

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

November 30 Music Committee 530  
Sunday Rehearsals Nov. 27 & Dec. 4 7:00 p.m.  
St. Andrews UC Auditorium 255 Oak St.

Dec. 10 Christmas Show: Celebrate the Magic  
2:30 & 7:00 Prairie Spirit

Dec 14—Christmas Show Wind-up (regular rehearsal time)

**Inside this issue**

**NOVEMBER 30 2022**

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**Deadline for contributions to Notes 4 U is noon Saturday.**

Please send your information to Mae at

[Denby.Mae@gmail.com](mailto:Denby.Mae@gmail.com)

to have it included.

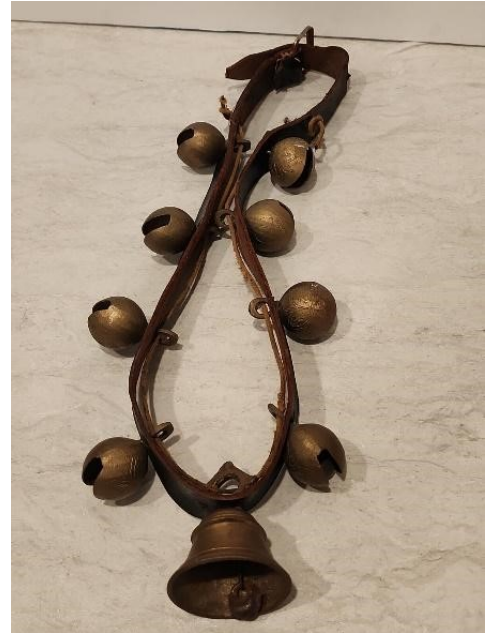


# PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's musings Nov 26th, 2022

"Like bells in the distance" Last evening Paul told me that Polar Express was playing on CTV. As it had already started, I found it on the Edmonton channel and saved it on our PVR. Later last evening Marg & I watched it. I had never seen it before. I assume many of you have but for the few who haven't it is the story of a young adolescent boy who no longer believes in Santa. As he is trying to go to sleep on Christmas eve, he hears a steam train pull up in front of his rural house and reluctantly boards it, joining a number of other children. The Polar Express is headed for the north pole, of course to see Santa. The digital images are quite impressive as are the many adventures they experience. The background music track has little bits of "Believe" and some of the lyrics are sung as the closing credits roll. For a children's animated movie, it is quite emotional. I can understand why Herold chose it as one of our show pieces. It certainly fits the show theme "Celebrate the Magic". If you have a chance to see it, or see it again it will really get you into the mind frame for our show which is only 2 weeks away (2 Sunday practices & 2 Wednesday show run throughs). Gosh, that close? Rob



## 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>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BE A SINGER BRINGER!  
WHOM WILL YOU INVITE  
TO THE NEXT REHEARSAL?**

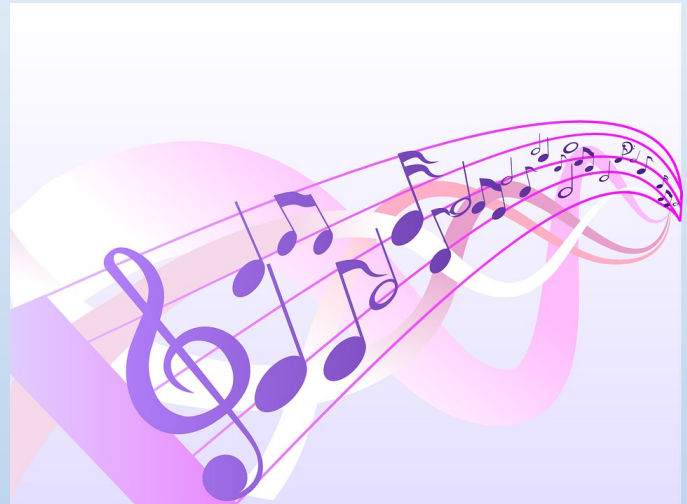
(Mention our Covid mandates to guests –  
vax!)



**From Les Creek:**

**Our next music committee meeting re-  
scheduled from Dec 7th, will be held**

**November 30th 5:30 p.m.**



**TWO (2!!!) Rehearsal Schedules in this issue!!!**



## RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE

Hopefully, everyone is doing well selling raffle tickets. Remember to tell potential customers that every dollar goes to Backpacks 4 Hope. That resonates with some people and may help with your sales.

