

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR
MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 5
EXEC COMMITTEE JANUARY 12
CHRISTMAS SHOW COMMITTEE JANUARY 19

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JANUARY 12 2022

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CORRECT 2022 ZOOM LINK

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457343549?pwd=ZGJmeUIJTXI5Nnp1Ly9sNGQxYkxPUT09>

Deadline for contributions to Notes 4 U is noon Saturday. Please send your information to Mae at Denby.mae@gmail.com to have it included

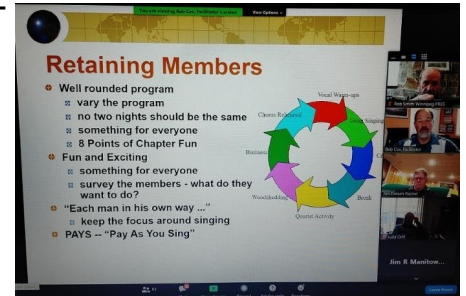



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

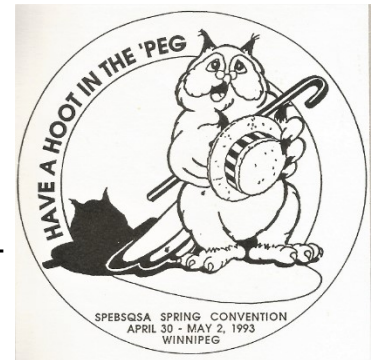
BY ROB SMITH

Reflections on Zoom Leadership Academy

Today (Saturday) several of us from River City Sound attended Leadership Academy by Zoom. There were 68 participants in the President's breakout room. There were also breakout rooms for secretaries and treasurers. The facilitator, Bob Cox, from Oregon was excellent and well prepared. The slides he used can be downloaded from a link in Jay Althof's Jan 1st monthly audio email. There were presidents and other chapter executive from across the district including Regina and Lakehead. Lots of participant input and questions. It was recorded so you can still watch it (I think through the district website).



How different it is to participate in a leadership Academy by computer from my own home. About 30 years ago I had been appointed secretary for the 1993 LOL Spring convention in Winnipeg: Have a Hoot in the Peg. The owl logo was drawn by Cliff Harris, Andrea's father. The training session, COTS (Chapter Officer Training Session) as it was then called, was held in Bloomington MN. Instead of a couple of hours in front of my computer it was in effect a 3 day event, driving there much of Friday, classes on Saturday and home Sunday. Terry Carmichael, Mike Cook and I went together in Terry's car. It was before the days of GPS navigation and none of us had been there before. On Friday, it was dark by the time we neared Minneapolis on Interstate 494, an elevated limited access high speed multi-lane road. We had a street map but no interior light in the car and no flashlight. We could see the Thunderbird Hotel about one block south but had no idea what exit to take. The Mall of America was only a couple of blocks away. It must have taken us over an hour before we could find how to get there. We went back and forth on I-494 searching for the right exit. Once we arrived, it was a wonderful experience of camaraderie, singing tags in the halls and stair wells, bending an elbow and even learning some important things in the sessions.



Today's Leadership Academy was certainly a lot easier to get to. However, I do miss some of the fun times when we could cross the border and make new singing friends without Covid testing isolation and all of today's complications. Maybe someday we will get back to some of that.

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>

GETTING TO KNOW ... ROB SMITH

As I once again take on the presidency of the Winnipeg Barbershop Chapter, I realize that I have not yet shared my life's journey, as I wasn't involved with the chapter during the 2 times that Brian has previously solicited member autobiographies.

I was born in Winnipeg and lived on the family market garden in St. Vital but traveled extensively in my early years. My father was a British naval officer and my mother went by train to New York, San Francisco, Vancouver, etc. to try and see him when his ship was in port. In 1945, mother took us to dad's home in Scotland. After 17 months we returned to Canada in 1946. I have some memories of the times in Scotland and the ocean crossings, both times in British aircraft carriers.



