

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

Seine River Retirement February 3 2:00 p.m.

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**JANUARY 18 2023**

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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.

*Thanks!*




# PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's musings Jan 14, 2023

First, I think I have good news. After a very tense Executive Meeting on Wednesday, we were left with uncertainties regarding the Director contract situation. It was a difficult meeting for everyone involved and no doubt stressful for chorus members. I have since heard that things are moving in a positive direction and within days, will likely be fully resolved with both directors continuing with us for this contract year.

Now for a different kind of reflection. Many of you know that Marg and I plan to sell our rural acreage and move to our city house, hopefully mid summer. I have been very busy preparing the house, fixing all the things I have long planned to do but now I have a deadline. The house is a 4 level split and the lowest level (basement) was largely unfinished. The plan is to drywall the office, hall and workshop area and to install flooring over the concrete. If you have ever watched a UTube video of a professional mudding drywall they are so quick and efficient. That is not me. I plod along trying to get things straight and smooth but it seems to take me forever. Eventually I do get things looking pretty good.

Sometimes learning music seems to be like that. The professionals read right off the page and get it mostly right the first time. The ease with which they learn new music is amazing. Folks like me and no doubt many of you, need many repetitions to get close. Sometimes when we think we have it right, we get a surprise. During sectional rehearsal last Wednesday, we were singing Unchained Melody to a learning track recorded by Harlequin last year. Someone pointed out that a few of the notes sung were different from what was printed on the page. Oops! That was me. I'm sure I have sung it that way for most of our 25 years together and took it for granted I knew it. I probably had the music in front of me when we made the recording and still got it wrong. Herold has an often-repeated expression "practice makes permanent". I know it is going to be challenging for me to correct those few notes after singing it that way for so long. One of the good things about sectional rehearsals is that they help us find such problems and hopefully correct them. I wish you well in finding and correcting any such alternate notes you may have in your singing.

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>

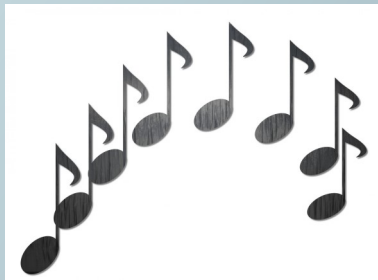
# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

(Mention our Covid mandates to guests – vax!)

