

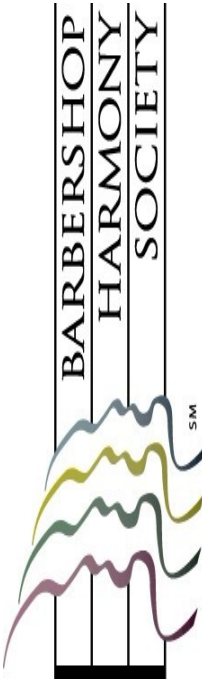
Notes 4 U

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

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

APRIL 12 2023

Vol 2023 Issue 13



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

APRIL 12 EXEC. CMTE. 5:30

APRIL 12 QUARTET AUDITIONS

APRIL 15 CHORUS COACHING SESSION

APRIL 19 MUSIC CMTE

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

Music Lovers' Festival

Westwood Community Church

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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.

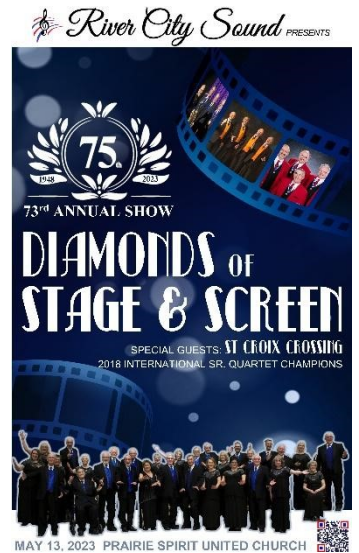


PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's Musings April 8, 2023

How many weeks until our spring show, Diamonds of Stage and Screen? Well actually, 5 weeks, that is 3 regular rehearsals, 2 Wednesday show run throughs and one or 2 extra rehearsals. Most of us are getting a pretty good handle on the music but how much do you know about all the details? The main movers are Producer, Mae; the Show Chairs: Charlie Siegel and Donna Boyle; the ticket guy Brian #1; and all the members of the show committee plus our directors. Gord Billows has done a great job preparing a colorful show program and raising lots of money for our 75th celebration. What else? There is also printing the show program, ordering back drops, lighting and props to dress up the show venue and lots more details. There are also the auditions for the local quartets (this Wednesday).



The script is still 'under construction', currently awaiting some important decisions; it will be available on the website in its next iteration (Draft 5). Here's the premise:

Two cousins, Jack & Jill (or is that Jacques & Gilles?) one from Vancouver and one from Winnipeg meet every 2 or 3 years to celebrate their birthdays. This year they are in Winnipeg and they debate their respective love of Musical Theatre or music from the Movies. That is what our musical selections are all about. Rosie is our MC; the "cousins" are Dean Jenkinson and Alison Kolisnyk (who participated in LTSB last fall). In the introduction to each song there is a little bit of background explaining which movie or show it was in. It is a great script and will make an entertaining show. It will be even better because the Land Of Lakes District Champion quartet St. Croix Crossing will be joining us on the show (and at the afterglow).

Now the role for the rest of us is to polish our music and choreography and sell tickets.

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!

Have you seen this video yet? 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

<https://www.youtube.com/>

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

**WHEN CAN WE GET
SHOW TICKETS?**

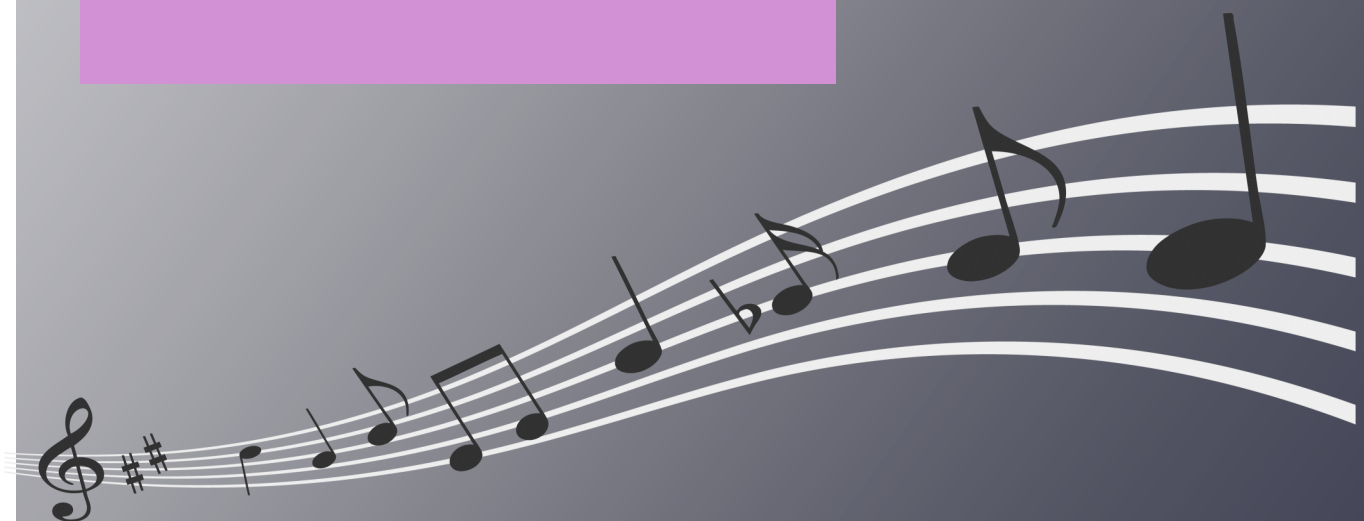
BRIAN SAYS:

“THIS WEEK!”

SEE PAGE 6

**PROJECT TAG75—
JUST DON'T FORGET!**

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



MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

Who woulda thunk it????

I know we live in Manitoba, and that we should never assume that the weather forecasters really know what is going to happen in the next few hours, but I was not expecting 6 inches of snow last week. It had all been slowly disappearing the previous week. The fields were showing black patches, and even some of the spring birds has arrived, including a couple of robins. Suffice it to say, spending 2 hours with my snowblower was not my preferred activity on Wednesday.

But these things do happen, and we felt that for the safety of all our members, a cancellation was necessary.

One of the factors that we considered was that we are progressing really well with the show music. Yes, there is some choreography to learn, and we need to work on Sherrie's interpretation of Lost in the Stars, but we do have the time to do that. Len is looking into booking at least one extra rehearsal just in case there are some last minute things that need to be tweaked, but you have all shown such diligence in learning the music that we may not need it.

Next Saturday is our coaching clinic with Mark McLaurin, so please plan on attending. We will all be able to learn a lot from this experience. Everyone that has been singing with us is invited to attend, even if you haven't yet auditioned or joined. We just need to know how many to expect, and how much lunch to obtain. If you have any question, feel free to ask me on Wednesday.

You'll see from the rehearsal schedule that I've allocated a half hour for quartet auditions, following the break and business meeting. We don't know for sure how many quartets will be auditioning, so any unused time will be spent on show repertoire.

And the show is really starting to take shape. All the key positions have been filled and most of the issues have been agreed, so now our job is to fill the seats at the afternoon and evening performances. I think Brian Metcalfe plans on having tickets available this Wednesday. Typically we will all take a number of tickets from Brian and try to sell them to friends, family, acquaintances, etc. Some members regularly sell 20 or more tickets. Our shows are our primary source of income and this income keeps us operational.

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
	Do You Hear the People Sing
	Unchained
	Can You Feel the Love
	Can't Help Falling
	Daydream
	I'm Feeling Fine
8:30 to 8:40	Break and Business Meeting
8:40 to 9:10	Quartet Auditions
9:10 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 19		Be Our Guest	Pretty Woman	now
		People Sing	People Sing	now
		Lost in the Stars	Grand Night	now
			Be Our Guest	now
			Lost in the Stars	now
			Other show music	
			Choreography	

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

Apr 26 same as Apr 19

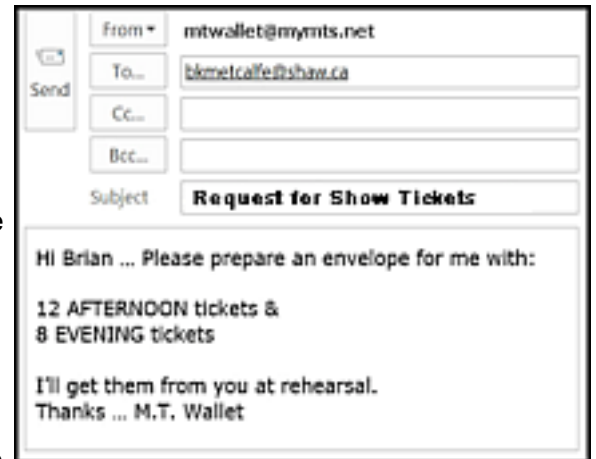
ANNUAL SHOW TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

By Brian Metcalfe

Tickets for "Diamonds from Stage & Screen" on Saturday, May 13th are now ready for distribution, Tickets for adults are \$25 with children 12 & under are free. To help differentiate between the Afternoon (2:30) and Evening (7:00) tickets, I have colour coded the borders. Since there's more sunlight in the afternoon, those tickets have a light sky blue border. It seemed natural to colour code our evening tickets with a black sky border.

