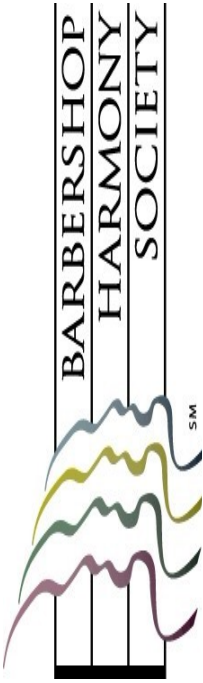


# Notes 4 U

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Rehearsals - Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. St. Andrew's River Heights United Church 255 Oak St.

Vol 2023 Issue 12



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**APRIL 5 SHOW CMTE 5:30 P.M.**

**Exec Cmte April 12**

**Music Cmte April 19**

**APRIL 24 (we sing!), 25, 28, 29**

**Music Lovers' Festival**

**Westwood Community Church**

**April 5 2023**

### Inside this issue

Important Dates & Have Your Say	1
President's Musings	2
Free singing apps to make you a better vocalist	
Announcements	3
Message from Les Creek	4
Rehearsal Schedule April 5	5
Take me out to the ballgame	6
Diamond memories	7
Project TAG75 ---- the whole story, so far	8
To Brighten Your Spirits	9
Calendars April & May	10
Editorial Page, 2023 Chapter Executive and Leadership	11

**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.



APRIL 5 2023



# PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's Musings April 1, 2023

So far no one has played an April Fool's joke on me today, at least as far as I noticed. We used to say noon was the cut off time for jokes. It is no joke that the spring concert is fast approaching, but the music is sounding pretty solid. We have 6 Wednesdays left and the last couple of those will likely be show run-throughs. If necessary, there could be a couple of extra rehearsals but these are not scheduled yet. Quartets and other ensembles have this Wednesday and next at latest to audition their show numbers.

Changing gears, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game". I mentioned on Wednesday the invitation from Ken Slinde to attend a couple of baseball games at Target Field in Minneapolis where the Twins are playing the Toronto Blue Jays on Sunday May 28th and barbershoppers from across Land of Lakes District will sing the Anthem(s), God Bless America, Take Me Out to the Ball Game and other music. This will be the first time the Canadian National Anthem (likely only English words) will be sung at one of these games and only the 2nd time women have been part of the chorus. There is a second opportunity on Sunday, August 20th but the opponents will be the Pittsburgh Pirates. Tickets are only \$32 US for each game. I haven't yet been to one of these games but Gord Billows has several times and can give you lots more detail. It would be nice to send a car load or two of our members, especially on this our 75th anniversary year. For more information, talk to Gord or call Ken Slinde directly at 952.884.4975

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!)

Hey Chorus!

Please open this link to a video we wish to share with you. It is an example of what we are going to work with for our show opener, Be Our Guest.

<https://youtu.be/nyE0fAEIcKQ>

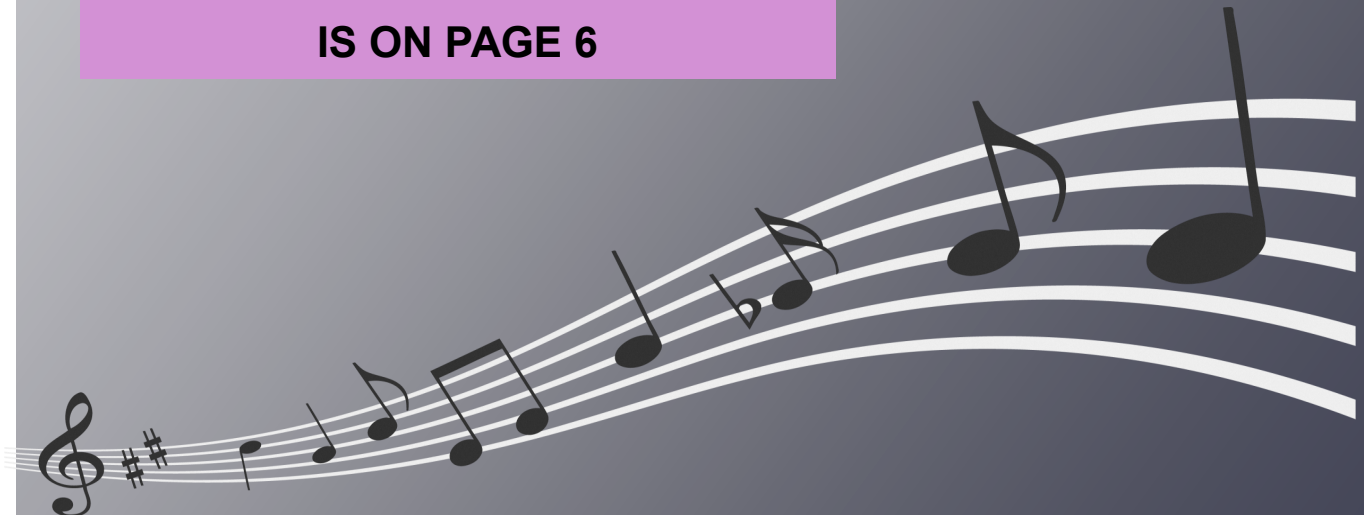
Thanks  
Gayle

**HEY! WHAT'S YOUR  
FAVOURITE SONG?  
TELL US YOUR STORY!**

**WHEN CAN WE GET  
SHOW TICKETS?  
BRIAN SAYS:  
"NEXT WEEK!"**

**PROJECT TAG75—  
ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW  
IS ON PAGE 6**

**SAVE THE DATE  
CHORUS COACHING CLINIC  
SATURDAY, APRIL 15!**



# MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

Will spring ever come??????

