

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

APRIL 24 (we sing!), 25, 28, 29
Music Lovers' Festival
Westwood Community Church

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March 1 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.



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's musings Feb 25, 2023

It is Saturday evening and I have just returned from a 2 1/2 day beekeeping convention. My brain isn't on barbershop music right now. I don't imagine you want to hear about recent scientific advances in the development of treatments for bee parasites and diseases. However, staying at the convention hotel was an opportunity for renewing long time friendships. We have kept bees for more than 45 years and some of our friendships go back about that far. There are also lots of new acquaintances and friends. Barbershopping is like that. Those of us who have been around for quite a long time have crossed paths and sung with many people. It was great to sing with so many new folks at the Lindenwoods performance. Congratulations to all of you for a job well done. I read Les's reflections and agree that it was a great show. Although rehearsing together can be great fun our hobby is really about entertaining appreciative audiences. We need keep up our repertoire to be prepared to take on more such shows if they become available.

The executive have been exchanging emails as we plan for the afterglow following our May 12th shows. Details aren't finalized yet, but many newer members won't know that an afterglow is an opportunity for us all to hear the guest quartet perform. At the shows, we may be downstairs getting changed into a different wardrobe or we may be waiting in the side hall straining to hear what is happening as the audience laughs or applauds. At the afterglow, local quartets usually sing a song or 2 and then the guest quartet takes the stage for at least half an hour, but it could be a lot longer on a special occasion such as this. It is our chance to see and hear them perform up close. St Croix Crossing are the current District Champs and were the 2018 International Senior Champs. There will be a ticket cost for the afterglow to cover the light meal that will be provided. There will also be a cash bar. We'll let you know as soon as details are sorted out.

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



LINDENWOODS MANOR

FEBRUARY 21

major success!

A



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!

**VOTE
THIS WEEK AT
REHEARSAL!!!**

PROJECT TAG75—PAGE 8

GET CREATIVE! STRUT YOUR STUFF!

HAVE SOME FUN!

LET YOUR WOODSHED RING!



MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK



So I was right last week.....

It doesn't happen often, but occasionally I do get things correct. Last week I said that I was sure that the Lindenwoods performance was going to be a great one and I WAS RIGHT!! It was so well done and so well received. And having some of our prospective members join us made it special. We hope that you all had a great time singing for the residents there.

As I was working on this week's rehearsal schedule, it struck me that I hadn't recently updated my list of songs for the graduated learning program. In doing so, I realized that by the time the spring show arrives, our newer and prospective members will have learned up to 10 completely new (for them) pieces. What an accomplishment! We all know how much time and effort goes into learning any new piece. Give them all a great round of applause, and continue to provide all the support that they need. We also must thank the section leaders for helping and assisting them in sectionals, where so many of the nuances and interpretation is learnt.

As I've said all along, we don't expect any of our new members to have fully learned all the pieces that we've worked on; they are all welcome to proceed at their own pace.

Now I don't want to scare the newer members, but the chorus does have to spend some time over the next few weeks reacquainting ourselves with the repertoire pieces that we haven't looked at for a few months. Songs like Rhythm of Love, Bridge Over Troubled Water and I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles). They are some of our more difficult pieces, and we presented them so well at our last spring show; we need to keep them performance ready. We really do have our basic show package songs well in hand, as we saw last Tuesday night, so let's take some time to polish the other songs as well. Part of the reason, too, is that we are seeing repeat engagements, such as that at Lindenwoods, so we really need to have a second show package ready for these repeat performances which contain a number of different songs.

Just a quick reminder that the Spring Show Committee will be meeting on March 1st at 5:30; the Music Committee meeting has been moved to March 15th at 5:30. Any interested member is welcome at these meetings.

Looking forward to spring.....