At the rehearsals this week (Nov 27, Nov 30, Dec 4), you can turn in the ticket stubs and money you have collected. The stubs and the money should be in an envelope together. The money can be either cash or a cheque made out to River City Sound.

ALL TICKET BOOKS (sold, unsold, partially sold) must be turned in to me by DEC 7. I will need to have unsold raffle tickets organized and ready for sale at our show on Dec 10. If you can turn in the money for the tickets on Dec 7 as well, that will be helpful so that I'm not chasing you down through the holidays. (Worse, I can unleash Wendy on you for money collection and you don't want that!)

The raffle prizes will be on display in the foyer of Prairie Spirit United Church on Dec 10th. We hope that will draw attention to the raffle and spur last minute ticket sales. But please do your best to sell as many tickets beforehand as possible. It would be wonderful if all tickets were sold before Dec 10 and there were none left to sell at the show.

The draw will occur at our windup on Dec 14 (more info on the windup below). We will have a representative from Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education (the organization running Backpacks 4 Hope) who will join us that evening. We will draw for the prizes and present a cheque to the representative. We'll take lots of photos so that we can use them for future promotion.

Thanks everyone for your efforts to make this a successful and bountiful fund-raiser.

### CHRISTMAS SHOW WINDUP

Wed, Dec 14, 7:00 p.m.

St. Andrews Church auditorium

- The windup will be in lieu of our regular rehearsal on Dec 14
- Everyone is welcome including Learn to Sing Better participants (whether or not you sang at the show), spouses, significant others
- Setup will be tables with chairs around them
- It will be a time to visit, review the Christmas show, do some casual singing for fun
- Coffee and tea (perhaps some soft drinks) will be available
- If you are inclined, bring along a snack to share
- The draw for raffle prizes is scheduled for 9:00 p.m.

Raffle proceeds will be presented to a representative from Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education

- The windup will be very relaxed, fun and a great way to decompress after all of the hard work everyone has put into the Christmas show
- Come on out and enjoy!

Paul and Shirley

# MESSAGE

## From Les Creek

A Thank You note for our LTSB program participants:

Welcome to week 7 of the Learn To Sing (Better / Barbershop / Beautifully / Brilliantly / etc) program. It has been such a joy to have all of you join us for these past weeks. You have shared your interest in music and your desire to learn about music with us all, and it helps us remember why we joined in the first place! Your participation makes us sound better!

I know that it is quite daunting to think about the number of pieces that people need to learn if they want to become a fully participating member of the chorus. And we have heard from past participants that it is challenging, so we are embarking on a graduated learning process for all who wish to continue singing with us, in that you work on a few pieces at a time, become comfortable with them, then work on a few more pieces, and so on, without any pressure to learn large amounts of music quickly. It takes time, and everyone learns at their own pace. Duncan and Paul both deserve a lot of gratitude for developing this graduated process.

After the new year we will be working on our existing basic repertoire (which you LTSB folks haven't seen), and starting to work on pieces for the Spring Show in May, so the graduated learning process will select music from these two groups. Some of our basic repertoire songs include Dream Lover, Can You Feel the Love Tonight, Best of Doo Wop, Yesterday, Rhythm of Love, Unchained Melody and Bridge Over Troubled Water, to give you an idea of some of the music you can learn in the future. In addition, we'll be starting to learn some completely new pieces, such as Roy Orbison's Pretty Woman.

In closing, I hope that you have found the program helpful, and that you will take some new musical knowledge with you. It goes without saying that we'd be really happy for you to continue singing with us, but that isn't the primary purpose of the program. That purpose is to help you expand your knowledge of music and singing, and that music will continue to be a joy to you throughout your life.

Best wishes to you all.