I know it's on the way because I can see the snow pack in my yard slowly seeping away, but some above zero temperatures would certainly be nice. We've all had enough of winter and the grumpiness that can result when we've had too much of it!

Welcome back Sherrie and Larry, we all hope you had a restful vacation.



This week we will start working in earnest on Lost in the Stars, since Sherrie is now back. For those of you who did not know this, the performance mix from the Christmas show is now available on our website under the name Mix (New), so please use that one for your personal rehearsals. It has the interpretation that Sherrie used at Christmas, which will be what we use on the spring show.

Of course, along with that, we'll refresh our memories on the choreography for it as well, so all you new members bring your dancing shoes!

Congratulations to the folks who have passed their auditions in past couple of weeks. We are so pleased that you continue to sing with us. You make a real difference in the sound of the chorus.

The last thing I want to mention is the upcoming Chorus Coaching clinic on

**Saturday, April 15th.**

Our clinician, Mark McLaurin is a very experienced barbershop singer and coach, and has been in Winnipeg previously, as well as being a coach to Harlequin in the past. This will be a really rewarding day for us all. Please make every attempt to attend, even if for a few hours. Lunch is provided (possibly sandwiches and salad), so please sign up on the sheet and list any food restrictions.

See you Wednesday.





# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE April 5, 2023

## From Les Creek



6:55 to 7:05	Physical warmup
7:05 to 7:20	Vocal warmup
7:20 to 8:00	Sectionals – spring show music Lost in the Stars Be Our Guest Do You Hear the People Sing I'm Feeling Fine
8:00 to 8:30	Show Repertoire Review and choreo introduction Be Our Guest Lost in the Stars It's a Grand Night for Singing Stand By Me Pretty Woman Unchained Can You Feel the Love Do You Hear the People Sing Can't Help Falling Daydream Pretty Woman I'm Feeling Fine
8:30 to 8:45	Break and Business Meeting
8:45 to 9:00	Quartet Auditions
9:00 to 9:50	Repertoire Review (continued)
9:50	Wrap up and Final Song



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

New Music	Sectionals	Repertoire Review	Off page
Apr 12	Be Our Guest	Pretty Woman	now
	People Sing	People Sing	Apr 5
	Lost in the Stars	Grand Night	now
		Be Our Guest	now
		Lost in the Stars	Apr 12
		Other show music	
		Choreography	

**Apr 15 (Saturday) 9:00 to 3:30 Chorus Coaching Seminar lunch provided**

Apr 19 same as Apr 12



# TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Gordon Billows—Baseball Game Coordinator



## Minnesota Twins vs Toronto Blue Jays

On **Sunday, May 28th** of the US Memorial Day weekend, the Toronto Blue Jays and Minnesota Twins will be playing at Target Field in Minneapolis. A Barbershop chorus will be gathering there to sing the American anthem and other songs. **I have coordinated this event with the Winnipeg Chapter in past years and again would like to have an indication of how many might consider going down there at the end of May to sing. Check your calendars and, next week, let me know if you are considering to participate (I need a number).**

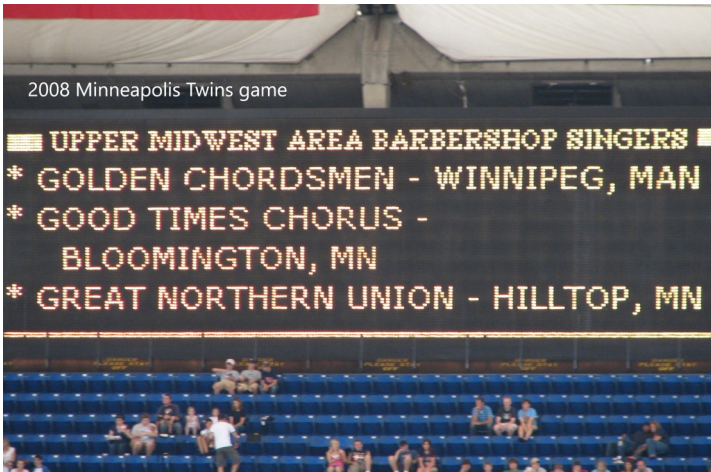
Starting in 2008, a number of Winnipeg Chapter members and spouses attended many of those Sunday games in Minneapolis. We were not all hardened baseball fans, but we enjoyed an opportunity to take a quick trip to the States to do some shopping, eating, bonding and join with up to a hundred Land O' Lakes Barbershoppers to sing the American anthem on the stadium sidelines and Take Me Out to the Ball Game at the 7th inning stretch from our block of stadium seats. The Barbershop chorus was featured on the stadium jumbotron and our whole group shown when we sang from our stadium seats. As with many events, Covid suspended this LOL FUN EVENT.