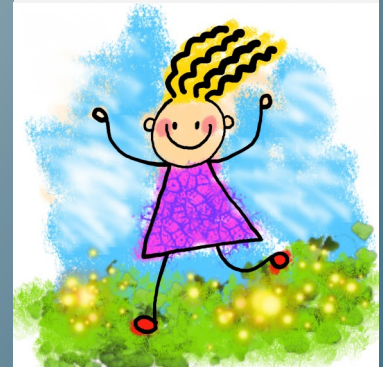
**SPRING CLEANING—EVERY 75 YEARS!**

**Good luck, Gordon! See you on the other side of the mountain!**



**FAVOURITE SONG?  
DO TELL!**

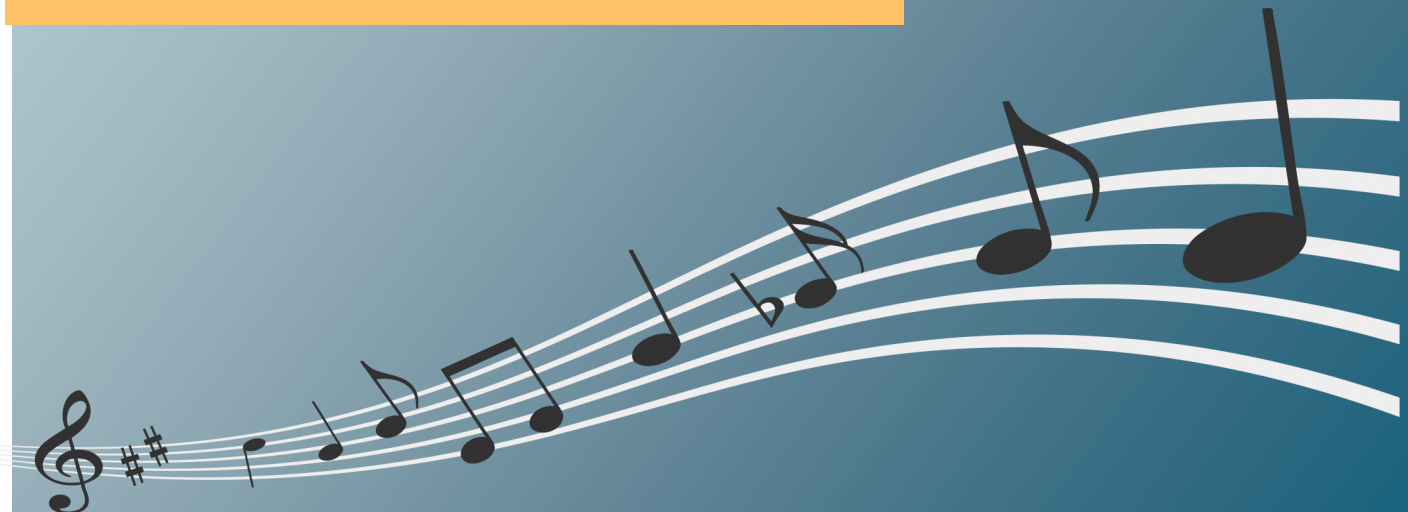
**New song !**



**PROJECT TAG75**

**GET CREATIVE! STRUT YOUR STUFF!**

**FUN!**



# MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

A little retrospection....

This week I received the videos from the Christmas show (the delay was a bit of a comedy of errors...). We put on a really good show! And the quality of the video and audio was so good that there is very little editing required. I hope to start soon adding some of the song videos to our private Youtube channel, and I encourage you to watch them.

For those of you who aren't aware, we've finally been able to develop a process that will allow chorus members to view our various videos, but not allow sharing or downloading of them, as the chorus needs to control the use of our images. So we have created a private Youtube channel, and it can be made available to all our members. The process to gain access is:

1. A gmail email address - like johndoe@gmail.com - is required. This is a requirement since Youtube is owned by Google, who also own gmail, and they use the address to verify that you are allowed into the channel. If you don't have a gmail address, they are free and easy to get. Check google for instructions on creating one.
2. Once you have a gmail address, send it to me with a request for access. Youtube will send you an invitation to join the channel, that you MUST accept. Without it, you cannot see the videos.
3. I'll send an email to you at your gmail address with links to the approved, available videos, which you can watch as many times as you like. You will have to follow the links in the email that I send.

We hope to be able to use these videos for promotional and marketing purposes as we continue to seek more performances.

Speaking of performances, we had our first of the year at The Boulton this past Tuesday. I think we acquitted ourselves quite well, given that we'd had only 1 rehearsal, and that there were only 14 of us available. All in all, it went quite well, (it would have been better if I'd had the correct keys on the TV slides for a couple of them...), and we had a lot of great comments from the audience. It did reinforce though that we do need to continue to brush up on our regular repertoire, so we will be focussing on that for the next couple of weeks, especially some of the harder pieces like Rhythm, and 500 Miles, and Bridge. Our next scheduled performance is February 3rd at the Seine River Residences on St. Anne's Rd at 2 pm.

And things are starting to fall into place for our 75th anniversary show in May. Mae is working diligently on concept, song selection and script, with the assistance of our directors and others, so we hope to soon be able to start work on new or resurrected music for the show. Since we will have the guest quartet, St. Croix Crossing, the number of pieces that the chorus will sing will probably be fewer than for the past couple of shows, but this has yet to be determined.

In the past Notes 4 You, I've commented on all that we have accomplished this past year; it was impressive, and it was all due to each and every one of you. It was the collaboration, communication, and the shared skills of everyone in the chorus that made it all happen. We are a great team that gets stuff done. Thank you all.





# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE JANUARY 18 2023

## From Les Creek



6:55 to 7:05 Physical warmup  
 7:05 to 7:20 Vocal warmup  
 7:20 to 7:45 Sectionals (to assist LTSB members)

Pretty Woman – intro only  
 Yesterday  
 Daydream

7:45 to 8:30 Repertoire Review

Can You Feel the Love  
 Unchained  
 Stand By Me  
 Daydream  
 Beach Boys / Dream Lover  
 I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)  
 Bridge Over Troubled Water  
 Imagine  
 Yesterday  
 Rhythm of Love



8:30 to 8:50 Break and Business Meeting – installation of officers  
 8:50 to 9:55 Repertoire Review (continued)  
 9:55 Wrap up and Final Song  
 Keep the Whole World Singing

### Planned Upcoming Rehearsals and Events (SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!!)

	New Music	Sectionals	Repertoire Review
Jan 25	Pretty Woman	Pretty Woman Daydream Yesterday	Daydream Yesterday Stand By Me Rhythm of Love Bridge Beach Boys / Dream Lover

**Feb 3 2:00 Performance at Seine River Retirement**

**Promoting the English Ukrainian Bilingual Program since 1980**



Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education Inc.  
929 Main Street  
Winnipeg, MB R2W 3P2  
Phone: (204) 942 5405  
email: mpueinc@mpue.ca  
website: www.mpue.ca  
Registered Charity number:  
Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education Inc.  
Батьківський Комітет Сприяння Українській Мові в Манітобі  
Association Manitoibaine pour L'Education Ukrainienne Inc.