In school I was quite studious, played some sports but was too shy to participate in theatre or choral activities. As a teenager I was in sea cadets, was a counselor in a youth camp, worked at a sawmill, drove a gravel truck, did construction, and worked 2 summers on the railway. I was active in church youth groups. I sang in church choir, but was not bold enough to join the chapel choir at United College. In my first year at United, I dated Marg for a few months and started going out with her again about 3 years later, when I was in first year Theology. I received my B.A. at United College and intended to become a United Church minister. However, after a summer experience as a student minister in a small town in Saskatchewan, I changed directions and accepted employment with what was then called Department of Welfare. After a year, I was offered financial support to return to university to take Social Work.



Rob & Marg's Engagement

By that time, in 1965, I had married Marg and I returned to university that fall. I graduated with my MSW in 1967, but in return for the financial support, I had to accept employment after graduating, where the provincial department wanted me. In April 1967, I drove to The Pas with my Jaguar trailing our boat while pregnant Marg remained in Winnipeg to complete her 4th year of teaching. Heather and Paul were born in The Pas and we adopted 7-year-old Peggy.

After 2 years in The Pas, I was invited to transfer to Thompson where I became supervisor for a very large region, including the city of Thompson, Gillam, Churchill, many First Nations fly-in communities, and the scatter of communities along the Bay Line. Programs included social assistance, child welfare, probation, employment counseling, adoption, and community health.

After 3 stressful years in Thompson, where I was away from home for much of each month, I accepted a transfer to Ashern. My responsibilities there included Child Welfare and Community Development. After a year I became the team leader of a multi-disciplinary team. In 1974, I transferred to the Department of Agriculture as a Rural Development

Counselor. I was involved in this exciting work for 4 years until a change of government priorities. It was

GETTING TO KNOW ... ROB SMITH—(Continued)

also during this time we started keeping cattle. All my holidays and spare time were occupied with haying, fencing, feeding cattle and assisting with calving. We purchased 3 more quarter sections of land and leased several others. It was a very busy time, but our kids helped, even from quite a young age and in return got 4H calves. If life wasn't busy enough, I was also a volunteer fireman and a member of the church board. In 1977, our daughter Peggy died at age 16. In 1979 our youngest daughter, Edie, was born in Winnipeg following a treacherous ambulance trip through an April blizzard. I followed the ambulance after going home to feed the cows. In 1982 I was recruited to become a seconded supervisor and trainer for the newly organized Anishinaabe Child and Family Services. At that time, it included 9 First Nations. It was a challenging and exciting time. I worked closely with Murray Sinclair who was legal counsel for ACFS.

In 1988 we moved to St. Vital as Marg went back to university and I commuted to Selkirk and Stonewall. During part of this time I was Regional Coordinator for Child and Family Services for the Interlake Region. In 1991, I was transferred to a new project CFSIS to computerize all the records for Child and Family agencies in the province. I was very much involved in designing the data structure, user interface and security, testing before each release, public relations and training with the agencies including First Nations Agencies. I retired from the provincial government at the end of 1998 after almost 35 years.



Beehives

We had kept some bee hives since 1977 and we expanded the numbers during retirement. In 2003, Marg and I moved to St. Andrews to increase our beekeeping. Although we had summer students for many years, we recruited 2 experienced beekeepers from the Philippines as temporary Foreign Workers. We eventually got up to 640 hives a few years ago. We have now scaled back to about 130 hives.

In 2011 I was diagnosed with cancer. For the next year I experienced surgery, chemo and radiation. Thankfully, now, 10 years later I have been cancer free.

My Musical Life

When I was about 6 my mother enrolled me in piano lessons. After about a year she discontinued that on our doctor's advice as I was a "nervous child" and stressed by the pressure.

My first memory of singing publicly was when a children's choir my mother directed sang live on CBC early one Sunday morning maybe about 1949. It embarrassed me when one of my friends said he could hear my voice. I didn't want to be publicly exposed.

I was introduced to harmony singing with my mother playing the piano and my aunt and uncle singing harmony parts.

