

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

January 10—Performance at The Boulton
January 11 Exec Cmte 5:30

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JANUARY 11 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 to have it Included.

Thanks!

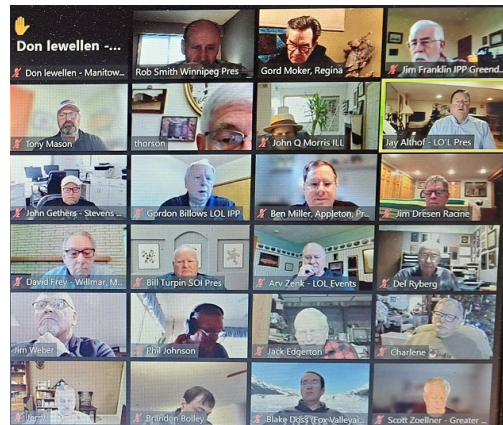
PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's musings Jan 7, 2023

This morning, several of our chapter executive members participated in an excellent Zoom Leadership Training Academy. In the Presidents session (which was open to other executive members) I noted 57 participants.

I thought it was very well presented and there was good interaction and suggestions from across Land of Lakes District and a few participants from Illinois. In some ways I miss the in-person sessions of the past, but can you imagine all the travel time that would have been involved not only from Winnipeg but even from Regina and some members from as far away in the other direction?



Following the first 3 sessions for Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers there was a joint session called “The Barbershop Belt” led by university professor Sarah Wigley. It was a highly technical explanation of how the voice produces sound and the effects of the position of the larynx, the tongue and other vocal structures. She explained how Barbershop vocal production has changed over the years and how the present techniques produce a brighter, even louder sound that isn't as tiring for the voice. She used many illustrations from YouTube recordings of men's and women's quartets and also her own vocalizations. It was overwhelming information but makes me want to maybe go back to Harmony University one of these summers.

The final session was about writing grant proposals. Again, excellent and very informative. I believe all the presentations were recorded on Zoom so we may be able to include the links in next week's Notes4U.

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>

RCS DAYTIME SENIORS SHOW

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023

From Len Paluck

BOULTON RIVER-HEIGHTS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

45 Boulton Bay
(enter off Kenaston between Grant and Taylor)

Time : Arrive 12:30, assemble in "Event Centre" for vocal warm-up. This room connects to Dining Room where we will perform.

Performance: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Wardrobe: Long sleeve blue RCS shirts.

Parking lot next to building has 'visitor' spots, about 100



Oyez! Oyez!

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 (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!



MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

Happy New Year all, and I hope your voice made it through our first rehearsal of 2023.

I had the opportunity to sit in on the Land 'o Lakes district leadership session on Saturday morning, and it was very enlightening in many ways. It provided an opportunity for members from Wisconsin to Saskatchewan to discuss strategies and share things that worked for them in chapter effectiveness, member retention, growth and outreach and a number of other topics. The first session was identified as a 'President's Training' session, but it would have been very useful for any member of the chapter. One thing that I, and I'm sure the executive, are looking forward to is the announcement of grants and support from the District for guest quartet expenses. As well, we hope to be able to obtain support to bring in a guest coach at some point this spring. This work is just getting underway, so stay tuned.

Another presentation that morning was led by (relatively) young woman who has a long resume as a high-performance vocal coach and teaches Vocal Performance at the University of Illinois. It was really interesting and provided me with a better understanding of the physiology of making music. She also talked about the differences between classical singing, operatic singing, and the various styles pop singing, of which barbershop is one, along with rock, jazz, R & B, and even hip-hop. We hope her session will be made available on the LoL website for re-viewing.

