



**HAVE YOUR SAY -
JUST NOT THIS WEEK!
No NEWSLETTER FOR
AUGUST 25.**

**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

**For Assistance signing on, call Brian at
204-667-2727**



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CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE

from Paul Bullock

Our “garage band” rehearsals have gone very well for the past 2 weeks. The rain that appeared on both occasions dampened the lawn and the driveway but not our collective enthusiasm. It is absolutely incredible to hear how quickly we have regained such a great ensemble sound and how rapidly we are progressing on the Christmas songs.

Since it is working so well, we are going to continue with the same format for this coming week. We will be rehearsing at 12 Phil-Chris Way at 7:00 p.m., rain or shine. (There won't be a notice circulated on Tuesday.)

Tentatively, we expect to resume rehearsing together indoors at St. Andrews on September 1. The date will be confirmed as soon as possible. To that end, the purchase of air purifiers has been approved so that we can minimize the risk of airborne virus transmission in the unventilated auditorium of the church basement while we rehearse (thanks to Bruce for tracking these down and giving us the details on them). There will be other precautions put in place and these will be communicated as the details are determined. Our primary goal is to be ready to deliver a Christmas show on December 11. Les has mapped out a plan to get us ready in time (thanks Les). A return to indoor rehearsals is critical for us to accomplish that goal.

Our transition from Zoom to singing together in-person is nicely underway. See you Wednesday!

Rehearsal Plan for Aug 18: 7:00 p.m. 12 Phil-Chris Way (Wendy and Paul's place) - maps overleaf

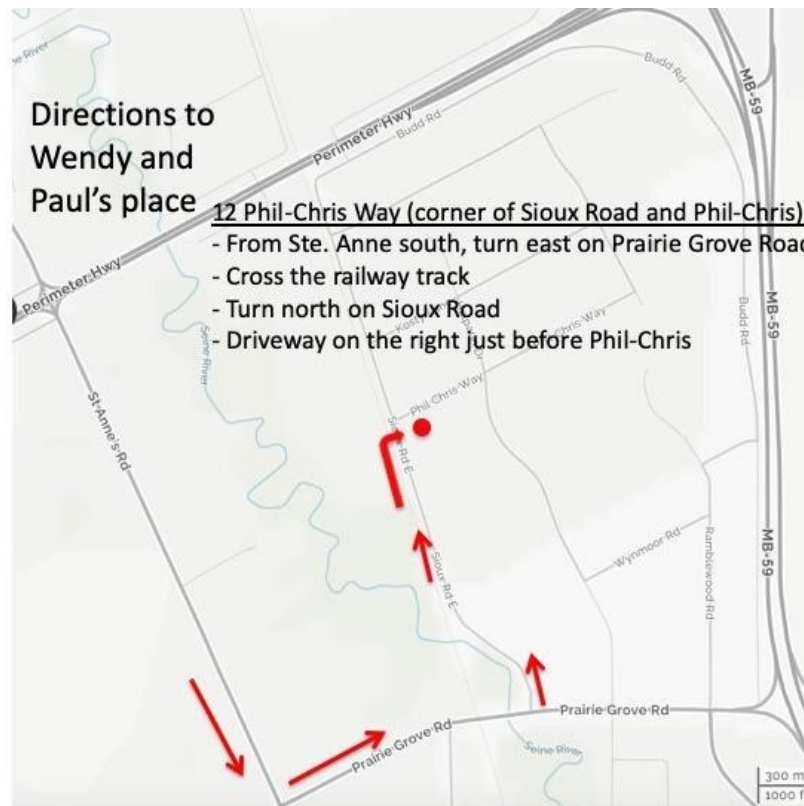
Do you need a ride? Call or email Wendy (204 990 6058 or wendyjlmac@gmail.com). She will organize a ride for you.