Throughout my life, I have sung in church choirs in St Vital, The Pas and Thompson. The Ashern church was too small to have a choir but, at my cousin's invitation, I sang in annual concerts and musicals in Eriksdale. In 1983 I sang a solo in the great Northern Interlake Festival of the Arts and for the next few years I sang barbershop style with several men from the Ashern area.

When we moved to Winnipeg in 1988, I immediately sought out the Golden Chordsmen Chorus. For several years, we had traveled from Ashern to attend the annual concerts. I didn't know about falsetto when singing barbershop in Ashern so just sang the tenor part in full voice. I knew most of the Polecat songs. When I auditioned in Winnipeg, I was told it was OK, but if the lead went flat I was supposed to tune and follow him down, not just keep singing the notes in the original pitch. I was recruited to a quartet almost immediately and sang in several over the years.

GETTING TO KNOW ... ROB SMITH—(Continued)

t was recruited by Mystique in 1997. The next year it transitioned into Harlequin BSQ when Paul joined. Herold, Larry, Paul and I have been together ever since.

Over the years, I have had several executive positions in the chapter.

In 1993 I was Secretary for the district convention held in Winnipeg and subsequently, Chapter Secretary. I was Music & Performance VP for a few years, BOTY winner in 1995, and President in 2000.

In 1995 I experienced a rather different musical adventure. Marg, Edie, our 16 year old daughter, and I traveled through several European countries with the Manitoba Sacred Music Choir. I think we sang about 13 concerts in 17 days as we traveled by bus through Holland, Belgium, France, Germany Switzerland, and Italy. One of the highlights was singing Ave Verum outside St. Peter's Basilica.

In recent years, I joined some other choral groups and took a break from the Winnipeg Chapter.



Harlequin - Rob Smith, Larry Hunter, Herold Driedger & Paul Bullock



Rob & Marg's 50th Wedding Anniversary

I re-joined over a year ago when Covid became an issue for other groups. I have been impressed with the ways the leadership found to continue singing.

Marg and I have been married for over 56 years. We have 3 surviving children, 10 grand-children and the 3rd great grandchild is on the way. We have worked together on many things, including cattle farm, bees, 20 years leadership in United Marriage Encounter and mentoring many student employees and beginning beekeepers.

Over the years, we have done considerable travel in addition to our choral European trip in 1995. We have been to all 3 Canadian coasts a few times; our last trip to Churchill was by train in 2019. We have been to Scotland to visit relatives a few times. Our favourite winter vacation spot is Cuba but it is almost 2 years since we were last there. Maybe, this winter?

For now, we still live on our rural property, but plan to return to city life in about a year and a half.

I look forward to once again being part of the leadership of River City Sound.



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - JANUARY 12 2022



from Les Creek

6:55 to 7:05

Greetings

7:05 to 7:25

Warmups

7:30

New(er) Music

7:35 to 8:05

Sectional Breakout



Do You Hear The People Sing

Rhythm of Love

Dream Lover

8:05 to 8:20

Chorus Review

Do You Hear The People Sing – mix

Rhythm of Love

Dream Lover

8:20 to 8:45 Repertoire Review

Imagine

Hello MaryLou



8:45 to 8:55 Business Meeting

8:55 Final Song Keep The Whole World Singing

9:00 to 9:15 Afterglow and Music Team review (in tenor room)

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

	New(er) Music	Repertoire Review
Jan 19	Rhythm of Love	The Lord's My Shepherd
	Do You Hear the People Sing	Beach Boys Medley
		Let There Be Peace On Earth
Jan 26	Dream Lover	Beach Boys Medley
	Daydream	Under the Boardwalk
	Rhythm of Love	O Canada

GOLDEN NOTES

By Gordon Billows – Wpg Chapter Historian

Winnipeg Chapter Annual Show Quartets



This article is a part (**2000—2019 Winnipeg Quartets**) of my Chapter Historian project listing details of the Winnipeg Chapter Annual Show Quartets from 1949 to 2021. Other parts of this historical project will appear in upcoming Notes 4 U. This project includes details of quartets or groups from Winnipeg/Canada and the United States. My computer files contain scanned pictures of each quartet and the “hard copies” are being organized in binders. If anyone finds any errors, omissions or wants a picture of any quartet, contact Gordon Billows.

