

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

October 6 Music Committee Meeting 5:15

October 13 Executive Committee Meeting. 5:30

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

Inside this issue:

OCTOBER 06 2021

Important Dates, Have Your Say	1
Chorus Rehearsal Plans & Update	2
2021 BOTY Awards Dinner - OCT. 29	3
Chorus Survey June 2021	4
Bits and pieces	5
You're as Welcome as the Flowers in May	6
Rehearsal Schedule	7
To Brighten Your Spirits . . .	8
Calendars - October & November	9
Editorial Page, 2021 Chapter Executive and Leadership	10

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



Our first indoor rehearsal at the church for more than 18 months seemed a bit surreal. The venue was the same (except for an invasion of toys from the daycare) but the changes with our entrance to the church, distancing the chairs, not having coffee and air purifiers running made it feel somewhat unfamiliar. Clearly, we will need some time to re-adjust ourselves to the church auditorium. Please let any of the executive members know if you have comments or concerns. Your feedback is welcome.

Our next step will be a return to the risers and becoming re-accustomed to following a director. The Music Committee will be meeting ahead of the rehearsal and there will be lots to discuss as we continue to work towards a December 11 Christmas Show. The show committee has met to start planning the details (thanks to everyone on the committee, especially to Chairperson Shirley and Producer Sherrie).

Ricki and Gary Miles are getting the BOTY arrangements made for October 29 (Details in this newsletter). Thanks so much. It was good to see all the hands that went up when we asked who would be attending. It will be a great evening.

Len Paluck will have Grey Cup pool tickets available for us to pick up this week. Again, it is great to see the return of this fund-raiser. Thanks Len, for taking this on. Let's hope the Bombers are back to defend their title!

Even though we still face uncertainty about changing circumstances in regards to the pandemic and the government and public response to it, we can take pride in how we have managed to move forward despite the challenges. I think we should expect that to continue because we have proved two very important things about ourselves. We love to sing and we are resilient. You couldn't find a better group of people than those in our chorus.



We're back! Bravo!!

See you Wednesday.



2021 BOTY AWARDS DINNER - OCT. 29

By Brian Metcalfe

For our new members, who may not be familiar with our BOTY (note the spelling) Awards Night, it is usually held in late October each year.

For as long as I have been a chorus member, our BOTY Awards Nights have been organized by Ricki and Gary Miles. Members and their spouses/partners/dates enjoyed drinks and dinner at the Marigold restaurant on Inkster. Throughout the evening, those seated together at tables competed to answer an innovative

quiz and to have fun creating and singing songs in a variety of interesting ways. At each annual BOTY Awards Night, deserving members are presented with trophies to acknowledge their contributions to our chorus while quartets and others demonstrated their harmonizing talents. The last award each evening is the prestigious **BOTY** award which is an acronym for “**B**arbershopper **O**f **T**he **Y**ear”.

With the challenges we have faced over the past 18 months, this year’s theme might be “Back Together Again” as we encourage fully vaccinated members and their “cheerleaders” to attend this special evening of comradery and celebration where we present awards to some very dedicated barbershoppers.

Details about this evening of celebration with our barbershop family are listed below:

- ◆ Date & Location: Friday, October 29 - Marigold Restaurant - 1245 Inkster Boulevard
- ◆ Time: Cocktails at 6:30 pm & Dinner at 7:00 pm
- ◆ Gary Miles will be selling tickets at our next rehearsal for \$25. Please pay by cheque, made payable to “River City Sound”, or with the exact cash amount.
- ◆ If you are unable to attend up-coming rehearsals to get tickets from Gary, please contact him in advance and make arrangements to pay & pick up your ticket(s) at the restaurant.
- ◆ **All individuals in attendance must be fully vaccinated** and be prepared to provide a Manitoba Immunization Record card with QR code or vaccination documentation on entering the restaurant.
- ◆ All individuals must wear a mask on entering the restaurant and walking to the bar or restrooms. Masks may be removed when seated at the tables.
- ◆ It has been suggested that since this is a special night, we should avoid wearing casual clothes but dress up to honour the award winners.
- ◆ Chris Magas has graciously agreed to once again MC the evening with his remarkable style.
- ◆ I am still looking for three volunteers to offer grace, give a toast to the members and a toast to the “cheerleaders”. Please contact me if you can assist in this manner. Thank you.

River City Sound
BOTY ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



Friday, October 29, 2021
Marigold Restaurant - 1245 Inkster Blvd.
Cocktails: 6:30 PM Dinner: 7:00 PM
Ticket price: \$25 - Fully vaccinated

Chorus Survey June 2021

By Wendy Lamont, Membership VP and Chapter Development

Hello everyone.

