

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR
FEBRUARY 21 LINDENWOODS MANOR 7:00 P.M.

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February 22 2023

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Deadline for contributions to Notes 4 U is noon Saturday.

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Please send your information to Mae at Denby.Mae@gmail.com to have it Included.

Thanks!



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

President's musings Feb 18, 2023

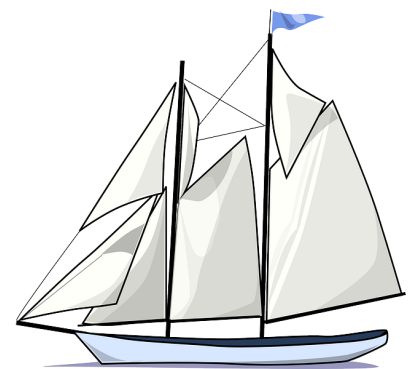
So, the president knows everything and is always right? Dream on. I try to attend most Music Committee meetings and show committee meetings and other members of the executive often copy me in their emails so I have a pretty good overview of what is happening but I try not to get bogged down in the nitty gritty.

Recently I checked the pocket roster on our website and had a question about one recent member not being listed yet. I admit, I didn't know the process, when do they get listed? After their initiation? Who does it? I had some idea, but wasn't sure. I know Rosie keeps track of new members, Brian Metcalfe does a whole lot of things for the chapter, including list kind of stuff. (Is he Brian #1 as we have 4 Brians?) I also know Chris has been updating the website and Andrea updates our Facebook page. Turns out, I really don't have to know, these things just get done by a whole bunch of committed members.

Also, this week Bruce emailed me from Mexico and asked if we had submitted our request to the District Secretary for permission for our May 13th shows. Huh? Who does that and when? I sent off an email to Bob Brey about our show venue, date etc. and asked what else was needed. I also copied Gord Billows. Gord got back to me with a link to the SOCAN form. I don't know what that stands for but it is something about composers and arrangers getting a small royalty each time their music is performed. It is also about the district ensuring nearby choruses don't schedule their shows on the same date. No problem with that Eh, Fargo and Regina? Also, the District lists our show in the PitchPiper. Apparently, the chapter secretary normally completes the form but Shirley won't be back until early April. I'll fill it in the best I can or maybe wait until I hear back from Bob Brey.

So, dear reader, why am I telling you all this? It is so when you become chapter president in some future year, you'll understand that you don't have to know everything. There are a whole bunch of folks buoying you up so this boat stays afloat.

Bon voyage. 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>

MONEY MATTERS

from Rob Smith

Your hard-working Executive is seeking the membership's approval for us to spend \$4000 from our limited financial reserves to go along with a Winnipeg Foundation grant of \$4000 and buy seven 4 foot riser sections from Assiniboine Chapter for \$8100. To buy what we want new would be about \$35,000.

Background to purchasing new metal risers.

Last year, some members of the executive did extensive research into what risers are available at what cost from several companies. The chorus has had the present metal risers for decades and they have been repaired many times. Each section is 6 feet long and they are heavy for the present membership to handle. The risers chosen by the committee are 4 ft long sections of Wenger risers with a 4th step, back and side rails and chairs that secure to the risers for members who can't stand for long periods of time.

What we need would cost about \$35,000 new. It was learned that The Assiniboine Show Chorus (ASC) plan to sell their risers, which haven't been used in recent years and are in excellent condition. After some consideration, ASC decided to retain some of their risers, but are willing to sell 7 sections with 4th step, backrails and 3 chairs for \$8,100.

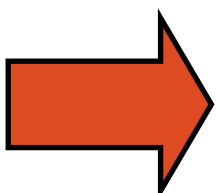
An application was made by the chapter for a grant, to several charitable organizations including The Winnipeg Foundation. The application was for \$12,000 as that would allow us to buy one additional riser section and end rails.

About a week ago The Winnipeg Foundation approved a grant of \$4,000 to River City Sound. A further donation of \$100 was promised. What do we do? What do we do?

This was discussed by email amongst the executive. After considerable back and forth, it was moved by Bruce, seconded by Les that the Chapter fund the \$4000 shortfall, for the purchase of the risers, from our bank account. All executive members indicated their support.

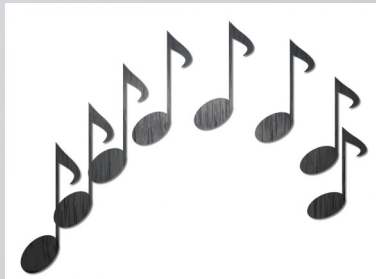
At the end of December, the chapter had a "net equity" bank balance of \$13,626. As shared at the recent AGM, some of this is from provincial grants we received during the Covid lock down. Otherwise, we have been running a deficit in recent years and what is left is our cushion in case there are further deficits. However, the budget that was approved at the AGM is balanced.

