

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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

December 16 Zoom Holiday Party (7:00 p.m.)

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18 Nov 2020

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PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Please send any information for publication to Krista by **Saturday noon** at:
kristahanisgervais@gmail.com

Thanks,
Krista ☺

PERMANENT ZOOM REHEARSAL LINK

Join our online Zoom rehearsals every Wednesday with this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457343549?pwd=ZGJmeUIJTl5Nnp1Ly9sNGQxYkxPUT09>

Meeting ID: 844 5734 3549
Password: 974496

CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE

From Paul Bullock

Our November 11 Remembrance Day reflection was a very moving experience. Thank-you to Duncan for putting together an excellent program and to everyone who participated in delivering it last Wednesday. There have been many positive comments. It is wonderful that it resonated with so many of us.

The zoom Christmas party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m. Ricki already has several ideas and Wendy has offered some more (thanks Ricki and Wendy). It will be another great opportunity to socialize virtually. More information will be forthcoming.

It would be great if we could showcase a Christmas video for the event. Thanks to everyone who has spent time and effort to record and submit audio tracks for Merry Christmas Darling. Les is ready to start combining the voice parts (thanks Les). It's time to focus on the video recordings. Try to remember those wonderful faces we watched last Wednesday (thanks for that coaching Sherrie). Let's make a Christmas video that is truly beautiful.

As we transition into this very unusual holiday season, I hope we can all take some solace in the camaraderie we share in our chorus. Undoubtedly, our celebrations in 2020 will not be what we would like. But we can share some measure of joy with each other. Keep safe and keep singing.

RCS VIRTUAL CHORUS RECORDING SCHEDULE

From Paul Bullock

Record a video of "**Merry Christmas Darling**". No headphones or ear buds required. Note, attire is a solid-colored black or white shirt with a predominantly red accessory i.e. scarf or tie. ***Deadline: November 25.***

THE HARMONY UNIVERSITY WARM-UP SERIES

Shared by Gordon Billows

<https://www.barbershop.org/the-harmony-university-warm-up-series-donny-rose-youtube>

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER 18, 2020

VIRTUAL SINGING WEEK 22

From Duncan Zaluski

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE: ALL OF YOUR NEW MUSIC,
CURRENT REPERTOIRE & BARBERPOLECAT SONGBOOK**

- 6:55 – 7:05 Login and greetings
7:05 – 7:20 Warmup
7:25 – 7:40 Everybody's Waiting for the Man with the Bag
7:45 – 8:00 Silent Night
8:00 – 8:10 Business Meeting
8:15 – 8:30 Tag ▼ That one down there



2. Lonely For You Am I

Musical score for the song "Lonely For You Am I". The score is written on two staves, treble and bass clef, in 3/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: Lone-ly, so lone - ly for you_ am I_ lone-ly for you_ am I_

- 8:35 – 8:50 Directors Choice/Repertoire Review
8:55 Final Song

Current Show Repertoire:

Blue Moon(s)
Can You Feel the Love Tonight?
Daydream
Harmony Collage
I'm Feeling Fine
Irish Blessing
Shenandoah
Under the Boardwalk



Bridge over Troubled Water
Can't Help Falling In Love
Dream Lover
Hello Mary Lou
Imagine
O Canada
Stand By Me
When I'm 64

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

From Bruce Wilton

At the beginning of 2020 our bank balance was approximately \$16,000. As you are all aware, the Chapter has not had an opportunity to perform in 2020. Hence our performance revenues have been zero and our bank balance at the end of October was \$8700. Although we have curtailed all the expenses we can, I estimate we will have approximately \$8000 in the bank at the end of 2020. With the current impact of the Corona Virus, it is prudent to plan on three years of operations without performance revenues. This means that we need to limit our deficit on an annual basis to \$2670 (\$8000 divided by 3).

Steps we have taken to curtail expenses in 2021 are as follows;

1. Rent has been waived by St. Andrews for our rehearsal hall.
2. We are seeking a reduction in our liability and property insurance from Nashville.
3. We are changing our website hosting service to obtain a reduction in our hosting fees.
4. Our Co-Directors have agreed to a reduction in their rehearsal fees until such time as we are performing again.