As we gathered just before noon outside the Target Field gate, we renewed old friendships, made new ones and started singing Pole Cat songs. When the gates opened, we were led down to field level, under the bleachers, where we continued to warm up our voices and get organized. I had the pleasure of directing the BBS chorus at their warm-up for many years and always went over the Canadian anthem to let them know that there were a few of us Canucks in the chorus and to re-fresh our American friends musical memories. The Twins and Blue Jays played one year and it was nice that most of the Barbershoppers were able to sing their part to our anthem. After singing the anthem under the direction of one of the Minneapolis chorus directors, we went up to our block of stadium seats to enjoy the game and have a hot dog and beer with our spouses and Barbershop friends! A good time was always had by all!



# DIAMOND MEMORIES

From Gordon Billows





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 **at the Afterglow on May 13!**

**What's new? the 75th anniversary tags will be part of the program at the Afterglow. So here's what you need to do if you have been playing with this idea:**

**Send an email to Mae, by April 4, subject "TAG75."**

**Say: I/we (will/are planning to) create a tag.**

**Indicate the status:**

- ◆ **Under development;**
- ◆ **Lyrics written; or**
- ◆ **Lyrics written; Singers lined up; or**
- ◆ **Lyrics written; Singers lined up; Will be ready to perform May 13**
- ◆ **Tell me who your singers are.**

**We will ensure that your quartet gets onto the program for the Afterglow.**

## **AND THEN THERE WAS EMAIL . . .**

There are multiple approaches to this TAG challenge. Here are a few suggestions, in case you are interested but feel a bit 'stuck':

1. Starting by yourself:

Click on the following website <https://www.barbershoptags.com/> and on the left side choose **EASY TAG**. Allow time to listen to numerous examples; this is your initial research. Surf around till you find one you really like. Listen to it several times.

Print the sheet music, grab a pencil and an eraser.

Think of words that you could use to celebrate the 75th. Try to match the rhythm of some of your words with the original lyrics, for example 'Lonely for you' is rhythmically a match for 'seventy-five'.

Fill in the gaps to make lyrics that fit the music. "Play" with the timing of the notes, if you need to.

A longer note could be split to accommodate two or more syllables or shorter notes tied to make one longer note.

Sing your new words to check the fit and get ready to teach it to your selected "TAG QUARTET"

Arrange to rehearse your 75th Anniversary Tag with your "TAG QUARTET". This is going to be a lot of fun.

2. For the very adventurous:

(From scratch) Get four members for your "TAG QUARTET" and come up with some words or phrases that fit the theme. Try a few tunes or even a tag from one of our chorus songs and work out all the lyrics to the tag, using those initial words/phrases. "Woodshed" the tag to get some good harmony

3. Most important: **HAVE FUN** and rehearse to perform your 75th Anniversary Tag at the Afterglow!

Don't forget to let Mae know you're on it!





# TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Gordon Billows

**I started out  
with nothing...  
I still have  
most of it.**



**He can  
compress the  
most words  
into the  
smallest idea  
of any man  
I know.**

~ Abraham Lincoln





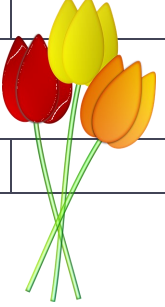
Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes



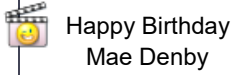


Why does Easter change dates but Christmas doesn't? Steven Engler, a professor in religious studies at Mount Royal University, says the basic reason the two differ is because Christmas is fixed to a solar calendar, near the winter solstice, and Easter is based on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar.



~ April 2023 ~

		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
										1	
2		3		4		5	Passover Begins	6		7	
Happy Birthday Larry Hunter		Happy Birthday Norman Silverberg				Show Committee 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55				Good Friday	
9		10		11		12	Exec.Cmte 5:30	13		14	
		Happy Birthday Sherrie Bredesen		Happy Birthday Ken Broadfoot		Rehearsal 6:55 Happy Birthday Larry Bredesen		Passover Ends		Chorus Coaching Clinic Details t.b.d.	
16		17		18		19		20		21	
						Music Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55					
23/30		24	Music	25		26		27		28	
						Rehearsal 6:55 Happy Birthday Brian Metcalfe				Happy Birthday Lynn Langdon	

~ May 2023 ~

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
		1		2		3		4		5		6	
						Show Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00							
7		8		9		10		11		12		13	
						Exec Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00							
14		15		16		17		18		19		20	
						Music Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00							
21		22		23		24		25		26		27	
Happy Birthday Duncan						Rehearsal 6:55							
28		29		30		31		<b>Committee dates subject to change.</b>					
						Rehearsal 6:55							

# 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:**

**Past President:**

**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

**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**