Bruce advised that "if this motion passes the Executive, and given that funding the shortfall is an un-budgeted expenditure, we need to call a special meeting of the membership to approve the Executive motion. We should give two weeks notice".



Well, this is your first notice of a vote to be held in 2 weeks (March 8) whether to authorize this expenditure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FEBRUARY 21 (*THIS WEEK!*).

**WE PERFORM AT
LINDENWOODS MANOR**

Be there at 6:30

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

(Mention our Covid mandates to guests – vax!)



**FAVOURITE SONG?
WHAT'S YOURS?
TELL YOUR STORY!**

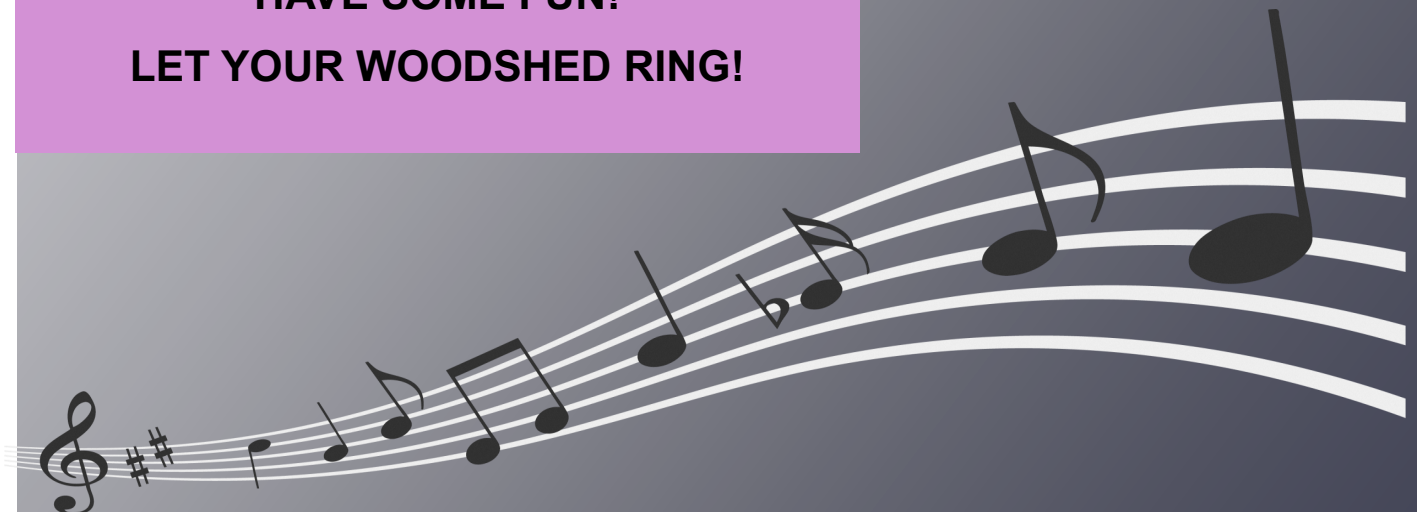


MONEY MATTERS!

March 8

See page 3

**PROJECT TAG75—PAGE 8
GET CREATIVE! STRUT YOUR STUFF!
HAVE SOME FUN!
LET YOUR WOODSHED RING!**



MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK



As I write this on Saturday morning, I'm anticipating that we will have had an outstanding performance at Lindenwoods Manor on Tuesday evening. It will be great to have some of our singers with us that are not normally available during afternoon performances, and to have most of our basses back from their vacations. It always helps to have a really solid foundation on which to build a 'wall of sound'!

Since we don't have any further performances booked at this point in time, other than the Manitoba Music Lovers Festival in April, we'll spend more time on our spring show pieces, resurrecting *Be Our Guest* and *Lost in the Stars*, as well as learning *Pretty Woman* and *It's a Grand Night for Singing*. In this week's schedule, I've added 'off the page' dates for *Grand Night* and *Pretty Woman*, so please do all you can to sing without the music by these dates.

For our new and prospective members, these 'off the page' dates are when we expect our experienced members to have learned their parts and to be able to sing without looking at the music. Typically, this would be no more than 5 weeks after a new piece is introduced, depending on complexity. For you, these dates are flexible as we understand that you are striving to learn a lot of music in a short period of time, and we do NOT want to create a huge workload for you. All we ask is that you progress at your own speed.