I will have our tickets printed and ready for distribution at our next rehearsal on April 12. Since this annual show is our prime source of income, it is expected that each chorus member will sell a minimum of two tickets.

Please help me prepare in advance by sending me an email (bkmetcalfe@shaw.ca) before noon on each Wednesday, requesting the number of **AFTERNOON** and/or **EVENING** tickets needed. I will then count out your tickets & place them in an envelope which I will then give to you at rehearsal. Make sure to count & verify your tickets in your envelope. Although, I will have tickets for distribution at each rehearsal, your thoughtful email request will help keep me sane and speed up the transactions so as not to disrupt the learning each Wednesday evening.



Since one does not have to return payment or any unsold tickets until the **Wednesday, May 10 rehearsal deadline**, I encourage you to take extra tickets which you might unexpectedly sell.

To help us promote our 2023 annual show, Andrea Leader has demonstrated her artistic talents in creating this poster (at left) to advertise "Diamonds from Stage & Screen". I will have a limited number of these posters which chorus members can pin up in strategic locations. Following rehearsal, I will be emailing each chorus member a copy of Andrea's poster (in both an image (JPG) and (PDF) formats) so that one can attach this poster to any email that you send out to potential patrons.

I will begin working on the Eventbrite.ca online ticket purchasing mechanism. In the next Notes 4 U, I will provide the links to purchasing both the Afternoon & Evening tickets using this online process.

It is the chorus members, like you, who are our best promoters and sales agents. I encourage you to try and sell more tickets than Bruce, Rob, or Jerry.

Take care & keep smiling :-)

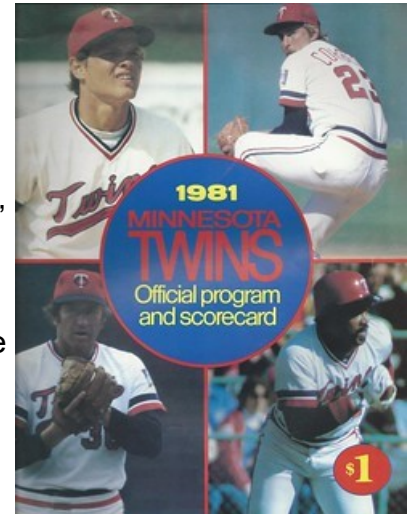


MESSAGES FROM GORDON BILLOWS

Two Items for You to Consider



- Sunday, May 28th is the Minnesota Twins vs Toronto Blue Jays baseball game at Target Field in Minneapolis. You can join with other Land O' Lakes Barbershoppers in singing the Canadian and American anthems "on the field" and, at the 7th inning stretch, sing Take Me Out to the Ball Game. I am coordinating this for Winnipeg Chapter. Spouses and family are welcomed. Tickets are \$32 US, yeh but.....,



On Wednesday, I need to know how many members are CONSIDERING THIS OPPORTUNITY to sing, shop, bond, etc. (show of hands). Email me or phone me for more information 204-488-2009. See Rob and my Notes article in last week's issue for more information.



I am in the final stages of having the show program ready for printing. Anyone who still wants to support the 75th Anniversary Fundraiser with a \$75 personal or In Memoriam donation and have their name(s) in the program can make their donation online on our RCS website. Email me or phone me for other options 204-488-2009.

April 11, BHS (SPEBSQSA) is 84 YEARS OLD

Gordon Billows—Wpg Chapter Historian



In early April of 1938, two harmony-hungry souls from Tulsa, Oklahoma, met in Kansas City and sparked the beginning of an organization that has lasted for almost 85 years. **Owen C. Cash**, a tax attorney for a petroleum company, and **Rupert I. Hall**, an investment banker, had a chance meeting in the lobby of the Muehlebach Hotel when both were grounded overnight by bad weather that had closed the airport. Co-founder Cash recalled: "I