3. Plan to arrive at the rehearsal about 6:45 p.m. to allow some time to sign in. This will be done for everyone in attendance.
4. Bring with you:
 - i. Your vaccination record (you must be fully vaccinated to participate),
 - ii. Your music (the rehearsal plan is in the Notes 4 U),
 - iii. A good quality mask to wear during the rehearsal while you sing (Note: inexpensive plastic inserts to keep the mask away from your face while you sing can be purchased at Showcase, a store in most malls or online),
 - iv. A folding chair,
 - v. Water and, if you want, a drink and/or treat to have during the break (Note: there will be no communal coffee, drinks or treats available),
 - vi. The bugs are usually not too bad but you may want some insect repellent.
3. When you arrive, go to the sign-in table.
4. After screening, head to the seating area on the lawn and space yourself out at least 2 m apart from everyone else in preparation to sing! (If it is raining, come into the garage.)



REHEARSAL VENUE AUGUST 2021

12 PHIL-CHRIS WAY



Directions to
Wendy and
Paul's place

12 Phil-Chris Way (corner of Sioux Road and Phil-Chris)

- From Ste. Anne south, turn east on Prairie Grove Road
- Cross the railway track
- Turn north on Sioux Road
- Driveway on the right just before Phil-Chris



ANNOUNCEMENT

From Bruce Wilton

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am pleased to advise that River City Sound is now ready to accept donations!

Thanks to Brian Metcalfe for all his hard work getting us ready to do so.

Please forward your \$90 chapter dues to my attention in one of two ways:

1. E-Transfer to bww6850@gmail.com . Please provide your mailing address in the memo field.

2. Cheque by mail to my home address -
827 John Bruce Road E, Wpg. R3X 1Y3.

Please make the cheque payable to "River City Sound Inc."

The charitable receipt should follow by email within a few days of receiving your donation.



Editor's comment: These two items were intended for last week's issue, but were unintentionally omitted, for which I apologize. The Membership Survey report was circulated by email, included here for purposes of posterity.



Member Survey – June 2021

By Wendy Lamont, VP Membership & Chapter Development

Thank you members who participated in the June survey. We had a 93% participation rate from active members (regularly on Zoom) and a 50% participation rate from non-active members.

From your answers to my query, I prepared a 20-page Word document; from which, a 4-page recommendations list was developed and forwarded to your Executive and Music committees. Please know that your comments will be taken into consideration when planning music repertoire and other facets of our Chapter going forward.

In addition to information that the Executive and Music committees will be discussing, several suggestions were made by members for members that I have noted below:

Commitment of Members to Learn Music:

The only frustrating part is the slow learning curve we have to live with and the lack of personal *commitment* some members have to do their part as a member. As individuals, each member needs to take responsibility for their music and learning. Come prepared for each rehearsal.

- I would like to see the members take more responsibility for their own learning of the new music and then we could spend more time polishing the presentation and interp in the rehearsals.

With regard to the above comments, I would like to add my recommendations. I have no problem singing with the taped music so this isn't an issue for me but I also regularly practice singing with another member of our Chorus. I enjoy our camaraderie as well as the opportunity to sing with someone else so my recommendation to those of you who are having difficulty singing on your own/or aren't enjoying the experience, find a 'buddy' who you can get together with to practice.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all knew the words to the music, then we could concentrate on the I

MEMBER SURVEY – JUNE 2021

Interpretation at rehearsals? I for one haven't been singing as much as I need to so I have decided to learn two songs really well each week. This is a commitment I have made to myself so that I can follow more closely with our two directors instead of having to look down at my music; this kind of defeats the purpose of having our two directors.

Leadership Roles:

There was a consensus among long-term members that they would like newer members to take on more roles. In the current situation, the same people have been working hard on the executive or various committees for many years and are tired, stressed and need a break and would just like to sing. These same long-term members would be interested in helping support newer members who would be willing to take on leadership roles.

One of our esteemed colleagues will be looking for an Assistant Historian so if you are interested, please contact Gordon Billows.

Since taking on the role of VP Membership, I have found this position takes up quite a bit of my time, especially when preparing surveys, however, I have learned so much from your comments and am truly thankful for the experience of long-time members as well as the insight from our newer members. I appreciate the time and effort each one of you have taken on preparing your responses so thank you all for your words of wisdom.

Presentation:

Presentation of the music is so important (enjoy the experience, use expression when singing, get into the music and know what the words are saying).

Other Suggestions:

With regard to talking too much, we all need to speak less by asking ourselves 3 questions before speaking: can it wait, does it help, and can I be brief.

Thanks again to all of you who participated in the survey.

