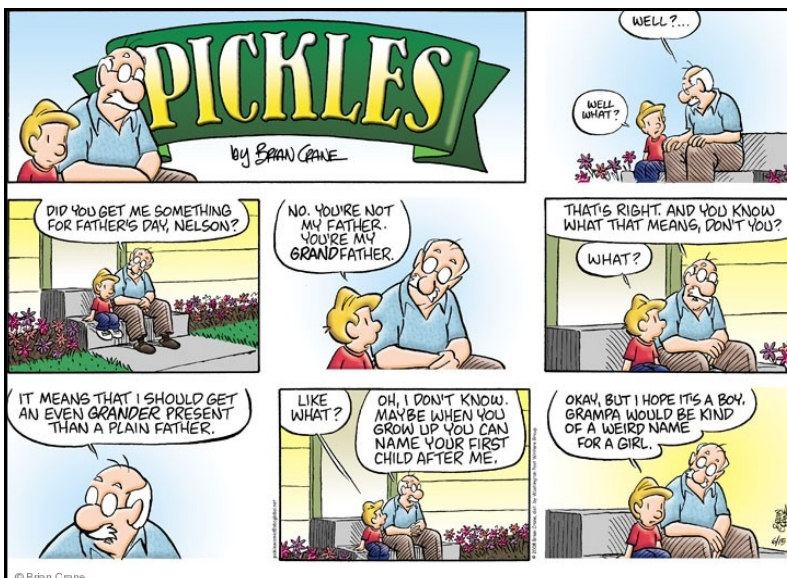
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

From Krista Hanis-Gervais and Brian Metcalfe

Happy Father's Day to all of the fathers and father-figures of River City Sound!

Here's a song called "The Best Times I Ever Had (I Owe 'Em To My Good Old Dad)" sung by "Power Play" Barbershop Quartet:

<https://www.facebook.com/barbershopharmonysociety/videos/heres-to-you-dad/10156549404627318/>



IMPORTANT DATES 4 U

Meetings, Rehearsals, Holidays and River City Sound Birthdays

~ June 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Executive Committee Zoom Meeting (5:30) Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Music Committee Zoom Meeting (5:30) Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	18	19	20
21 <i>Father's Day Happy Birthday Joan Crapper</i>	22	23	24 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	25	26	27
28 <i>Happy Birthday Drummond Brown</i>	29	30				

~ July 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Canada Day</i> No Rehearsal	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Executive Meeting (5:30) Social Evening (7:00)	9	10 <i>Happy Birthday Tony Grosvenor</i>	11
12	13	14	15 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00) <i>Rain Date for Social Evening (7:00)</i>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 <i>Happy Birthday Louise Malo</i> Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	30	31	

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