

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

BOTY Awards Dinner at Marigold on Fri. Oct 29 6:30 p.m.

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OCTOBER 20 2021

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HAVE YOUR SAY!

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

denby.mae@gmail.com



CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE

from Paul Bullock

Chorus Rehearsal Plans and Update

The prospect for doing live performances of our Christmas show on December 11 remains positive and just improved again this past week. The new information on updated public health orders (see below) means that it will be possible to sing at Prairie Spirit United Church without us having to wear masks! This is fantastic news and let's hope that it doesn't change.



Also, we don't need to push our chairs 2 meters apart at rehearsal. An arm's length will be enough to facilitate some physical movement and is not in violation of public health orders. It is the same when we rehearse on the risers. An arm's length will be enough to let us move physically, for example to do the choreo for "Man with the Bag". These changes will definitely improve our comfort level at rehearsals and help us both move and hear better.



You may have noticed that there is a lot of equipment to set up and take down at every rehearsal. Ken has been our main (or only!) riser person the past 2 weeks with help from Charlie, Chris and Len. Les and Len are spending a lot of time working with the sound system and setting up the air purifiers. There are several people who help set up and put away the chairs. Currently, this is all happening ad hoc. It would be better if we had people assigned to look after specific parts. Please consider if you are able to arrive a few minutes early to help set up or stay a few minutes after the final song to help put things away. If you are willing to help but are not sure where, just let Wendy know. She'll help to organize people.

We will continue to work on our Christmas show repertoire in the upcoming weeks. Any practice time that we can dedicate to these songs at home will help us iron out the kinks more quickly and put on a couple of great shows on December 11. It is wonderful to feel a sense of optimism at the prospect of performing again for the first time in 2 years.

Latest Update on Performing and Public Health Orders (Thanks Gayle and Larry B)

As of last week, the Public Health guidelines that apply to our chorus include the following sections:

"Indoor gatherings where admission is restricted to fully-vaccinated persons are not limited in capacity. No particular physical distancing rules are in effect. Although indoor mask use is usually required, musicians rehearsing in a space away from members of the public are allowed to remove their masks during rehearsals.

At this time, if a place of worship is being used as a venue for a concert or other performance event, (...) and the performers are in an area to which members of the public do not normally have access, such as on stage, the performers are not required to wear masks. If the performers are in an area to which members of the public have access, or are interacting with members of the audience, masks must be worn. Members of the audience are required to wear masks."



CHORUS REHEARSAL PLANS AND UPDATE (CONTINUED)

We are regaining our performance skills. We all heard Duncan’s comment about “Light One Candle”. It sounds like we are refreshing a song that we already know, even though it was introduced for the first time a few short weeks ago. It’s a similar story for “The Man with the Bag”. It was introduced during our zoom rehearsals last winter and then brought back this summer. We’re already adding choreography to it (thanks Gayle and Larry B). This coming week, we will start working through the Christmas show songs in the order of performance (thanks Sherrie for this great idea). This is amazing progress and a credit to Les’s rehearsal plan that has kept us on track and focused our learning on the repertoire that we need for our performances (thanks Les).

We still need to become accustomed to performing with a mask and will continue to spend some time on it each week. It will take diligence from everyone to ensure that we all enunciate our words clearly so that our audiences can hear the lyrics to our songs. With practice, we will master this skill as well and be fully prepared to deliver an excellent Christmas show.

Of course, we don’t yet know whether we will be able to do a live performance on December 11. But, we will be ready and, one way or the other, we will do a Christmas show for our patrons this year.

As we hear, every week:

(Norm Silverberg): “What is it?”

(Everyone, including Norm): “It’s great to be a barbershopper!”



Masks during rehearsals and performances

It is important to let everyone know that, even though masks are not required during rehearsals and performances, each person has the option to wear one if they choose to do so. Also note, that, if you decide to wear a mask, there are several options available. Gloria Moscovitz has compiled a list with information on where to find them and costs (thanks Gloria). If you are interested, let Larry Bredesen know and he can forward the information to you.

Quick Update from the House of Delegates Meeting at the District Convention (16 Oct 2021)

They reported 400+ registrants at the convention, which was more than some had thought.

The Delegates passed a motion that 50-year society members will no longer be required to pay District dues. (Side note; the Society had already implemented this policy, so the District wanted to follow that example.)

It is expected that the Leadership Training Academy in January 2022 will be virtual again this year due to venue restrictions on in-person gatherings.