Les





# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 2022

From Les Creek

6:55 to 7:05	Physical warmup
7:05 to 7:20	Vocal warmup
7:20 to 7:50	Choreo review
	Happy Holidays
	Slow Rocking Christmas
	Lost in the Stars
7:50 to 8:05	VLQ Audition
8:05 to 8:55	Chorus Rehearsal
	Lost in the Stars
	Everybody's Waiting for the Man
	Little Saint Nick
	Believe
	O Holy Night
	Halleluyah
	Let There Be Peace on Earth
	Slow Rockin' Christmas
	Light One Candle
	8:55 Wrap up and Final Song
	Let There Be Peace on Earth



Hi all:

We've had a busy singing season since September and we're coming down to the December 10th concerts' wire. We've had to schedule two Sunday rehearsals to make up for some of the lost Christmas show rehearsal time. Thank you for all of the work you have been doing on your own to get ready for this Christmas show. This Sunday, November 27th, will be a "directors get to say" rehearsal. Plan on going through all the chorus show songs and be prepared to work on them. We will likely do the same on Wednesday, November 30th with the LTSB singers present.

The last two rehearsals December 4th and 7th will be "dress" rehearsals. This means going through the show with script introductions as well as singing all the chorus songs. Quartets and the ladies ensemble will need to know how they will be introduced and how to plan on making their way to the mics in front of the chorus. They may or may not choose to sing their songs. The LTSB singers will find out when they need to come on stage and join our chorus. The "dress" in these rehearsals does NOT apply to wardrobe. These rehearsals are strictly dealing with the mechanics of the show. If changes need to be made to the script to facilitate better transitions or provide more time for movement...they will be made and tested again the following rehearsal. We only have two chances to perfect this before the 10th .

Thanks again,

see you on Sunday, 7:00 pm at St. Andrews - Herold





# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 2022

From Les Creek

6:55 to 7:05 Physical warmup  
 7:05 to 7:55 LTSB Program – week 7  
 7:05 to 7:20 Vocal warmup  
 7:20 to 7:55 Chorus rehearsal  
     Entering and exiting the risers  
     Joy to the World  
     The First Noel  
     Light One Candle



7:55 to 8:20 Choreo review  
     Happy Holidays  
     Lost in the Stars  
     Slow Rockin Christmas

8:20 to 8:40 Break and Business Meeting  
 8:40 to 9:55 Chorus Rehearsal  
     Halleluyah  
     Happy Holidays  
     Little Saint Nick  
     Everybody’s Waiting for the Man  
     Little Saint Nick  
     Slow Rockin’ Christmas  
     Lost in the Stars  
     Believe  
     Let There Be Peace on Earth  
     O Holy Night  
     Peace Peace



9:55 Wrap up and Final Song  
     Irish Blessing

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

Nov 27 (Sunday 7pm)		Christmas Show set list
	VLQ Audition	
Nov 30	LTSB – week 7	Christmas Show set List
Dec 4 (Sunday 7 pm)		Christmas Show set list
Dec 7	Christmas show dress rehearsal	
Dec 9	Christmas show set up at Prairie Spirit	
Dec10	Christmas show – schedule to be determined.	

# CHRISTMAS SHOW SET LIST

From Herold Driedger



## CELEBRATE THE MAGIC

Saturday, December 10th, 2022 2:30 PM and 7 PM

Prairie Spirit United Church, 207 Thompson, Winnipeg, MB

### Chorus

HALLELUYA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

LITTLE SAINT NICK

EVERYBODY'S WAITIN' FOR THE MAN WITH THE BAG

SLOW ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS

LOST IN THE STARS

BELIEVE

JOY TO THE WORLD (LTSB)

THE FIRST NOEL (LTSB)

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

O HOLY NIGHT

### Quartets (plus)

*Harlequin* WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES AROUND

*Honeycomb* HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

*River City Sisters* CANDY CANE LANE

*Honeycomb* BIG BAND SANTA

*Harlequin* DIDDLEY SQUAT

*Leather 'n Lace* I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

*Harlequin* DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

*Leather 'n Lace* WHO IS THIS TINY CHILD?





# CHOREO REMINDERS

From Gayle Wharton

## EVERYBODY'S WAITIN`FOR THE MAN WITH THE BAG

Hi chorus.

I am so pleased to see most of you remembered many of the visual moves we did in this song last Christmas and you all look like you're having fun. Hope it's true.

New: page 4 bar 34. "Once more" The men with the Santa hats put them on ready for "ol' Mister Kringle is soon gon-na jingle" etc. Santa Hats stay on till end of song. The plan at the moment is that they will be passed around during Honeycomb's Big Band Santa. Ask Chris to show you how his hat ended up on his head. Looked great so please don't mess around with your hats to try and straighten them out.