Just a note that we are performing at The Boulton on Tuesday, Jan 10th at 1.00. Please arrive by 12:30. We will not be using any risers, and the set list is similar to our other recent performances, with one addition - Believe. We may also have a sing-along and possibly a barbershop demo, depending on time availability. Please take some time to practice these pieces:

I'm feeling Fine
Best of Doo Wop
Can't Help Falling
Stand By Me
Mary Lou
Unchained
Dream Lover
Yesterday
Can You Feel the Love
Rhythm
Let There be Peace





REHEARSAL SCHEDULE JANUARY 11 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)

Can You Feel the Love
 Unchained Melody
 Stand By Me



7:45 to 8:30 Repertoire Review
 Can You Feel the Love
 Unchained
 Stand By Me
 Beach Boys / Dream Lover
 Bridge Over Troubled Water
 I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)
 Best of Doo Wop
 Can't Help Falling
 Yesterday
 Rhythm of Love
 Imagine



8:30 to 8:45 Break and Business Meeting
 8:45 to 9:55 Repertoire Review (continued)
 9:55 Wrap up and Final Song
 Irish Blessing

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

	<u>New Music</u>	<u>Sectionals</u>	<u>Repertoire Review</u>
Jan 18	Pretty Woman	Pretty Woman Daydream	Beach Boys / Dream Lover Bridge I'm Gonna Be (500 miles) Rhythm of Love Imagine

Feb 3 2:00 Performance at Seine River Seniors

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SONG?

by Brian Metcalfe

At a recent rehearsal, Les Creek invited the chorus to share with the Music Committee any favourite songs that they thought might become part of our repertoire or an upcoming performance. He cautioned that just because a song might be a favourite, it may not be approved by the Music Committee for a variety of reasons including: it might be too difficult to sing, there may not be an appropriate arrangement available, or there may not be learning tracks. I remember a few years ago, Bernie Gunn had recommended that "Light One Candle" should be considered, and now the chorus sings it at Christmas performances. Therefore, why shouldn't I recommend a favourite of mine?

It didn't take me long to narrow in on a favourite. Several years ago, I created a short celebratory video to play at the end of my dad's celebration of life. I chose "[You Raise Me Up](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IHV_aSVGa0)" by Josh Groban for its powerful lyrics and its tribute that were so appropriate. For those not familiar with this song, I encourage you to listen to Josh's tribute at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IHV_aSVGa0

One thing I often do when learning new lyrics to a song is to type up the song lyrics in **bold face** and as I learn certain phrases or lines, I remove the bold face. Eventually, I only have the "trouble spots" highlighted in bold. However, since I don't type, I use Google and search for the lyrics to a song online. Likewise in preparation for recommending "You Raise Me Up", I searched for the lyrics which I include below.

I jokingly tell the Bass members of our chorus how I would love to sing with their section because they don't have to focus on lyrics. All they need to remember is does this song include the Ba - Ba - Ba ... or Dum - Dum - Dum ... lyrics, while we in the Lead section need to tell the story by struggling to learn a plethora of lyrics.

Imagine my delight when I found that learning the lyrics to "You Raise Me up" would be so easy! One only needs to memorize the first verse and the chorus. The repetition of the chorus makes the song so easy to learn and remember. This melody is, indeed, a Lead section's lyrical delight!

However, when I listened to the actual performance, I realized just how important the instrumental backing was to the song and quickly realized that although the lyrics might be easy to memorize, this song was better suited to an orchestral support.

However, that doesn't stop you from sharing your favourite melody with Les & the Music Committee. Furthermore, know that I will personally thank you if the lyrics are easy to learn :-)

Take care & keep smiling :-)

You Raise Me Up

by Josh Groban

*When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary
When troubles come and my heart burdened be
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence
Until you come and sit awhile with me.*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.
You raise me up to more than I can be.*

GENERATION INFORMATION

From Gordon Billows

Larry Lewis is District Officer who has been doing a Generational study of the Society, the Districts and Chapters for 8 years. Here are some interesting statistics and suggestions from him:

The average age in the Society is currently at 64.4 years (915,600 members). The current generational breakdown of the society is as follows:

Matures	4,368 members = 28%
Baby Boomers	7,106 members = 45.6%
Generation X	1,877 members = 12%
Millennials	1,984 members = 12.7%
Generation Z	265 members = 1.7%

The average age in LOL is currently at 66.7 years (941 members). The current generational breakdown of LOL is as follows:

Matures	269 members = 28.6%
Baby Boomers	465 members = 49.4%
Generation X	109 members = 11.6%
Millennials	91 members = 9.7%
Generation Z	7 members = 0.7%

Having some knowledge about attracting and keeping Millennials and Generation Z is so very important for us. Here is his quick summary/reminder as to how we should approach that Millennial or Gen X person who comes to visit our next chapter meeting.

- Don't just introduce them, talk to them
- Treat him like a son, daughter or grandchild
- Ask them about their family, friends, hobbies and school
- Don't let them stand or sit alone during a break
- Give them some space to work their phone if they desire
- Get them a buddy member from the same section to sing a tag after rehearsal
- Get a mature or baby boomer to text them during the week between rehearsals. Always communicate with them in their mode of communication
- Always have a video a good quartet or chorus on a member's phone to show them
- Ask them if they have a friend that likes to sing. If so, text them
- If they are in high school, have the director, president or membership VP call or visit with a parent to help get buy-in and support
- If they are in high school, get a member to attend their school events, athletic events, concert, etc. Show real interest in them
- Ask them what they likes/dislikes about the rehearsal
- Ask them what kind of music they like- see if you can get an arrangement of that music
- Don't overwhelm with too much pure barbershop at first
- Ask if they need financial help to become a member
- Ask if they need help with transportation to rehearsal
- If they join, fit with a uniform ASAP
- Ask them for tech help, they will like this and it will make them feel important
- Take them to a barbershop show. Try to find a show with a good headliner quartet
- If they miss a rehearsal, do a follow-up call or preferably a text within the first day.
- Work to make rehearsal fun and worthwhile. They will not come back if they aren't having fun

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES



From Gordon Billows

Most of the generatio of 60+ years were HOME SCHOOLED in many ways. See below - in our parents own words!

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE .*"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."*

My mother taught me RELIGION .*"You better pray that will come out of the carpet."*

My father taught me about TIME TRAVEL .*"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"*

My father taught me LOGIC. *" Because I said so, that's why ."*

My mother taught me MORE LOGIC .*"If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."*

My mother taught me FORESIGHT . *"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."*

My father taught me IRONY. *"Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."*

My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS . *"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."*

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM .*"Just you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"*

My mother taught me about STAMINA .*"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."*

My mother taught me about WEATHER .*"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."*

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY . *"If I've told you once, I've told you a million times, don't exaggerate!"*

My father taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE *"I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."*

My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION . *"Stop acting like your father!"*

My mother taught me about ENVY . *"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."*

My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION .*"Just wait until we get home."*

My mother taught me about RECEIVING . *"You are going to get it from your father when you get home!"*

My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE . *"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."*

My mother taught me ESP. *"Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"*

My father taught me HUMOUR .*"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."*

My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT. *"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up"*


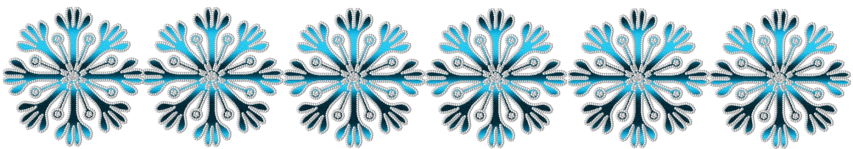
My mother taught me GENETICS. *"You're just like your father."*

My mother taught me about my ROOTS . *"Shut that door behind you.You'd think you were born in a barn."*





My mother taught me WISDOM . *"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."*

My father taught me about JUSTICE . *"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"*

~ 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 Seniors	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

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,
Feryll 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

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**