Celebration of Life for Ted Mikliechuk

Friday, September 3

2:00 pm

Chapel Lawn Funeral Home
4000 Portage Avenue

There is a limit of 150, so please RSVP by emailing
Lori Bodner (Ted's oldest daughter) at
ourbean@mymts.net
or texting at **204-981-8201**.

This information will also be used for contract tracing.



REHEARSAL PLAN - AUGUST 18 2021 LIVE SINGING TRANSITION WEEK 3

from Les Creek

Hello everyone! Wasn't that a great rehearsal last week? I was floored by the way we sounded together (in a really good way, of course...). Even if the voices are a little rusty, and the breathing and ranges still need some work, it did sound great, and it was great to be in the midst of a live chorus again.

So far, we have been used to rehearsals lasting around 2 hours, but once we return to the church, we are again scheduling 3 hour rehearsals, as we did pre-Covid. So to get us used to a longer rehearsal, this week we will go to 9:30. And we have a lot of music to cover in the next few months, so we would hope that our rehearsals can be very efficient, and to help us do that, we'd ask a couple of things from you:

1. Please try to warm up your voice (at least partially) before coming to rehearsal. I find that some voice exercises that I have recorded, and which I sing along with on my way to rehearsal, help a lot.
2. Please come a few minutes early to set up your chairs and to greet the other singers. This will help us start on time.

Here's the rehearsal timeline for this week (August 18, 2021).

7:00 to 7:20	Greetings and vocal warmup
7:20 to 7:25	Introduction to Merry Christmas Darling
7:25 to 8:05	Sectionals
	Merry Christmas Darling
	Jingle Bell Rock
	Kneeling at the Manger
	I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Clause (start
	review if time permits)
8:05 to 8:35	Chorus rehearsal of sectional music
8:35 to 8:50	Business Meeting and Break
8:50 to 9:25	Repertoire review
	Can You Feel the Love Tonight
	Bridge Over Troubled Water
9:25	Closing Song



FREE SINGING APPS TO MAKE YOU A BETTER VOCALIST

shared by Larry Hunter

A list of apps members may consider using for improving their vocal skills at home:

SING CANADA HARMONY SCHOLARSHIP

From Gordon Billows

The Sing Canada Harmony scholarship application deadline for this coming term is **Wednesday, September 1st**. As in the past, if you are submitting a scholarship application, please email it to me by Wednesday, August 25th so I have time to review it, give my recommendation, and forward it to the Scholarship Selection Committee. Applications can be found at <http://singcanadaharmony.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Sing-Canada-Scholarship-Application-Organization-FORM-1711.pdf>.

*Save the appropriate form to your computer, fill in all the necessary information, save and email it to me for review.

More and more singing organizations are working towards in-person rehearsals this Fall! If there are music or equipment purchases, members registering for University music courses, music education opportunities, etc that you might be considering, perhaps a Sing Canada Harmony scholarship may help.

In June, there were 15 music education scholarships awarded to Canadian individuals and groups, including two here in Manitoba. Sing Canada Harmony gratefully accepts donations from Canadians dedicated to the support of vocal music education. Their donations, your gifts, enable us to provide these scholarships to you!

If you would like further information about Sing Canada Harmony's scholarship, donor, or legacy programs, please contact me directly or visit our website, singcanadaharmony.ca

