

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Music Committee Meeting November 3 5:15 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting November 10 5:30 p.m.

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NOVEMBER 3 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

By Paul Bullock, President

We had an excellent in-person BOTY awards night. Congratulations to all the award recipients. The honor was well-deserved by everyone. Wendy Lamont – Rookie of the Year (presented via a recorded video from Krista Hanis-Gervais in Scotland, it was great to see her again and thanks to Brian for arranging it); Duncan Zaluski – Dorothy Casselman Lifetime Achievement Award; Sherrie Bredesen – Past Presidents' Award (the first female recipient and another glass ceiling shattered); Brian Metalfe – Barbershopper of the Year (only the third person who has received it twice). Chris Magas, again, was an outstanding MC. Ricki and Gary, again, made it fun for everyone while we engaged in a quiz and all felt like winners. Brian played our music videos during the program and displayed the photos that members submitted for the last video. All of our presenters did an excellent job. Gordon Billows took lots of photos. Everyone finished the evening on a high! Thanks all!!

We have settled comfortably into our indoor rehearsals. The placement of risers and chairs last Wednesday was good, so we know how we need to set up each week. We will soon be incorporating some tag singing plus we will have a special Remembrance Day segment on November 10. Of course, our Christmas song repertoire will continue to be our focus but we will add other activities to provide some variety and fun (remember the Monster Mash warm up last week).

We would like to resume having coffee at rehearsals but we need to make some changes to how it is done for hygienic purposes. We need to put out hand sanitizer and have just one person serve cookies to others with tongs. John, Norm and Len had been doing refreshments in the past but are now involved with all of the other set up for rehearsal, so we need some other people to do it. Are you able to help with a revamped coffee and cookie offering on Wednesday night? If so, please let Paul or Wendy know so we can organize it.

Keep working on the Christmas show repertoire. There are some songs for which we need to be more confident with the words and/or notes. We need this to be able to add a bit of choreo to "Man with the Bag" and to follow Sherrie's interp of "Bridge Over Troubled Water". Let's make sure the songs are ready for December 11. It's November next week, so it's coming fast.



FORMAL RATIFICATION OF 2022 EXECUTIVE

On November 17, a segment of the business meeting will deal with the chapter's ratification of the 2022 Executive. The list below will be presented to everyone at the meeting for approval. There will be a call for further nominations and, if needed, a vote for any contested positions will be conducted.

Our current list has vacancies for VP Marketing and Public Relations as well as Chorus Manager. It would be very good if we could fill these positions with further nominations prior to November 17.

There is a 2-week notification period required, so this is your **first official notice**.

River City Sound Slate of Candidates for 2022 Executive Positions

Rob Smith – President

Paul Bullock – Past President

Bruce Wilton – Treasurer

Shirley Christie – Secretary

Les Creek – VP Music and Performance

Wendy Lamont – VP Membership and Chapter Development

– Executive VP

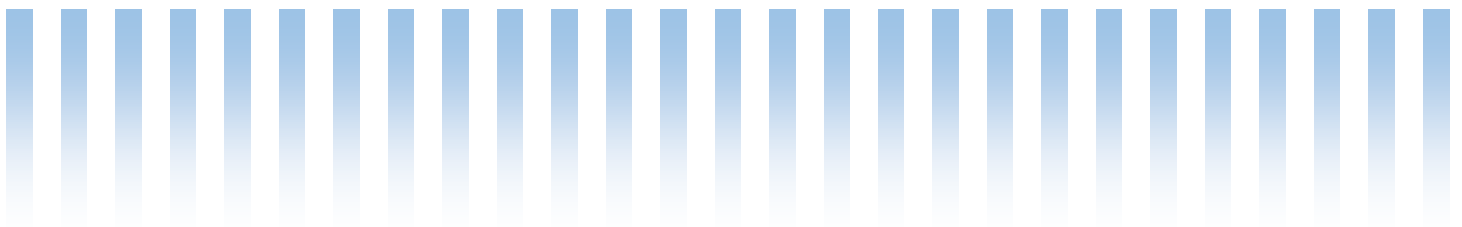
Vacant - VP Marketing and Public Relations

Vacant - Chorus Manager

Becki Ammeter – Member at Large

Herold Driedger – Member at Large

Ferryl Casselman – Member at Large



AN UPDATED CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS DOCUMENT

From Les Creek



A number of years ago, a document was circulated to the membership outlining some expectations in pursuit of an excellent chorus. Due to the various changes that we've undergone in the past few years, such as the inclusion of the ladies, the name change, the membership survey, and so on, it was felt that this document needed to be updated. The executive and music committee embarked upon that process and have created the new document, entitled "What You Can Expect as a Member of River City Sound". It is a document that will also be used to ensure prospective members are aware of the chorus structure and the desired interactions between chorus members.