REHEARSAL SCHEDULE February 22 2023

From Les Creek



6:55

Physical warmup

to 7:05

7:05 to 7:20

Vocal warmup

7:20 to 7:45

Sectionals (to assist LTSB members)

Pretty Woman

Grand Night for Singing

Hello Mary Lou

Do You Hear the People Sing



7:45 to 8:15

Repertoire Review

It's a Grand Night for Singing

Pretty Woman

Hello Mary Lou

Do You Hear the People Sing

Rhythm of Love

I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)

Bridge Over Troubled Water

I'm Feeling Fine

Best of Doo Wop

Can You Feel the Love

Imagine

Can't Help Falling



8:15 to 8:35

Break and General Meeting (riser purchase)

8:35 to 9:20

Repertoire Review (continued)

9:20 to 9:55

Pick up Quartets

9:55

Wrap up and Final Song

Let There Be Peace

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

	New Music	Sectionals	Repertoire Review	Off page
March 8	Be Our Guest	Grand Night	Pretty Woman	Mar 15
		Be Our Guest	People Sing	
		People Sing	Bridge over Troubled Water.	
			Rhythm of Love	
			I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)	
			Grand Night	Mar 22
			Be Our Guest	Apr 12

CHAPTER DUES

From Bruce Wilton

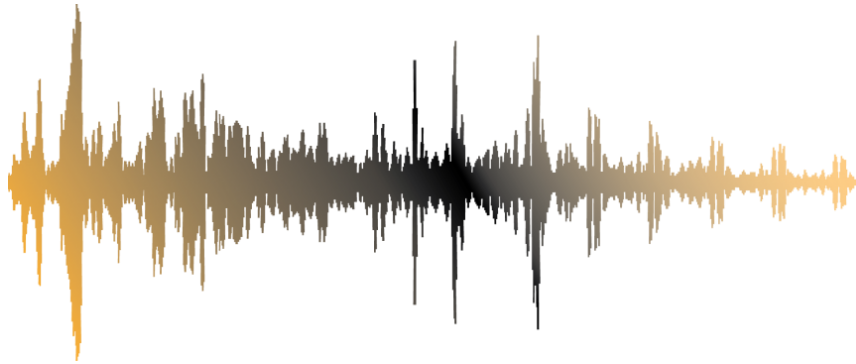


An increase in Chapter Dues from \$80 to \$100 was approved last Wednesday at the Annual General Meeting

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>

LAND O' LAKES DISTRICT— HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Gordon Billows

LOL Chapter Liaison

District President, Jay Althof, continues to improve communications between chapters and District. The Liaison Officer (previous Chapter Counsellor or Advocate) program has been refreshed with regular Zoom meetings are being scheduled. This team of Officers serves as the main communication link between chapters and District. When communicating with chapter presidents, via phone calls, emails or visits, we provide our assigned chapters information about District/Society resources and receive feedback on their current status and what they might need from District/Society to be more successful. This feedback is very useful in developing District programs and policies. President Jay produces monthly audio messages to members and includes a President's report in each Pitch Piper. Our District Board also has monthly Zoom business meetings as well as in person meetings at the Fall convention. The House of Delegates' (LOL board and chapter presidents) Zoom meetings are held at least twice a year to get updates and "best practices" reports. Most of our 37 chapters participate in these meetings.

The following is a summary of the Jan. 21 House of Delegate meeting that highlights some chapter successes and challenges.

Wendy Lamont – EVP, Winnipeg—Strong membership growth - Financial challenge due to exchange rate, How to promote shows

Ben Miller, Appleton—Membership growth is happening – Christmas chorus program – 14 extra – several applied for membership – maybe 7-8 will be new members (planning started in April) – November rehearsals – 5 songs, Availability fun of music at our level (B and B- level) – legally – is a challenge

Don Lewellen, Manitowoc—Membership growth – added 5 – good balance of new and experienced members – Schmidt stage is a fun thing! Accepted

maybe too many sing-out this year

Gord Moker – Regina—Christmas show in a newly renovated PAC – very good financial result We've invited school choirs to sing with us and give them a \$100 honorarium and 50% of the proceeds from the tickets they sell. It increases our awareness in the music educators' community and brings new audience members to our Show. Exchange rate is a challenge – and just the cost/time/distance to attend conventions – Jay to recommend to Harmony Hall.