As we move forward in February and March, we'll spend time on some of the repertoire pieces that we've been ignoring for a while, such as *Rhythm of Love*, *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, and *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)*. They are all more than a little rusty, but we do such a great job of them, and we worked so hard to perfect them that it would be a shame to let them slide.

As you can all imagine, integrating new singers into the chorus, while preparing for performances and an upcoming show, and keeping our repertoire in performance shape is a bit of a juggling act, and I thank you all for your patience with things like having sectionals for songs that we've sung for years, and having rehearsal schedules that may sometimes not make a lot of sense. I really appreciate it, and I'd be happy to hear your comments and criticisms.

Stay well everyone and see you Wednesday (if not sooner....).



CHAPTER DUES

From Bruce Wilton

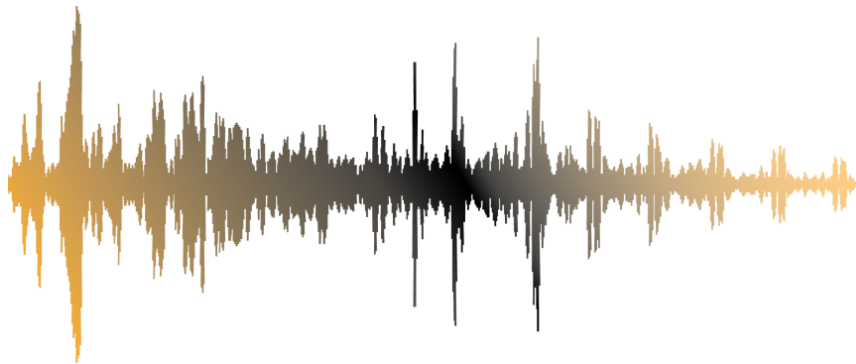


An increase in Chapter Dues from \$80 to \$100 was approved last Wednesday at the Annual General Meeting

Chapter members will have the option of paying the dues in two installments if they wish - \$50 due no later than Wednesday, March 8th and \$50 no later than Wednesday, June 14th.

Cheques (no cash please) should be made out to River City Sound and given to Bruce Wilton at rehearsal or mailed to my home at 827 John Bruce Road E, Wpg, R3X 1Y3. I can also accept e-transfers at bww6850@gmail.com.

Tax receipts will be forwarded within a few days of receiving the dues payment.



A RESOURCE SHARED BY EL PRESIDENTE

“I have been on the computer for about 2 hours deleting email messages and looking for an email message from District that has a link to the UTube recording of a presentation about vocal production, by University of Illinois’ Sarah Wigley.”

Here’s the link:

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

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 a **barbershop tags** 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!

SHOW PROGRAMS

From Gordon Billows

A BLAST FROM

Winnipeg Chapter

THE PAST:

(Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of
Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America)

**Winnipeg Chapter Chorus
& Quartets**

Annual Show Programs

1949 to 2021

Yesteryears—A Power Point presentation of show programs in Drop Box.

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/86ke20nw9ff840t/2022%20WGC%20Annual%20Show%20Programs%201949%20to%202022.pptx?
dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/86ke20nw9ff840t/2022%20WGC%20Annual%20Show%20Programs%201949%20to%202022.pptx?dl=0)

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Gordon Billows



From Gordon Billows

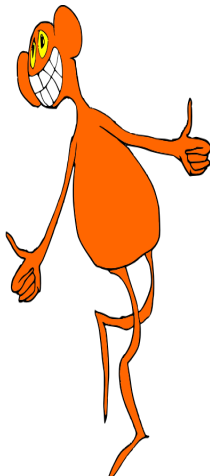


I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

I just got a present labeled, "From Mom and Dad," and you know darn well Dad has no idea what's inside.





When I grow up I'd like to be a retired lottery winner.

Casey Stengel: "All right everyone, line up alphabetically according to your height."



My teacher told me not to worry about spelling because in the future there will be autocorrect and for that I am eternally grapefruit.

~ 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 2:00	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 Louis Riel Day 	21 Lindenwood Show 7:00 p.m.	22 Rehearsal 6:55	23	24	25
26 Happy Birthday Rob Smith	27	28				

~ March 2023 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MUSIC cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	2 Happy Birthday Bruce Wilton	3	4
5 Happy Birthday Jerry Moscovitch	6	7 Happy Birthday Gary Miles	8 Exec Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Happy Birthday Rosanne Laboissiere-Gee. Rehearsal 6:55	16	17 	18
19	20	21	22 Rehearsal 6:55	23 Happy Birthday Gayle Wharton	24	25
26	27	28 Happy Birthday Herold Driedger	29	30	31	

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: Bruce Wilton

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: Len Paluck, John Latham

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**