HELPFUL TERMS FOR THE CHORUS TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH

From Gayle Wharton

DOWN THE TILES - FACING STRAGHT AHEAD

CHORUS POSITION - BEING IN YOUR PLACE WITH CORRECT POSTURE READY TO PERFORM

WINDOWS - THE SPACE CREATED BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLE IN FRONT OF YOU

BLOCK MOVES - THIS IS WHEN ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHORUS MOVE THE SAME WAY

SPLIT MOVES - WHEN THE CHORUS IS DIVIDED IN HALF TO PERFORM A MOVE SUCH AS A SPREAD AT END OF SONG

DOWNSTAGE - TOWARDS THE FRONT OF THE STAGE

STAGE RIGHT (CHORUS RIGHT) - IS THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE STAGE FOR A PERFORMER WHO IS STANDING

FACING THE AUDIENCE

STAGE LEFT (CHORUS LEFT) - SAME PLAN

PIVOT - TURNING ON THE BALL OF THE RIGHT FOOT TO THE RIGHT FOLLOWED BY THE LEFT FOOT

RESET - A SLIGHT CHANGE OF POSITION



CHOREOGRAPHY: HERE COMES THE MAN WITH THE BAG

From Gayle Wharton

PAGE 1 - No planned moves - two impromptu moves - one on "Hey" and "You will hear it all around"

Note: "Hey" - please don't cut off when sung even though we're doing a quick move.

PAGE 2 - "Ole' Mr. Kringle etc- Note: this is a blocked move meaning the chorus all moves in the same direction.

Pivot - Start with the right foot pivoting on the ball of your foot followed by the left foot. Continue through to end of Bar 12.

Bar 13 — Note: This is a (split) move meaning the chorus is divided in half. Chorus right - on "Everybody's Waitin' etc." Extend outside arm, with lots of energy, palms up.

Hold while Chorus left - copies to the left on "Man with the bag" -

All Release on - "Christmas" first ending - Slow release to fill the phrase. "He's got a sleigh full etc" - repeat the Pivot move till end of Bar 12. Release on "Christmas is comin' again"

PAGE 3 No planned moves till Bar 25 - Split chorus - "Everything you should" - Chorus right - addressing audience with outside arm, index finger that is more of a "reminder" than a "threat" feeling. Chorus left copy on "Extra special good"

No planned moves till Page 4 - Bar 35

PAGE 4 This section has a lighter tone to it, lets express it that way.

Chorus members from the front row will be (approximately 4) will take four steps forward (stay) then return to Chorus position on "Everybody's Waitin' for the man with the bag". Back by "Christmas is comin' again again"

Riser performers - stay tuned. There will be a couple moves and props for this section.

No Planned moves for "He's got a sleigh full etc." - Keep up the excitement with your own impromptu expressions.

Page 5 No Planned moves till "Everything you should, extra special good" - This is a Planned move for chorus interaction.

Wag index finger at your neighbour with however you wish, make it a big move.

PAGE 6 & 7 "Everybody's waitin', anticipation, theyre all congregatin" - This final section is still in the planning stages. We will get back to you as it comes together and okayed by our directors.

Please Note: Choreographed moves are always a work in progress and never written in stone.

Larry and I would like to thank you for patience while working together to enhance our performances.



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 20 2021

from Les Creek



This week we will start a different routine, in that we will focus on the Christmas show music in order.

We will have sectionals only when the directors believe they are needed, and will probably be on an individual song basis.

We expect to continue this regime for the next few weeks.

6:55 to 7:00 Greetings

7:00 to 7:30 Warmups and Craft

7:30 to 7:50 Choreography—Everybody’s Waiting for the Man

7:50 to 8:45 Chorus Rehearsal of Christmas Show Music (sectionals as needed – to be determined by directors)

- Jingle Bell Rock
- Everybody’s Waiting For The Man
- For The Longest Time
- I Saw Mommy Kissing
- Merry Christmas Darling
- Can You Feel The Love Tonight
- Bridge Over Troubled Water (interp)
- Light One Candle
- Silent Night
- Kneeling at the Manger
- O Holy Night
- Peace Peace

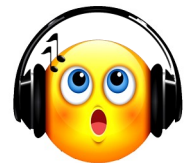


Off the page date: Oct 27

8:45 to 9:00 Break and Business Meeting

9:00 to 9:55 Chorus Review of Christmas Music (continued)

9:55 Wrap up and Final Song



Planned Upcoming Rehearsal Music (SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!!)

	New(er) Music	Repertoire Revie
Oct 27	White Cliffs of Dover	Christmas Show Songs in Order
Nov 3	White Cliffs of Dover	Christmas Show Songs in Order
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Commemoration	Christmas Show Songs in Order

WINNIPEG CHAPTER AWARDS

From Gordon Billows—Chapter Historian



Barbershopper of the Year Award (BOTY) —was originally called the Vern Leatherdale Trophy. Vern Leatherdale was the first WGC director and directed the chorus from 1948 to 1959. The BOTY award was first presented in 1955 to Charlie Brenan. The silver BOTY pin was presented at the same time. The original document describing the Vern Leatherdale award criteria has been preserved and is part of WGC archives. The criteria has changed over the years, but the intent to recognize the Barbershopper of the Year has remained.