Some of the results from Wendy's recent survey indicate that you, the members, want to perform more, and that you strive to be a better chorus. We believe that we all want to provide our audiences / customers / etc. with the best possible performance that we can deliver. To make this a reality, we all have to 'sing from the same song sheet' and have the same understanding of responsibilities and expectations.

We'd like to emphasize is that the chorus is you – the members – and that the expectations outlined in the document are really the expectations of you to, and from, the other members of the chorus.

You'll see that it is structured in 4 parts:

- **What will the chorus do for you**
- **What will you do for the chorus**
- **What can you expect from the chapter executive**
- **What can the chapter executive expect from you.**

There are a number of items under each of the headings, but the primary focus of the document is to assist every member in improving their singing skills, and as a result, in improving the offering produced by the chorus as a whole. Nothing in this document is meant to be a dis-incentive to anyone, rather an honest effort assist in your musical growth.

If you have any comments about the document, please feel free to discuss with any of the members of the executive committee. We look forward to your input, so we can continue on our journey in making River City Sound a chorus of excellence.

AN UPDATED CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS DOCUMENT (continued)

River City Sound is an a cappella chorus whose membership is open to all. We strive to offer musical development and performance opportunities to our members. We support other charities, such as St. Amant Centre, Candace House and Habitat for Humanity.

As a member or a prospective member of the chorus, the following is provided to ensure everyone has a similar understanding of expectations.

What will the chorus do for you?

The River City Sound chorus engages directors with many years of experience in not only directing, but in teaching and performing. These directors are available to answer questions that you may have regarding the music that we are rehearsing or performing. They are also available to assist you individually with singing techniques and with understanding the music.

Limited individual coaching and assistance will be provided by members of the music team. This may be provided by a director or by the section leader.

A series of optional music theory lessons may be made available from time to time during rehearsals to assist in expanding your music knowledge.

All sheet music and learning tracks are available to you for download from our website, as a member of the chorus. The music and learning tracks remain the property of the chorus. Accommodation will be made for chorus members that do not have download or printing capabilities.

The chorus will provide the opportunity to sing in 'pick up' quartet(s) from time to time to help develop your 'ear' and your ability to harmonize.

You will have the opportunity to sing in performances and competitions as they become available.

We will provide dates upon which we expect singers to know the music being presented, and to be 'off the page'.

Weekly, we will provide you with an outline of the next rehearsal, as a guide to assist in your practice sessions.

Chorus clothing may be loaned to you from time to time for use in performances and other chorus events.



AN UPDATED CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS DOCUMENT (continued)

What will you do for the chorus?

Learn the music and lyrics for each song by the date requested. We recognize that this may take some time as our repertoire is growing. Please ask for direction if you are unsure of the sequence of the music to be learned.

Recognize when you are having difficulty with a piece of music, and seek assistance in learning it.

Refrain from participating in performances and contests when you are not able to be fully 'off the page' with the music.

Accept coaching and assistance from music team members when offered. This is offered when it becomes evident that a member is having difficulty with some or all of the music. This is not a rebuke in any way, but an honest desire to help you understand the music and to excel at performing.

Attend rehearsals frequently and regularly. This is the most important activity in preparation for shows, performances or competitions. Attendance at rehearsals

4 weeks prior to an annual or Christmas show or competition is expected. For other performances, attendance at rehearsal 2 weeks prior to performance is expected. Should you be unable to attend rehearsal as outlined, your readiness to participate in the performance will be evaluated by the director(s).

Understand that the quality of a performance is of utmost importance to the chorus. If you are having a lot of difficulty, or if you have not been able to attend rehearsal frequently prior to the performance, recognize that you may be asked to skip that performance. This is not a rebuke in any way, but a means to ensure that only high quality performances are offered to our audiences.