Ladies. Some will have the little bells we used last year. Anyone remember how/when we handed them out?

The bells will be tinkled from

bar 35 and stopped at the end of 37 away away.

At the end of song when men are tossing Santa hats - Ring those bells even while applause is being accepted.

NOTE: there are no planned moves in verse 2.

If anyone needs any clarification please contact me to save time before Wed rehearsal.

Hoping to try this out on Sunday.

Thanks

Gayle.



## HAPPY HOLIDAY

You You You - bottom page 2

With one or two hands create a Holiday Greetings to our audience. You can do all three "you" greetings or just one, or two. It's up to you individually but these moves have to have a lot of energy to make them look authentic and Happy.

Ending- starts following the "to you" Bar 73.

1) Bass section - Happy Holiday

2) Bari and Tenor - Holiday

3) Leads - Holiday

These moves are the same hand gestures wishing as before Happy Holiday greetings to our audience.

Once your hands are up belt high, leave them up till the leads hands are in position then we will all do a small re-set to finish the song.

# TICKETS: TIPS & TRICKS

by Brian Metcalfe

This year's "Celebrate the Magic Christmas show is less than two weeks away. **The deadline for all tickets sales is Wednesday, Dec.7th.** At this rehearsal, all ticket revenue (which we hope is large) and any returned tickets (which we hope are small) must be turned into Brian Metcalfe in an **envelope** together with a **cheque(s) made payable to "River City Sound"**. Brian would appreciate that each person provide him with an envelope containing: your name, the number of tickets received, the number of ticket sold, and the number of tickets returned (if any). Indicate the sales total value on the outside of the envelope and, if possible, convert all cash sales to a personal cheque which you enclose on the inside. Believe me, with all the tasks that need to be accomplished at this last rehearsal before our show, Brian will appreciate your support in this way.



\*\*\*\*\*

## NO UN-PAID SHOW TICKETS WILL BE HELD IN RESERVE AT THE DOOR

If a chorus member wishes to reserve a ticket for a patron, and the patron is not able to pick up and pay for the ticket before hand, the chorus member must purchase the ticket out of his/her own pocket and pay Brian Metcalfe as noted above. Such a "reserved & paid ticket" should be placed in an envelope. Please PRINT the following details on the outside of the envelope:

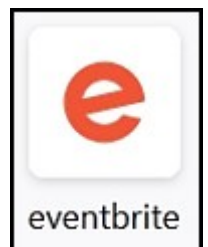
1. the patron's name;
2. the ticket seller's name;
3. the number of tickets and performance (AFT or EVE); and
4. the words "PAID TICKETS".

Advise patrons that they can pick up their paid ticket from the volunteers at the "NEED TICKETS" table. **This "paid ticket" envelope should be given to Brian on or before December 7th.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## EVENTBRITE ONLINE TICKETS

If you know patrons, who have purchased online tickets through Eventbrite, please ask them to show their printed Eventbrite ticket to the volunteers at the "HAVE TICKETS" table at the front door of the church. Take care & keep smiling :-)



# DONATION REMINDER: SING CANADA

From Gordon Billows



Hi, Everyone,

“It’s that time of year.” These are the opening lyrics of the well-loved “Christmas Waltz”. They are words that remind us that we are rapidly approaching the deadline to qualify for income tax credits for 2022. There are a number of Winnipeg members that might want to make their Ambassador of Song (\$120/yr) or their President’s Council level (\$1000/yr) donation in the next few weeks, so they can take advantage of this income tax credit and continue their support for Sing Canada Harmony.

In a few past years, we have had up to 16 members at the Ambassador of Song level and 4 President’s Council members in a year. Their donations made it possible for Sing Canada Harmony to provide scholarships for many Canadian individuals, school, and community groups requesting financial assistance for educational and training opportunities in singing vocal music performance, vocal music leadership, vocal music administration and vocal music composition, arrangement, adjudication and staging. Our Winnipeg Chapter has received over \$17,000 in Sing Canada Harmony scholarship awards since 2011 – your donations do make a difference!

If you are in a position to make any size of charitable donation, I would ask you to please consider donating to Sing Canada Harmony as soon as possible and before the end of December.