Without the ability to perform, our only source of revenue is Chapter Dues. Below are two scenarios for you to consider:

1. If we leave Chapter Dues at their current rate of \$80 per year, our annual deficit would be \$3400 per year. With \$8,000 in the bank, this would sustain us for 2.4 years of operation.
2. If Chapter Dues are increased to \$105 per year our estimated annual deficit would be \$2600 per year. With \$8,000 in the bank, this would sustain us for 3.1 years of operation.

The Executive is seeking feedback from the membership on the following question: Do you support an increase in Chapter Dues to \$105 for the year 2021? To be clear, this would be for 1 year and it would be revisited prior to 2022.

The Executive is aware that some of our members may be under financial duress due to the pandemic. In such cases, members will be afforded the opportunity to pay their Chapter dues over a ten month period at \$10.50 per month. Those arrangements would be made on a confidential basis with the Treasurer.

Please respond to the question by return email to Bruce Wilton and Paul Bullock.

Stay safe everyone.

HAROLD CASSELMAN IN WINNIPEG FREE PRESS REMEMBRANCE DAY ARTICLE

Shared by Gordon Billows

Harold Casselman was mentioned in last Saturday's Winnipeg Free Press Remembrance article:



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2020
Winnipeg Free Press

remo

SACRIFICE AND SERVICE

MORE than one million Canadians and Newfoundlanders served in the Second World War. More than 45,000 soldiers were killed and 55,000 wounded.

According to Veterans Affairs Canada, as of March 2019, there were about 33,000 Second World War veterans still alive, at an average age of 94. That compares to just over the border where, of the 16 million Americans who fought in the war, fewer than 390,000 are still alive.

In recent years, the *Free Press* in recent years has published an annual list of the passings of the war's veterans in Winnipeg and Manitoba. It's not a comprehensive list; most come to the newspaper's attention when war service is noted in family written obituaries published on our pages.

The list includes people who have died between Nov. 11, 2019 to as close to Nov. 11, 2020 as possible, given printing deadline requirements. It also includes people who died before Nov. 11, 2019, but whose obituaries didn't appear until after Remembrance Day.

The list doesn't include only Canadian soldiers who served in the army, navy and air force, but also veterans from other countries who later came to Manitoba, women who served in various auxiliary branches and conscientious objectors who served in other capacities.

This year we honour:

May 23 — Harold Casselman, 97.
Enlisted in the RCAF in 1942 and was trained as a signalman.

Mr. 99 — Roger Vachon

A vertical black and white photograph on the right side of the article, showing a military camp or construction site with various structures and equipment.

GETTING TO KNOW ... CHRIS MAGAS

By Chris Magas

I've spent my whole life here in Winnipeg but as some of you know, I wasn't born here. In the mid-sixties my father was working on the Volta River hydroelectric dam project in Ghana, Africa and my Mom was also in Ghana working for the Canadian Consulate.

They actually first met there, got married, and then I was born in the village of Akosombo (near the dam) where we lived for about six more months before we all returned to Canada. It is a custom in Ghana that a child is given the name of the day he is born on, so my complete legal name is Christopher Michael Kwame Magas. Kwame means Saturday (pronounced Kwah-may). My Dad was a foreman on the dam project and the vil-

lagers that he worked with were very excited

when I was born (and that I had been named Kwame). They organized a ritual with the village chief where libation was poured (Dad had to put a drop on my tongue and Mom was none too pleased when she heard the details afterwards), and I was made an Honorary Chief of the village of Akosombo. I hope to one day visit my place of birth but that probably won't happen until after I retire (still not for another 10 to 15 years probably).



My musical history started when my parents "made" me take piano lessons when I was quite young. Getting me to practice for my weekly lessons was like pulling teeth, but I really appreciate it now because it taught me to read music. I went up to Grade 6 in the Royal Conservatory of Music program on the piano. But what I really wanted to do was to play guitar. I switched from piano to guitar lessons as a young teenager and have been playing guitar ever since (I only remember a couple of songs on the piano). There was much jamming with friends in junior high and high school, but no serious gigs.