Thank you all once again for your comments on our last survey. Your feedback was recorded, a plan formulated on how best to address issues, relay them to the appropriate committees and develop a plan to implement them. It is important for you all to know that each and every one of your suggestions is considered seriously and acted upon, if at all possible. Here are a few examples:

Issue: Warm-ups – A suggestion was made for physical warm-ups during rehearsals while moving to the beat of recorded music. This is an excellent way to loosen up before the vocal warm-up.

Result: Gayle, our Choreographer, contacted Ferryl and myself to aid in this endeavor. Neither Ferryl nor I had any previous experience with this type of initiative so please have patience with us as we attempt to warm you up and also have fun in the process. Thank you Gayle and Larry Bredesen for your guidance.

Issue: Members' Skills Development - Members expressed appreciation for the theory classes, tag and woodshedding sessions by Sherrie, Larry H and Rob that were part of our Zoom rehearsals. It was suggested that these classes and workshops continue and other craft sessions could be added.

Result: We have only recently returned to in-person rehearsals, so the first priority will be preparing ourselves for performances again. We have both a Christmas show and an annual spring show coming up. Skill development sessions will resume once we are ready to perform and can dedicate rehearsal time to these classes.

Issue: Learning Music – Some members find it onerous when one section is having issues with a song and time is spent with that one section when others are listening but not participating.

Result: Some songs are more difficult for some sections than others. The music team will attempt to focus on the challenging parts of songs during sectionals so that unnecessary time isn't spent on them when we all come together.

Issue: Vocaloid audio tracks - A good-quality audio track is very important for members to learn their music.

Result: Les and his music team are working on the audio tracks to improve them where possible. A request came in to slow down tracks for ease of learning, which Les did. Members truly appreciated this, which makes learning easier for members.

Your input makes the Executive and Music team aware of the issues our members face. Please continue to send in your suggestions to myself, your President, Music VP, Co-Directors or Section Lead so that we can improve and offer a collective and fulfilling River City Sound experience. Every member deserves to be heard.



BITS AND PIECES



Below is a link to the LOL North Star Chorus (<http://www.northstarchorus.org/index.html>) show held a couple of weeks ago. Nice to see a few of our Barbershop friends performing already!

In addition to several chapter quartets, St Croix Crossing - International Senior Champion quartet perform their show set in this video. Enjoy!