In harmony,



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Sing Canada Harmony
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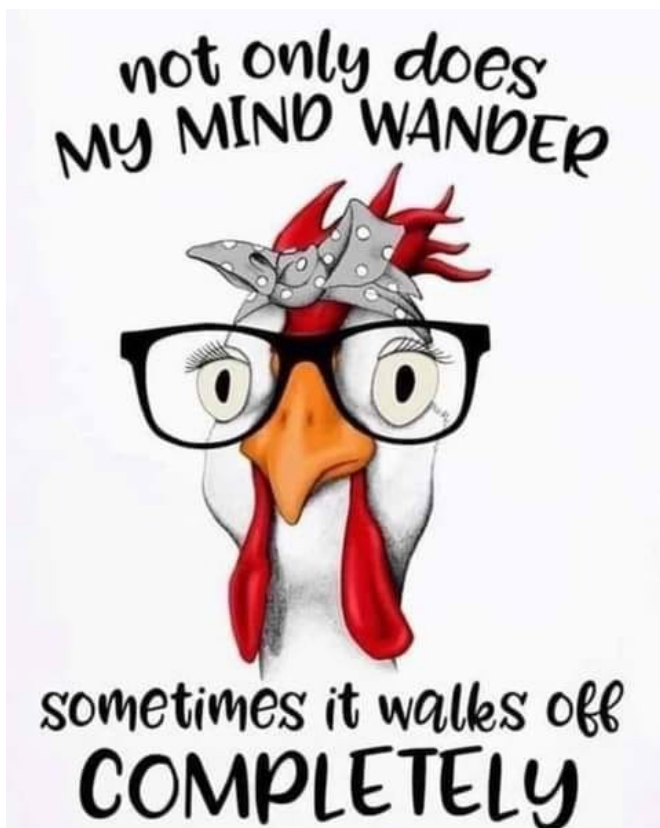


TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

NOW THAT I'VE LIVED THROUGH AN ACTUAL PLAGUE, I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND WHY ITALIAN RENAISSANCE PAINTINGS ARE FULL OF NAKED FAT PEOPLE LYING ON COUCHES.



If you're having a bad day here's a kissing booth for you.



LIFE!
ONE MINUTE YOU'RE YOUNG, HP AND CARE-FREE
AND THE NEXT MINUTE YOU'RE PHOTOGRAPHING
VEGETABLES
IN YOUR GARDEN

IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2021

Meetings, Rehearsals, Holidays and River City Sound Member Birthdays

~ August 2021 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Happy Birthday <i>Bernie Gunn</i>	3	4 Music Committee Mtg. 5:15 Happy Birthday Paul Bullock Rehearsal (7:00) Details t.b.a.	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Executive meeting 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal (7:00) Details t.b.a.	12	13	14
15	16	17 Happy Birthday Len Paluck & Paul Rondeau	18 Rehearsal (7:00)	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Rehearsal (7:00)	26	27	28
29	30	31				

~ September 2021 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Music Cmte Mtg. 5:15 Rehearsal 7:00	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Executive meeting 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	16 Happy Birthday Earl Golden	17	18
19	20	21	22 Details t.b.a. Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26	27 Happy Birthday Milt Muldrew	28	29 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	30		

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 - Mae Denby

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.



2021 Chapter Executive

President: Paul Bullock
Executive VP: vacant
Past President: Bruce Wilton
VP Membership & Chapter Development: Wendy Lamont
VP Music & Performance: Les Creek
VP Marketing & Public Relations: Gayle Wharton, Shirley Christie
Secretary: Larry Bredesen
Treasurer: Bruce Wilton
Chorus Manager: Chris Magas
Board Members at Large: Becki Ammeter, Herold Driedger, Ferryl Casselman

2021 Music Committee

VP Music & Performance: Les Creek
Chorus Directors: Sherrie Bredesen, Larry Hunter
Tenor Section: Becki Ammeter
Lead Section: Chris Magas
Baritone Section: Paul Bullock, John Latham
Bass Section: Larry Bredesen, Bruce Wilton
Performance & Staging: Gayle Wharton
Music Research: Duncan Zaluski
Sheet Music Librarian: Len Paluck
Learning Track Librarian: Duncan Zaluski

2021 Leadership Positions

Accountant: Gary Miles
Zoom Meeting Attendance: Wendy Lamont
In-person Meeting Attendance: Norm Silverberg
50/50: Norm Silverberg
Awards Banquet Chairs: Gary & Ricki Miles
Charities: vacant
Church Xmas Chorus: Bruce Wilton
Learn to Sing Program: Len Paluck, Wendy Lamont, Ferryl Casselman
Grey Cup Pool Chair: vacant
Historian: Gordon Billows
Notes 4 U Team: Mae Denby, Becki Ammeter
Refreshments: Norm Silverberg, John Latham, Len Paluck
Sing Canada Harmony: Gordon Billows
Sunshine: Brian Metcalfe
Wardrobe: Charlie Siegel
Website: Chris Magas
2022 Show Producer: Les Creek
2022 Show Chairman: vacant
Advocate for the Winnipeg Chapter: Gordon Billows