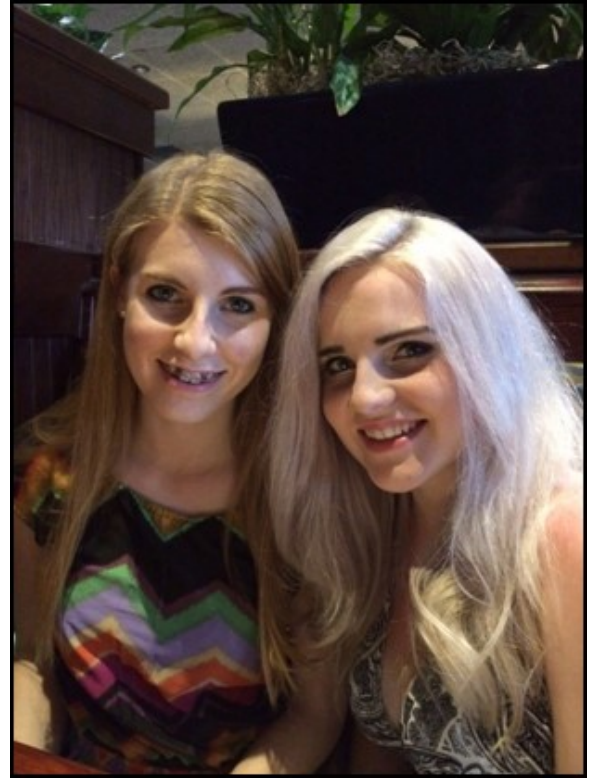
I sang in school choirs but it was more like "goofing off" time rather than a dedication to the art. I did perform in two high school musicals though – The Music Man and Fiddler on the Roof (where I also did some pretty kick-ass Ukrainian dancing).

Singing only got serious for me many years later when I joined the John Black United Church choir. I sang with Jeep (Andrew) Enns. I was only aware that he also sang with The Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen, but I didn't know anything about the group. It was at Jeep's funeral service that I first heard the WGC chorus sing, and after the service where our church choir had also performed, Charlie Siegel approached me to invite me to attend a WGC practice on any Wednesday night. He gave me a WGC card with his number written on it and I then tucked it away for quite some time. It was a Sunday afternoon, about two and a half years later, that I decided to call Charlie and ask about attending a Wednesday night rehearsal. It was later that same Sunday night while channel surfing that I stumbled upon the Global TV interview with four members of the WGC. It must have been fate telling me that I had made a good decision to call Charlie that day. I attended the following Wed. evening rehearsal on Oct. 22, 2015 and was immediately hooked. It truly is great to be a barbershopper.



My professional career has been in sales, mainly as a manufacturer's rep for various companies covering Manitoba, Saskatchewan and parts of Ontario. Kristen and I got married in 1991 and have two beautiful daughters, Alyssa and Alexandra (Lexy). Alyssa is about half way through her journey at the U of M to becoming an Architect. Lexy just finished her first year at the U of W taking Psychology, but she's still not sure what career path she wants to take. They grew up with Daddy being on the road occasionally but whenever I was away, I'd always call to find out how their day was and to say goodnight. I'm

usually away only one week (Monday to Friday) per month on average. We moved to a new home in East St. Paul ten years ago. In the summer we enjoy camping or going to my Dad's cottage at Booster Lake in Nopiming Provincial Park. He and I built that cottage by hand in 1981 (there was no electricity there at that time). I also used to be a fairly avid runner although this past year I've fallen out of habit. I've run a number of half marathons and back in 2012 after my Mom died, I decided to try a full marathon (26 miles!). Training for that takes a lot of time and I did finish the race in 4 hours and 33 minutes (with lots of pain), but now that it's "off my bucket list" I'll never do that again. I found that the experience did make doing a half marathon much easier though, and I've done three since then. Because I haven't been training I didn't participate in the Manitoba (half) Marathon this year. I just need to get back to actually going for a run instead of only thinking about it. I also enjoy golfing but only seem to get out a few times each summer. There aren't enough hours in the day or days in the week, eh? But I always look forward to Wednesday nights and other events with my new friends in the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen.