Link: https://youtu.be/OAFhPKK62_U

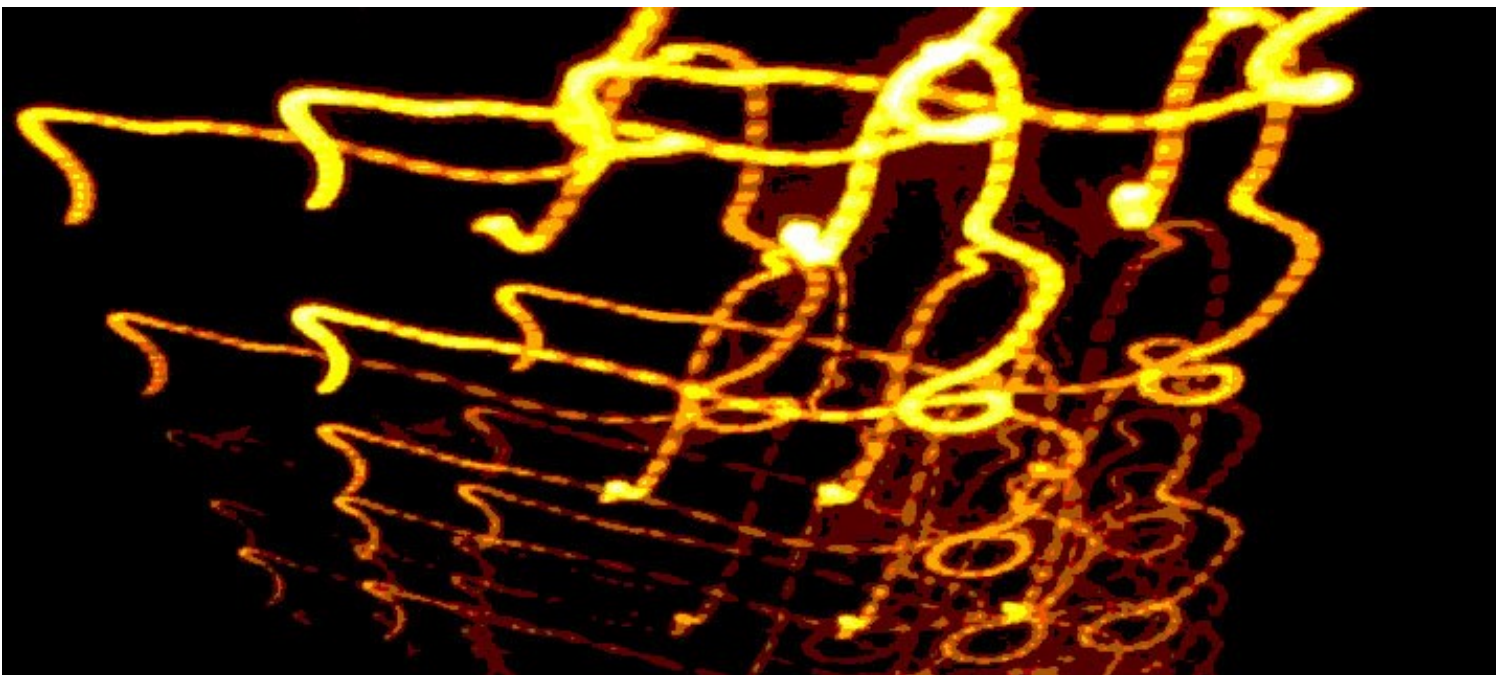
IH
Gordon



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:

<https://myvocalskills.com/8-free-singing-apps-that-make-you-a-better-vocalist>





YOU'RE AS WELCOME AS THE FLOWERS IN MAY

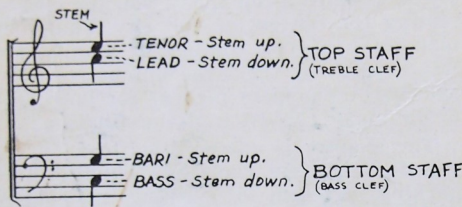
Gordon Billows - Wpg Chapter Historian

For centuries whenever people gathered they were frequently entertained by musicians playing various instruments and singing stories about current and past events. Some of those **songs** conveyed memorable messages and stirred the audiences emotions and were repeated by others, some of whom did not have musical instruments. Voila - a cappella singing!

Music Lessons For Beginners Only!

MUSIC LESSON NO. 1 (Kidding of course!)

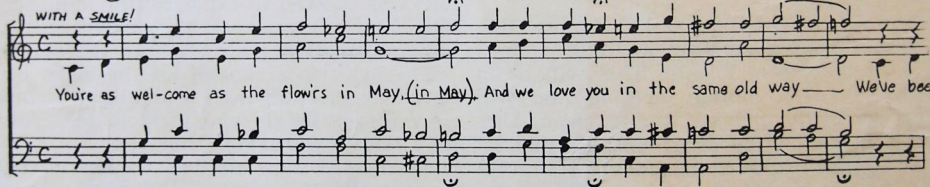
Learning to read music is easy. First thing to do is learn which of the little black specks is yours (see diagram below.) Then stick with it throughout the whole song.



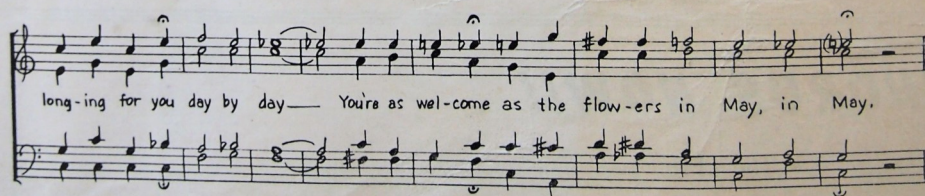
Some of these little black specks have a **hole** in 'em, which only means to **hold** the note a little longer. (You music-readers needn't laugh—this is serious business with us ignorant guys!) When you see one of these eye-shaped things above a note, that means to keep your **eye** on the director because he's going to have you hold the note longer than usual and wants to cut you off all at once. Below is our **guest welcome song**. Have somebody plunk your part on the piano for you.



YOU'RE AS WELCOME AS THE FLOWERS IN MAY



Basses — get up there on “way-ay-ay.” word — give the leads a chance to be heard. Baritones can afford to come out a little stronger. Now, on we go:



Hit “wel-come with a **hum-m-m-m!** in the last line it's **two distinct** syllables Watch the swipe on “day by day” — it's (for **two** notes). Last 3 words: sing “May- not the same as “flowers in May” in the **yin-n-n-n** May.” Be sure to get the nasal first line. Notice that in the first line **“n-n-n-n”** in there. “flow'rs is **one** syllable (for **one** note) — (To be continued)

In the late 1800 and early 1900's family and friends in the States often gathered together around pianos and sang some of the songs popular at the time. In barbershops, while waiting their turn, men harmonized and enjoyed “woodshedding” songs. Some of these men wanted more of this and soon agreed to meet at various times to enjoy the harmony that they experienced in the barbershops.