QUARTET OF THE YEAR AWARD (QOTY) - originally called the J. J. Connor Quartet Achievement Award was established in 1963 to honour Winnipeg Chapter quartets. The award was presented to the quartet that had done the most performances during the past year. In 2005, the award was changed to a point system that considered not just the number of performances but the type of performances and quartet participation in chapter activities, Harmony College and chapter shows. Points are earned by participating in administrative and musical events at the local and district level - time commitment, for the good of the chapter, WGC and member improvement and event complexity will determine point allotment. The plaque was made by an inmate at Stoney Mountain Penitentiary in appreciation for the chorus entertaining there.



Past Presidents' Award — organization and award criteria established by Les Gurr and Claude Main in 1968 and first presented in 1970 to George Asgeirson by Doug Swain. The original award was hand carved by Jack Webster. The award recipient must not be a BOTY winner and must have a minimum of 5 years of continuous membership in the Winnipeg Chapter. The selection of winning candidate is made by Past Presidents who have won the BOTY Award. It is an occasional award not presented every year but only when the Past Presidents judge that there is someone who merits it.



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD - is to provide encouragement and reward to newer members (within 2 years of the date of the BOTY awards banquet) for exemplary service to our chapter. This award's point system takes in all aspects of participation in the chorus. This award was recommended by Morley Bernstein and criteria established at the 2004 Past Presidents' annual dinner.

WINNIPEG CHAPTER AWARDS

From Gordon Billows—Chapter Historian



Dorothy Casselman Lifetime Achievement Award (DCLA) -

established in 2002 in honour of Dorothy Casselman. Dorothy was very involved over the years with church choirs in Rivers, Brandon, Neepawa, Winnipeg and Oakbank, both singing and directing. Her husband's barbershop singing was a big part of her life and she became one of the chorus' greatest fans and supporters. Dorothy was also involved with the Oakbank Dinner theatre, singing, acting, doing make-up and helping back-stage. The Dorothy Casselman Award,

although similar to the BOTY, is there to recognize the long term supporters of the chapter. In other words, it is there, not to replace the BOTY, but to be in addition to it.



Attendance Award — was established in 1957. The first presentation of the Attendance Award was at the Christmas awards evening at the Grain Exchange Curling Rink on Dec 20th. Les Gurr was the first attendance award winner.



Golden Apple Award — is presented annually in recognition of outstanding support to the Winnipeg Chapter. This award was recommended and donated by Morley Bernstein and Earl Golden in 2012.



BITS AND PIECES

HUMOUR FROM 1948

From Gordon Billows—Wpg Chapter Historian



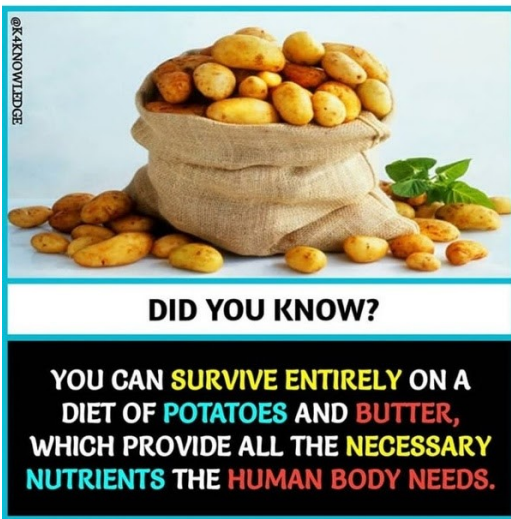
Free singing apps to make you a better vocalist

shared by Larry Hunter

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

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES


From Ricki Miles:



From Larry Bredesen:

From

I always carry a pebble with me to throw at people who sing Christmas songs in October. I call it my jingle bell rock.



From here and there



Get your relatives speaking to one another again by sending a heartfelt Christmas card with a picture of your family with an extra child nobody knows.

IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2021

~ October 2021 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <i>Happy Birthday John Latham</i>
3	4 <i>Happy Birthday Ken Finnbogason</i>	5	6 Music Cmte. Mtg 5:15 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	7	8	9
10	11 	12	13 Executive Mtg. 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Xmas Show Cmte. Time tbd	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. St. Andrew's	28 <i>Happy Birthday Doug Buffie</i>	29 BOTY Awrds Dinner Marigold	30
31 						

~ NOVEMBER 2021 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Music Cmte Mtg. 5:15	4 Happy Birthday Gerry Fontaine	5	6 Happy Birthday Art Gross
7	8	9	10 Executive meeting Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Happy Birthday Yvonne Applewhaite	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27 Happy Birthday Elaine Salter
28	29	30	29 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	30		



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 neces-



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

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