December 29, 2022

River City Sound Inc.  
c/o 375 Stafford Street  
Winnipeg, MB. R3M 3W4

Good day to all the Members of River City Sound,

Thank you for reaching out to Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education (MPUE). Thank you for your generous donation that came from your raffle sales this December. We are so grateful for community members such as yourselves with such generous offerings. Thank you; we continue to supply students in need of backpacks and supplies for the children in our communities and this donation will assist us to purchase more backpacks and supplies and continue this work. The donation from River City Sound will make a huge impact for Ukrainian newcomer children as they set off to begin school in Canada.

We have assembled and distributed nearly 1300 backpacks since our Backpack4Hope initiative began this spring. We have more work to do! More students continue to register and MPUE will continue to fulfill backpacks for newcomer students as we are able to. We cannot thank our community members enough for support, without this support we wouldn't be able to continue this very important program.

More information on the MPUE Backpack4Hope program may be found on our website at [mpue.ca/backpack](http://mpue.ca/backpack) or by checking out our Facebook [@mpue.ca](https://www.facebook.com/mpue.ca) with the hashtag #MPUEBackpack4Hope

Many thanks,

Karen Johnston, Vice President External  
MPUE Backpack 4Hope  
(H) (204) 482-9377

**ffiliate EUBP Schools** The Osvita Foundation Inc. Chief Peguis Middle School East Selkirk Middle School Smith-Jackson School Dzvin Publishers Inc. Prince Edward School Happy Thought School Mackenzie Middle School Oak Bank Elementary School R.F. Morrison School Ralph Brown School

Springfield Middle School H.C. Avery School

# PROJECT TAG75

In celebration of our 75th anniversary of harmonizing together, the Music Committee offers a unique creative opportunity, open to Chorus members and Alumni:

All are invited, individually or with others, to WRITE the lyrics for A TAG honouring the occasion.

1. Go to [barbershoptags.com](http://barbershoptags.com) (or another tag website - there are many! Just Google!).
2. Search, listen, watch. Find a tag that 'works' for you and your singing partners for this purpose {read on!}; download the sheet music.
3. Develop lyrics that celebrate RCS's 75th anniversary.
4. Write your RCS lyrics under/adjacent to the notation

You can stop there and **submit** - details tbd

**OR**

5. Find four people to perform it, including yourself or not; record a video of it on your phone; **submit** along with the notation and lyrics.

Your reward: seeing/hearing it come to life!



***Have fun!***

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

From A "Notes 4 U" Contributor



*"In family life, love is the oil that eases friction, the cement that binds closer together, and the music that brings harmony." – Friedrich Nietzsche*

# CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF HARMONY

## Reclaiming My Computer Room—Good Luck, Eh!

Gordon Billows—Wpg Chapter Historian

For the past few years as the Chapter Historian, about 1/3 of my computer room has been piled high (and I mean **high**) with boxes of our “history”. As this is our 75th Anniversary, I have started to prepare for a display at our annual show and that means collecting some materials that will illustrate some of our rich history of “harmony”. Some of the boxes/plastic bins were from our storeroom at the church and then there were some boxes that were given to me by various families of departed members. I should mention that I also “inherited” a few boxes of the Winnipeg Sweet Adeline Chapter. There was always a very close connection with them and our histories were quite intertwined. I just could not refuse any of these “personal collections” of memorabilia, pictures and history. What treasures, in my mind at least!

Our Winnipeg Chapter officially started in 1948, but the information found in those boxes contained our unofficial Chapter history that started a few years earlier. It has been so very interesting piecing all that history together and I have learned so much! Many of my Notes 4 U articles have given you a small glimpse into our Chapter’s past. One of my objectives for this year is to get all this history material organized, catalogued, and returned to the church storeroom and available for “interested” members to access. So far, there is one storage bin (black with yellow lid) with a collection of all the annual show posters since 1949 (our first annual show) and another similar bin with collections of all the show programs and rosters (chronological order perhaps). Some of the posters were used for a display a while back when the LTSB program started. I have 1 set of show programs and rosters at home that I use for referencing every so often—like this past week finding the years that guest Brian Blakley was a member of the Winnipeg Chapter (1999 to 2005) and his email address. I will bring the 2000—2003 history binder for him to see in the upcoming rehearsals.