***** **GETTING TO KNOW YOU BETTER** *****

By Chris Magas

A lot has changed in my life since my last story in 2015. I had just started a new Sales Rep job that, at the time, I was really happy with. The next summer I was fired from that job and it really messed with my psyche. I decided then that I was “done with sales” and wanted to find a different career path (at age 51!). I have always been fascinated with all things aviation related, and a friend that worked at Tec Voc vocational school told me about an adult education program there called AMMOP (Aerospace Manufacturing and Maintenance Orientation Program). It was a free 10 month course offered by the Winnipeg School Division to post high school students. Students attend from 7:45AM to 2:35PM for half a week (3 days one week, 2 days the next). At the time it was marketed to young adults but my friend at the school asked the coordinator if they’d consider a “mature student”. They did, and I was the oldest student they ever had in the program’s 19 year existence! I really enjoyed the course, was one of the top students in the class, and even interviewed with Standard Aero for a job after graduating. But I couldn’t make the numbers work (salary wasn’t going to “pay the bills” adequately). Which was okay, because during that course I was fortunate enough to find a part time job as a Sales Assistant with Daytona Homes, helping to sell new homes. I know, I know, I said that I was “done with sales”, but it was a part time job that scheduled well with my AMMOP course (and helped with the cash flow). My intention was to change careers into Aerospace but along the way I recognized the potential with this new home builder in Winnipeg. After the AMMOP course and realizing I couldn’t afford to start over again in that industry, I had the opportunity to become a full New Home Sales Consultant with Daytona Homes and chose that path. It was a great decision because I love that industry, my company, and the success we’ve had since starting up here in Winnipeg just over 4 years ago! The only downside is the schedule – I only have Wednesdays and Fridays off (and still end up working a bit on some of those days).



Kristen and I are “empty nesters” now, with both daughters living in Western Canada. Alyssa graduated with her Masters in Architecture from the U of M this past spring and is now living with her boyfriend Nick in Grande Prairie, AB. Alexandra is living in Vancouver with her Belgian boyfriend Yannick, taking courses at UBC. Kristen often jokes that our girls weren’t satisfied with local boys and had to travel the world to find their mates. Alyssa & Nick met on a European tour they were both on a few years ago. Alex & Yannick met when they were both working in Australia. After they left Australia they lived in Belgium for a while, and Alyssa, Kristen & I were fortunate enough to spend Christmas 2018 with them there. It was my first trip ever to Europe and I absolutely loved it! In the summer of 2019 Alex & Yannick moved back to Canada and we took them on a trip to see Alyssa & Nick in Grand Prairie and then through the Rocky Mountains. It was Yannick’s first time in Canada. That August they packed up Alex’s car and drove out to Vancouver to start their new adventures there. This past summer Kristen & I drove to see Alyssa in Grand Prairie, then took her with us as we continued on to



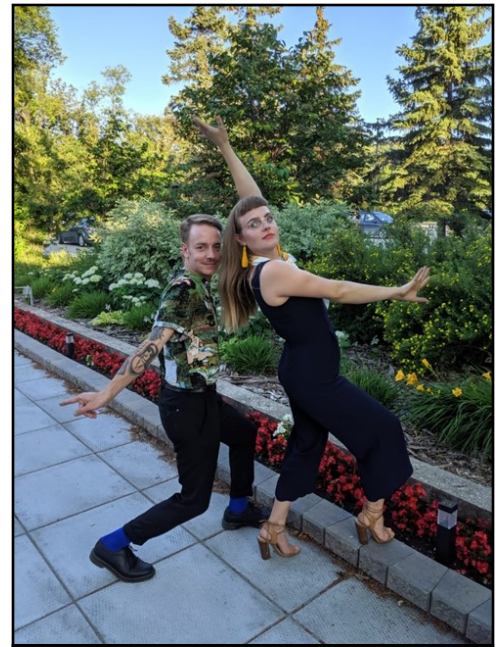
Christmas 2018 in Antwerp, Belgium



Cathedral in Koln, Germany



New Years 2019 in Antwerp, Belgium



Alex & Yannick

Vancouver to visit Alex & Yannick. On the way back we stopped at Nick's family's summer place near Penticton where Nick met up with us, and Alyssa stayed while Kristen and I continued home. Despite everything COVID, we had a fantastic summer because we got to see our girls (and the "future in-laws").

Here's hoping the coming year sees an end to the COVID crisis and we can gather again as a chorus in person. In the meantime, let's continue to be creative on Zoom...