Please go to <https://singcanadaharmony.ca/donate-now/> for information about donating online or by mail. Winnipeg members may also donate by giving Gordon Billows (MB SCH Representative) their cheque made out to the Sing Canada Harmony Scholarship Fund and he will process it.

On behalf of Sing Canada Harmony, thanks in advance for your continued support. For information about Sing Canada Harmony’s donation, scholarship or legacy programs, contact me or go to our website <https://singcanadaharmony.ca/>

In harmony,

Gordon Billows

Sing Canada Harmony

# TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Larry Bredesen



**“Harmony is when you find two notes that love one another.”**

From Becki Ammeter



From here and there.









Why Are Poinsettias the Christmas Flower?

Native to Mexico, the plant is called Flor de la Noche Buena (Flower of the Holy Night) due to its resemblance to the Star of Bethlehem.

In their native region of southern Mexico, poinsettias flower during the winter season. It's a perennial shrub that was once considered a weed and will grow 10 to 15 feet tall in the wild. The Aztecs used the poinsettia bracts to make a reddish-purple dye for fabrics and used the sap medicinally to control fevers. The colored "flowers" are actually specialized leaves called bracts, while the true flowers are inconspicuous beads found in the center of the bracts.

According to Mexican lore, there was a young child, Pepita, who did not have a gift for the baby Jesus at a Christmas Eve service. She was very poor so all she could do was pick a bouquet of weeds to offer. The angels felt compassion for her plight. So, after Pepita set the flowers at the crèche of the nativity on Christmas Eve, the angels transformed the weeds into beautiful red flowers. This is why red and green are the colors of Christmas today.

~ November 2022~													
Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday					
1		2		3		4		5					
		Music Committee 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55											
6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
				Exec. Committee 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55									
13		14		15		16		17		18		19	
				Christmas Show Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55		Happy Birthday Wendy Lamont				Choralfest 9:00 a.m.			
20		21		22		23		24		25		26	
						Rehearsal 6:55							
27		28		29		30							
<b>Rehearsal 7:00</b>						Music mte. 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55							

~ December 2022~													
Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
								1		2		3	
4		5		6		7		8		9		10	
Rehearsal 7:00						Rehearsal 6:55				Happy Birthday Karen Janzen		CELEBRATE THE MAGIC 2:30 & 7:00	
11		12		13		14		15		16		17	
						Christmas Windup 7:00 pm St/Andrews							
18		19		20		21		22		23		24	
HOLIDAY WEEK													
	26	Hanukka ends	27		28		29		30		31 		
		Happy Birthday Ferryl Casselman											

# 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](http://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.



## 2023 Chapter Executive

**President:** Rob Smith  
**Executive VP:** Wendy Lamont  
**Past President:** Paul Bullock  
**VP Membership & Chapter Development:** Rosanne Labossiere-Gee  
**VP Music & Performance:** Les Creek  
**VP Marketing & Public Relations:** Becki Ammeter  
**Secretary:** Shirley Christie  
**Treasurer:** Paul Bullock  
**Chorus Manager:** Len Paluck  
**Board Members at Large:** Herold Driedger, Ferryl Casselman

## 2022 Music Committee

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

## 2022 Leadership Positions

**Accountant:** Gary Miles  
**In-person Meeting Attendance:** Norm Silverberg  
**50/50:** Norm Silverberg  
**Awards Banquet Chairs:** Gary & Ricki Miles  
**Charities:** Bruce Wilton  
**Church Xmas Chorus:** Bruce Wilton  
**Learn to Sing Better Program:** Len Paluck, Wendy Lamont, Ferryl Casselman  
**Grey Cup Pool Chair:** Rob Smith  
**Historian:** Gordon Billows  
**Notes 4 U Team:** Mae Denby, Becki Ammeter  
**Refreshments:** Norm Silverberg, John Latham, Len Paluck  
**Sing Canada Harmony:** Gordon Billows  
**Sunshine:** Charlie Siegel  
**Wardrobe:** Charlie Siegel; Ferryl Casselman  
**Website:** (update and maintain) Chris Magas  
**2022 Christmas Show Co-chairs:**  
Paul Bullock & Shirley Christie  
**LOL District Chapter Advocate:** Gordon Billows  
**Historian Assistant:** Vacant