Quartet name—year(s) on annual show—quartet members (Tenor, Lead, Bass, Baritone):

Kindachords – 2000 – Grant Smith, Dennis Owens, Bruce Wilton, Norv Christopherson

Harlequin/Brothers in Harmony – 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 – Rob Smith, Paul Bullock, Herold Driedger, Larry Hunter

Conchords – 2000 – Jack Byzuk, Morley Bernstein, Martin Gurvey, Ted Greenhalgh

Soundsation – 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 – Wayne Stengel, Terry Reagh, Ted Mikliechuk, Earl Golden

Unfourgetable – 2001 – Grant Smith, Bernie Gunn, Bruce Wilton, Norv Christopherson

Four the Moment – 2001 – Bob Shawcross, Morley Bernstein, Martin Gurvey, Kevin Robertson

Phat Chants – 2001 – Art Gross, Garrett Johnson, Jim de Graff, George Duseigne

Heartfelt Harmony – 2002 – Duncan Zaluski, Geoff Taylor, Bruce Wilton, Ted Greenhalgh

Vocal Point – 2004, 2005, 2012, 2013, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 – Art Gross, Charlie Siegel, Bruce Wilton, Harold Casselman

Soundsation – 2004, 2005 – Jack Byzuk, Terry Reagh, Ted Mikliechuk, Bob Shawcross

One Bass Short – 2005 – Paul Smith, Terry Freeland, Garrett Johnson, Wayne Carrier

Soundsation – 2006, 2007 – Jack Byzuk, Terry Reagh, Charles Kiefling, Bob Shawcross

Four Olde Times Sake – 2006, 2007, 2008 – Rob Smith, Geoff Taylor, Herold Driedger, Ted Greenhalgh

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS

From Brian Metcalfe

5 Riddles...

RIDDLE 5 IS AMAZING. IT SHARPENS THOSE GENES IN YOUR BRAIN AND STALLS ALZHEIMER'S FOR YEARS

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?
2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?
3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away ?
4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?
5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!



Answers:

1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?
2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry.
3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.
4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!
5. The letter "e" which is the most common letter used in the English language, does not appear even once in the paragraph.








IMPORTANT DATES 4 U - JANUARY –FEBRUARY 2022

~ JANUARY 2022 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Happy Birthday Chris Magas	3	4 Happy Birthday Shirley Christie	5 Music Cmte Meeting Rehearsal 7:00	6	7 Happy Birthday Charles Siegel	1/8
9	10	11	12 Exec Cmte Meeting Rehearsal 7:00	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Christmas Show Committee 5:45 Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	20	21 Happy Birthday Gordon Billows	22
23	24	25	26 Happy Birthday Les Creek	27 Becki Ammeter	28	29
30	31		Reearsal 7:00 p.m.			

~ February 2022~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Happy Birthday Brian Strong	2 Rehearsal 7:00	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Rehearsal 7:00	10	11	12
13	14 	15	16 Rehearsal 7:00	17 Happy Birthday David Petrie	18	19
20	21	22	23 Rehearsal 7:00	24	25	26 Happy Birthday Rob Smith
27	28					
						



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-



2022 Chapter Executive

President: Rob Smith

Executive VP: Wendy Lamont

Past President: Paul Bullock

VP Membership & Chapter Development: Wendy Lamont

VP Music & Performance: Les Creek

VP Marketing & Public Relations: Gayle Wharton

Secretary: Shirley Christie

Treasurer: Bruce Wilton

Chorus Manager: vacant

Board Members at Large: Becki Ammeter, Herold Driedger, Ferryl Casselman

2021 Music Committee (not yet updated)

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 (not yet updated)

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,