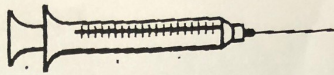
Alyssa & Nick



Chris, Kristen, Alex, Yannick, Nick & Alyssa

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

Shared by Becki Ammeter and Larry Bredesen



BETTER THAN A FLU SHOT

Miss Bea was in her 80's, and much admired for her sweetness and kindness to all. The pastor came to call on her one afternoon early in Spring.

She welcomed him into her Victorian parlor. She invited him to have a seat while she prepared a little tea. As he sat facing her old pump organ, the young minister noticed a cut glass bowl sitting on top of it filled with water.

In the water floated of all things, a Condom.

Imagine his shock!

Imagine his surprise!

Imagine his curiosity!

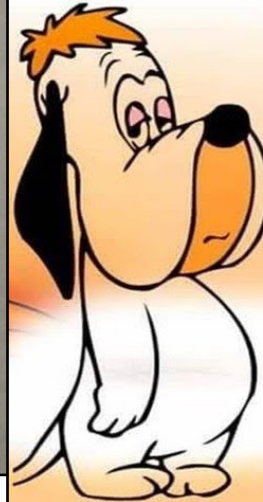
Surely Miss Bea had flipped or something! But he certainly couldn't mention the strange sight in her parlor. When she returned with tea and cookies, they began to chat. The pastor tried to stifle his curiosity about the bowl of water and its strange floater, but soon it got the better of him, and he couldn't resist any longer.

"Miss Bea", he said, pointing to the bowl, "I wonder if you would tell me about this".

"Oh, yes", she replied, "Isn't it wonderful? I was walking downtown last fall, and I found this little package. It said to put it on the organ and keep it wet, and it would prevent disease. And you know, I think it is working! I haven't had a cold all winter!"

**MY BODY
ABSORBED SO
MUCH SOAP AND
DISINFECTANT
LATELY**

**THAT WHEN I PEE IT
CLEANS THE TOILET**



**How did we
survive?
Our mothers
wiped our
faces with
spit on a
hankey not an
antibacterial
wipe.**

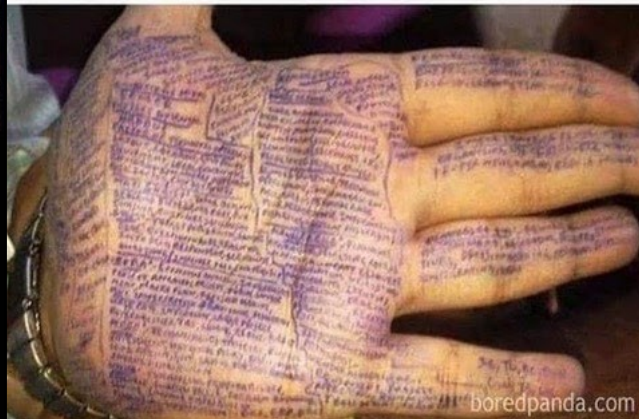
Facebook.brining humor
to your day with love



On average, a Panda feeds for approximately 12 hours per day.

This is the same as an adult at home under quarantine, which is why we call it a "Pandemic"

I washed my hands so much due to CODVID19, that my exam notes from 1995 resurfaced



IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020

Meetings, Rehearsals, Holidays and River City Sound Member Birthdays

~ November 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 <i>Happy Birthday Gerry Fontaine</i> Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	5	6 <i>Happy Birthday Art Gross</i>	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Remembrance Day</i> MCD audio recording due 2020 & 2021 Joint Executive Meeting (5:30) Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Happy Birthday Wendy Lamont</i>	18 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 MCD video recording due Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	26	27 <i>Happy Birthday Elaine Salter</i>	28
29	30					

~ December 2020 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Zoom Rehearsal (7:00)	10 <i>Hanukkah begins at sunset</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16 Zoom Holiday Party (7:00)	17	18 <i>Hanukkah ends at sunset</i>	19
20	21	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Boxing Day Happy Birthday Ferryl Casselman</i>
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>		

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, Bruce Wilton
Baritone Section: Paul Bullock, John Latham

2020 Leadership Positions

Accountant: Gary Miles
Attendance & 50/50: Norm Silverberg
Awards Banquet Chairs: Gary & Ricki Miles
Charities: vacant
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