Practice the music outside of rehearsal times. Rehearsals provide the opportunity to have all 4 parts learn to sing together; it greatly helps if you have a working knowledge of the music to be sung prior to rehearsal.

Learn and abide by the 'riser discipline' necessary to make rehearsals productive. This includes paying attention to the director when songs are being rehearsed; no talking when on the risers, as this disrupts others' concentration; being a 'good neighbour' to the members around you, and so on.

Should you decide to leave the chorus, all clothing, sheet music and learning tracks provided by the chorus will be returned in a usable condition.

What can you expect from the chapter executive?

Your chapter executive is elected by the membership to provide the best possible experience to you as a member, while ensuring the longevity of the chorus.

Clear communication of chapter initiatives, plans, obstacles, etc. that come to the attention of the executive committee.

Publication of chapter executive meeting dates and times. With the exception of any meetings, or portions of meetings, that deal with hired personnel matters, all members are invited to attend executive meetings and chapter committee meetings as observers.

AN UPDATED CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS DOCUMENT (continued)

What can the chapter executive expect from you?

The chapter executive hopes that you will notify them if you become aware of any issues or occurrences that could affect the well-being of the chorus.

Promote the chorus to your family and acquaintances. Should you become aware of a performance opportunity, please inform one of the executive members or the chorus manager as soon as practical.

Become aware of the governance structure of the chorus, and of the responsibilities of each of the committee members.

There is a surprisingly large number of tasks that need to be addressed each year, and with each performance. Your assistance with some of the tasks is greatly appreciated. Use this as an opportunity to learn a new skill



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>



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER 3 2021

from Les Creek



We now are 6 weeks away from our Christmas show, so that leaves us with 4 rehearsals to polish our repertoire and choreography. The 2 rehearsals in December are scheduled to be a show run-through (to iron out any kinks, test out sound system etc.), and the final rehearsal on Dec. 8 will be a dress rehearsal, with quartets, scripts, etc.

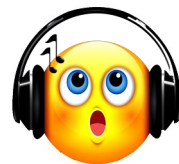
To date, we have not sung all of our chorus songs in order in a single rehearsal, so that will be our focus in the next few weeks. Let's make every effort to follow the rehearsal timelines as published.

- 6:55 to 7:00 Greetings
- 7:00 to 7:30 Warmups and Craft
- 7:30 to 7:50 Choreography
 - Every body's Waiting for the Man
- 7:50 to 8:45 Chorus Rehearsal of Christmas Show and Special Occasion Music

- White Cliffs of Dover
- Jingle Bell Rock
- Everybody's Waiting For The Man
- For The Longest Time
- I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa
- 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



- 8:45 to 9:00 Break and Business Meeting
- 9:00 to 9:30 Chorus Review of Christmas Music (continued)
- 9:30 to 9:55 Tags and 'Quartetting'
- 9:55 Wrap up and Final Song



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

	New(er) Music	Repertoire Review
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Commemoration	Christmas Show Songs in Order
Nov 17	Christmas Show Songs in Order	

BITS AND PIECES



CHRISTMAS SHOW WARDROBE

From Sherrie Bredesen

FIRST HALF: FESTIVE CHRISTMAS OUTFIT in combinations of mainly red, green, black and white. Make it colourful and fun! The variety will be very appealing to the audience and will set the stage for a fun first half.

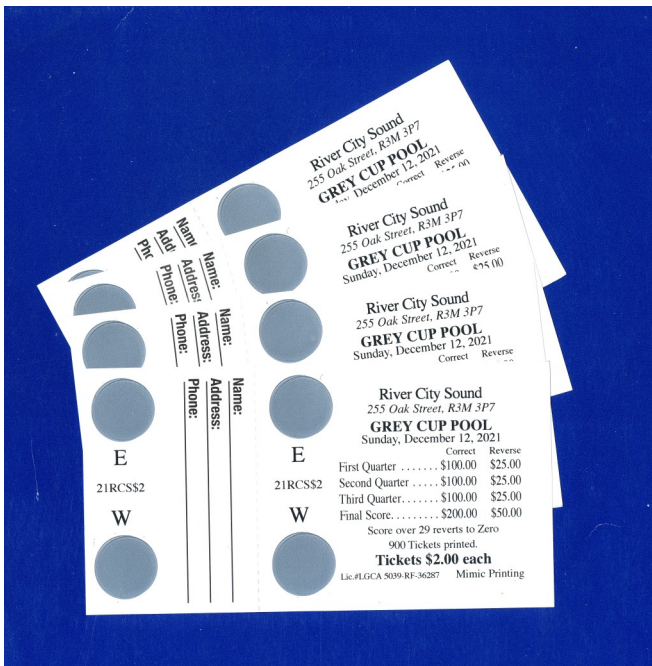
SECOND HALF:

MEN: Tuxedos with white shirt and long red tie.