There were 11 large history binders (in various states of disrepair) full of pictures, articles, posters, programs for **almost** every year from 1948 to 2003, then nothing! My “job” was to COMPLETE those albums (to the present time) and make sure, that for every year, there was at least the annual show program information (member and quartet pictures/write ups, executive/show committee/member listings, show songs, award winners, special events, etc) plus any other interesting things with our Chapter and District that would give some history of each year. In the new legal size binders (2004—2023), I was able to get much of these details from collections of annual show programs, rosters, posters, and boxes of more “recent” Chapter information. Plans for this year include going through digital copies of about 20 years of Notes 4 U, executive minutes, over 2000 picture files on my computer and memory sticks to glean interesting tidbits for the new binders so our yearly history provides good information for anyone who looks at them in the future. All these files are destined for “storage” and access on our Chapter website or where ever one stores things nowadays (except not on my personal computer and computer room). I say that, but how easy will it be to “release” all these treasures! It’s like learning to say “No”!

I was just looking at the 25th (Len Lavoie—Pres) and 50th (Larry Hunter—Pres) Anniversary years in our history binders and now we are **Celebrating 75 Years of Harmony!** Surely, this will trigger a grand article in the newspapers, declarations by our Mayor, Premier, LOL District, and our Barbershop Harmony Society—all the fanfare that this historical event deserves! Let’s **CELEBRATE!**



# TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

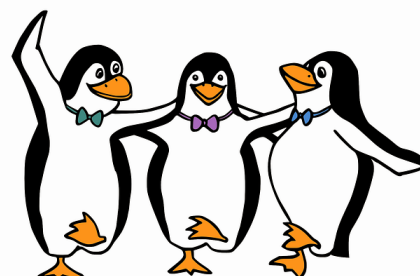


From Gordon Billows

I forgot my cat outside.  
I am too scared to let him in now.



This may be my last post



**CAUTION**

Exposure to music:

May cause sudden outbursts of joy, happiness, energy, creativity, awareness, increased talent, extreme amounts of FUN.

**OR SING**

PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK!



From Gordon Billows

**THE REASON PEOPLE SAY VINYL SOUNDS BETTER**

ATLANTIC


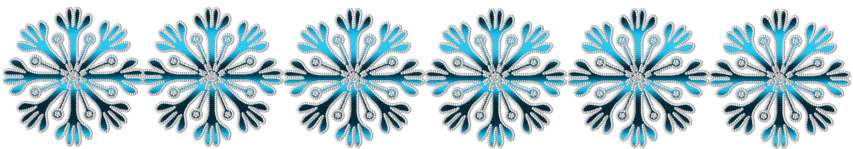
LED ZEPPELIN  
HOUSES OF THE HOLY  
*Led Zep blends and more*

STEREO TWO





1. DANCING QUEENS  
2. DYER MAHER LA JOL  
3. NO QUARTER MUSIC

**IS BECAUSE THE MUSIC WAS BETTER**

~ January 2023 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 Happy Birthday Chris Magas	3	Happy Birthday Shirley Christie MUSIC cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	5	6	7 Happy Birthday Charlie Siegel
8	9	10	11 Exec.cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Rehearsal 6:55	19	20	21 Happy Birthday Gordon Billows
22	23	24	25 Rehearsal 6:55	26 Happy Birthday Les Creek	27 Happy Birthday Becki Ammeter	28
29	30	31				

~ February 2023 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Happy Birthday Brian Strong Music Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	2	3 Seine River Retirement	4
5	6	7	8 Exec Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15 Rehearsal 6:55	16	17	18
19	20 	21	22 Rehearsal 6:55	23	24	25
26 Happy Birthday Rob Smith	27	28				

# 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,

## 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

## 2023 Leadership Positions

**Accountant:** Gary Miles  
**In-person Meeting Attendance:** Norm Silverberg  
**50/50:** Norm Silverberg  
**Awards Banquet Chairs:** Gary & Ricki Miles  
**Learn to Sing Better Program:** Wendy Lamont  
**Grey Cup Pool Chair:** Rob Smith  
**Historian:** Gordon Billows  
**Notes 4 U Team:** Mae Denby, Becki Ammeter  
**Refreshments:** **Need Volunteer**  
**Sing Canada Harmony:** Gordon Billows  
**Sunshine:** Charlie Siegel  
**Wardrobe:** Charlie Siegel  
**Women's Wardrobe Committee:** Becki, Gayle, Sherrie, Wendy  
**Website:** (update and maintain) Chris Magas  
**Spring Show Producer:** Mae Denby  
**Spring Show Chairperson:** **Need Volunteer**  
**Spring Show Vice-Chair:** **Need Volunteer**  
**LOL District Chapter Advocate:** Gordon Billows  
**Historian Assistant:** **Need Volunteer**