They welcomed new singers to their gatherings. In 1938, **O. C. Cash and Rupert Hall** invited 14 friends (26 others crashed the party) to an April 11th meeting in Tulsa to sing some of the old Vaudeville songs. A week later 70 showed up and soon chapters sprung up all across the country!

Since those early times, guests were welcomed to our Society chapters with a verse of a Dan J. Sullivan's 1902 song “You're as Welcome as the Flowers in May”.

This picture shows that this tune introduced to the Winnipeg Chapter members in 1948, however the lyrics were changed to “You're as welcome as the flow-ers in May. To S-P-E-B-S-Q-S-A. And we hope that you'll enjoy your stay. You're as wel-

come as the flowers in May!”

Here are a few other variations:

- “You're as welcome as the flowers in May. Come along and sing your cares away. Where good fellowship and song holds sway. You're as welcome as the flowers in May!”

- “You're as welcome as the flowers in May. And we hope that you enjoy your stay. Singing Barber-shop the Chordsmen way. You're as welcome as the flowers in May!”

When visiting Barbershop chapters over the years, I have heard many different Welcome songs. No matter what song is sung to the guests, there is no doubt that we are all welcomed as the Flowers in May.



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 6 2021

from Les Creek



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

6:55 to 7:00 Greetings

7:00 to 7:30 Warmups and Craft Session

7:30 to 8:00 Sectionals

Peace,Peace

For the Longest Time

Light One Candle

Silent Night

Section Leader choice (Christmas or Regular repertoire)



8:00 to 8:30 Chorus Rehearsal of Sectional Music Off the Page Date

Peace,Peace

Oct.27

Silent Night

Oct. 13

Director's Choice

8:30 to 8:45 Everybody's Waiting for the Man—Choreography

8:45 to 9:00 Break and Business; Meeting

9:00 to 9:55 Repertoire Review or other activity

Director's Choice



9:55 Wrap Up and Final Song

Planned Upcoming Rehearsal Music (Subject to change !!!)

New(er) Music

Oct. 13

Peace,Peace

For the Longest Time

Silent Night

Oct, 20

Peace,Peace

For the Longest Time

Light One Candle

Repertoire Review

Can You Feel the Love

I saw Mommy Kissing Santa

Christmas Repertoire

Bridge Over Troubled Water

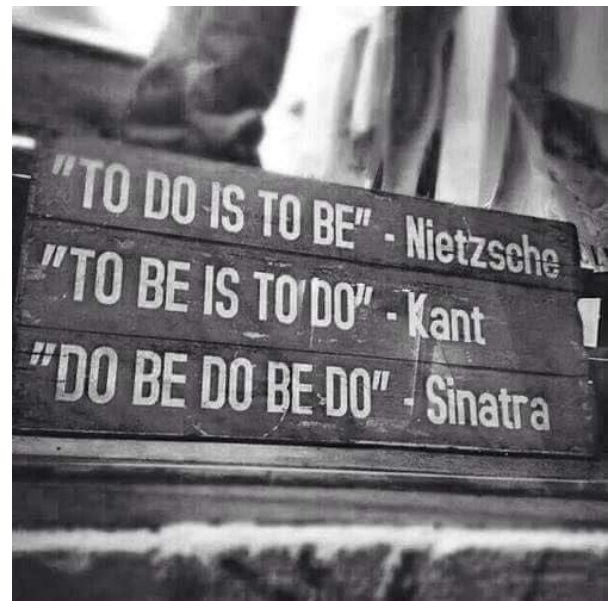
I saw Mommy Kissing Santa

Rhythm of Love

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

Garnered from here and there . . .

This Lady in walmart is staring @ me like she's never seen anyone put on deodorant and then put it back on the shelf.



I'm tired of people complaining about \$7 beers, \$10 parking and a \$20 cover charge. Don't like the prices, stop coming to my house

IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2021

Meetings, Rehearsals, Holidays and River City Sound Member Birthdays

~ 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. St. Andrew's	7	8	9
10	11 	12	13 Executive Mtg. 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. St. Andrew's	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Xmas Show Cmte. Time tbd Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	21	22	23
24	25 31 	26	27 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. St. Andrew's	28 <i>Happy Birthday Doug Buffie</i>	29 BOTY Awrds Dinner Marigold	30

~ NOVEMBER 2021 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Music Cmte Mtg. 5:15 Rehearsal 7:00	4 Happy Birthday Gerry Fontaine	5	6 Happy Birthday Art Gross
7	8	9	10 Executive meeting 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Happy Birthday Yvonne Applethwaite	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Happy Birthday Wendy Lamont	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		

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
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; Donna Paryniuk
Website: Chris Magas
2022 Show Producer: Les Creek
2022 Show Chairman: vacant
Advocate for the Winnipeg Chapter: Gordon Billows