See Charlie if you need something supplied.

WOMEN: Black skirt or dress pants, Black top, and red sequined scarf (see Sherrie if you do not have yours yet). The scarf is quite large and can be worn anyway you think looks best on you. The sequined scarf is a bit "scratchy" so you may want to keep this in mind when choosing a top to wear with it.

Note: If you are wearing a shorter skirt, please wear Black Pantyhose so that legs blend more with the overall look.



GREY CUP

Our RCS Football Fundraiser has 5 weeks to go!

One-third of these tickets are not yet taken out to be sold to your friends & relatives.

See Len at the ticket table every rehearsal.



GREETINGS FROM AFAR

Shared by Gordon Billows



Enjoy this Halloween treat from our friends down in Florida.

Barbershop at its SPOOKY BEST!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoC4jclIZAk>



RIVER CITY SOUND—WINNIPEG CHAPTER AWARDS

“BACK TOGETHER AGAIN”

Friday, October 29, 2021

By Gordon Billows

Barbershopper of the Year—Brian Metcalfe

Dorothy Casselman Lifetime Achievement Award—Duncan Zaluski

Rookie of the Year Award—Wendy Lamont

Past President’s Award—Sherrie Bredesen

Attendance Award—Gordon Billows, Wendy Lamont, Brian Metcalfe, Les Creek, Garry Miles, Paul Bullock, Len Paluck

MC—Chris Magas



TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Ricki Miles:



DID YOU KNOW?

BANANA IS A HAPPY FRUIT. EATING JUST ONE CAN HELP YOU RELIEVE IRRITABLE EMOTIONS, ANGER OR DEPRESSION.

DID YOU KNOW?

A TIGER'S TONGUE IS SO ROUGH, IT CAN LICK THE PAINT OFF BUILDINGS AND STRIP THE SKIN FROM THE BONES OF AN ANIMAL.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE NSF ESTIMATED THAT OUR BRAINS PRODUCE AS MANY AS 12,000 TO 50,000 THOUGHTS PER DAY DEPENDING ON HOW DEEP A THINKER YOU ARE.

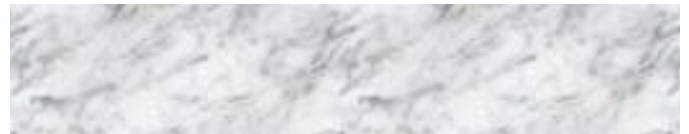
BE GRATEFUL THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH CHOCOLATE YOU EAT, YOUR EARRINGS WILL STILL FIT



KITCHENFUNWITHMY3SONS.COM

I don't mean to be a grinch however.... to those of you who are placing Christmas lights/ decorations in your yards, would you please avoid anything that has Red or Blue flashing lights together? Every time I come around the corner, I think it's the police and I have a panic attack. I have to brake hard, toss my wine out the window, fasten my seat belt, throw my phone on the floor, turn my radio down, and push the gun under the seat. All while trying to drive.

It's just too much drama, even for Christmas. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. 🌲



The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.
- Pablo Picasso



IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2021

~ 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 Exec. Mtg 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal 7:00P.M. Happy Birthday Yvonne Applewhaite	11	12	13 Happy Birthday
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 Hannukah begins	29	30				

~ December 2021 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Music Cmte. Mtg 5:15 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	2	3	4
5	6 Final Day of Hannukah	7	8 Executive Mtg. 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11 Christmas Shows 2:30 & 7:00
12	13	14	15 t.b.d.	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 t.b.d.	23	24	25
26 Kwanzaa begins Happy Birthday Ferryl Casselman	27	28	29 t.b.d.	30	31	



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: Len Paluck,