John Gethers - Stevens Point—New director is having a positive impact. Just rebuilding momentum – Spring Show with Sweet Ads, Fall Show, District, Christmas Show

Andrew Johnson – Fargo—New director – 3 solid candidates – sent letter to 40-50 directors in the area – networked. Also successful Christmas show. Looking to grow members/participation, and better show attendance, Covid hurt

Scott Zoellner – St. Paul—Increasing visibility of chorus. Struggle scheduling activities – looking to set up a 3 year calendar – finding venue for shows that will book 2 years out

John Plazek – Milwaukee—2 new members last year, fundraiser brat/burger fry and membership awareness. Membership growth – finding fun arrangements that accessible – attract younger people

Tony Mason – Minneapolis—Inter-chorus (chorus swap) meetings – super fun. Focus on attraction of younger people – it is "good for men". Very hard to find us! (Fix BHS website) – Can we help pay for web-search optimization

Brian Schultz – St. Croix Valley—Xmas show with Sweet Adelines and local HS group. Need members

Gregg Tangeman – Wilmar—A both with video to promote chorus and drive membership. Putting together a multiyear plan to drive more success – looking to have a "special show" in 2024 – get members back. A couple people do most all the work

Dick Donze – Rochester—For those who have become mixed choruses find the ladies help a lot with administrative tasks. Membership growth is a real challenge – 1 on-going guest

LAND O' LAKES DISTRICT—HOUSE OF DELEGATES (continued)

Ken Mettler – Polk County—Attitude is strong – having GQ as headliners on Fall Show. Looking for a new name for the Polk County Chorus

Eric Sorenson – LaCrosse—Board strong, stable would have 40 singers if everyone participated. Plugged into High School groups and they perform on annual shows. Looking for headliner quartet for fall show

Bill Mark – Faribault—Small chorus – Dale D. is doing a great job – singing well – fun songs – good fellowship – community philanthropy – singing valentines - parades. Recruiting new members

Phil Johnson – Heart of Lakes (Fergus Falls-Detroit Lakes) - 20-25 participants – nice Christmas show – a spring show is coming. Need a little more planning – so the Valentines

Roger Freund – Oshkosh—Valentines quartets, sound system from Ripon. Leverage the Liaison program

Dave Mason – Escanaba—Held a Christmas Concert – great show – now will participate in a couple additional shows – coming back!



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!

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Gordon Billows

Ashleigh Brilliant

“My opinions may have changed,
but not the fact that I’m right.”

Benny Hill

“Have you noticed that all the people in
favor of birth control are already born?”

Benjamin Franklin

“Trouble knocked at the door, but,
hearing laughter, hurried away.”






From Les Creek

The cutlery for my new diet has
arrived... I am optimistic this one
will work.



~ March 2023 ~

~ March 2023 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Misc cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55	Happy Birthday Bruce Wilton		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Happy Birthday Jerry Moscovitch		Happy Birthday Gary Miles	Exec Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			Happy Birthday Rosanne Laboissiere-Gee. Rehearsal 6:55			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Rehearsal 6:55	Happy Birthday Gayle Wharton		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
		Happy Birthday Herold Driedger				

~ April 2023 ~

~ April 2023 ~							
		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		Committee meeting dates t.b.d.					
2	Happy Birthday Larry Hunter	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Happy Birthday Norman Silverberg			Passover Begins Rehearsal 6:55		Good Friday	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	Happy Birthday Sherrie Bredezen	Happy Birthday Ken Broadfoot	Rehearsal 6:55 Happy Birthday Larry Bredezen	Passover Ends			
16	17	18	19	20	21		
			Rehearsal 6:55				
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29	
	Music Lovers' Festival Westwood Church		Rehearsal 6:55 Happy Birthday Brian Metcalfe				

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**