ran into Hall, whom I knew slightly, and as I was lonesome that night, I asked if he could sing tenor. He gave the typical barbershopper's answer, 'I suppose I'm the best barbershop tenor in the United States.' "I tried him out on 'I Had A Dream, Dear,' and he stayed on pitch. We concluded that we were terribly good and canvassed the hotel lobby for a lead and bass." Legend has it that Cash tipped a bellboy a quarter to round up two other singers to make that first foursome. They found a couple and developed a "fairly good quartet." The baritone was a Kansas City real estate man named Joe Stern. Stern later started the Heart Of America Chorus in Kansas City and was its first director. He wrote words and music for a song, "Daddy, Get Your Baby Out of Jail," that became a barbershop standard, and he served as national treasurer of the Society. History does not record who sang bass. During the evening, Cash outlined to Hall the dream of organizing a barbershop quartet club. He had previously discussed this idea with fellow Tulsans with whom he sang occasionally, but not often enough. Though the idea of a singing society was Cash's, it was Hall that got the ball rolling. Hall promised that when he returned to Tulsa he would call Cash and "get this thing started." That happened on April 6th.

Rupert Hall, a member of the very exclusive Tulsa Club, arranged for an April 11th meeting in the Club's "Roof Garden". Cash drafted an invitation and sent it out to 14 men who he thought would be really interested. Shortly, his telephone began to ring and, after his assurance that guests would be welcome, 26 men turned out for the "songfest". Rupert Hall arrived at the Tulsa Club first and began to check on arrangements for food. Donnie O'Donovan of radio station KVOO, Elmer Lawyer of the Tulsa Paper Co. and Cash were the next to arrive. The 26 men sang and harmonized to some old songs for several hours with several breaking off into quartets as well. Some members of the Tulsa Club objected to the "noise"! The next week, Hall and Cash arranged for 70 barbershop singers to meet on the rooftop of Hotel Tulsa. The idea of an ongoing barbershop singing club became very evident and a more permanent location was found for the third week. About 150 men met to sing harmony on the Mezzanine level of the Alvin Plaza Hotel. This group would soon become known as the Tulsa #1 Chapter and continue to meet at the Alvin for 37 years.



SPEBSQSA

(continued)

The grand sounds of harmony resounding through the open windows on the Mezzanine level of the Alvin created quite a stir on the street below. Ralph Martin, a reporter for the Daily World newspaper, heard the singing, sensed a great story, and joined the meeting. O. C. Cash bluffed his way through the interview, saying his organization was national in scope, with branches in St. Louis, Kansas City and elsewhere. He simply neglected to mention was that these "branches" were just a few scattered friends who enjoyed harmonizing, but knew nothing of Cash's new club. Cash's flair for publicity, combined with the unusual name—the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, made an irresistible story for the news wire services, which spread it coast-to-coast. Cash's "branches" started receiving puzzling calls from men interested in joining the barbershop society. Soon, groups were meeting throughout North America to sing barbershop harmony. SPEBSQSA was born.

In July of 2004, the Board of Directors of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., rebranded itself and officially changed its public name to the Barbershop Harmony Society but maintained the Society's legal name as SPEBSQSA, Inc. The new Barbershop Harmony Society logo was approved in 2007. The international headquarters was in Kenosha, WI for fifty years before moving to Nashville TN in 2007.



TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Les Creek

Newspaper headlines from the days when the proof-readers were sleeping.....

Homicide Victims Rarely Talk to the Police

Miracle Cure Kills the Fifth Patient

Bridges Help People Cross Rivers

City Unsure Why Sewers Smell

Starvation Can Lead to Health Hazards

Parents Keep Kids Home From School to Protest School Closures

Hospitals Resort to Hiring Doctors!

Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop; Find Weapons

Total Lunar Eclipse Will Be Broadcast on Public Radio

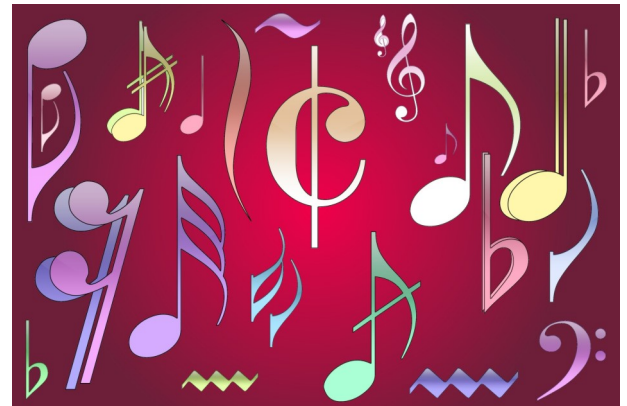
Meeting on Open Meetings is Closed

Statistics Show That Teen Pregnancy Drops Off After Age 25


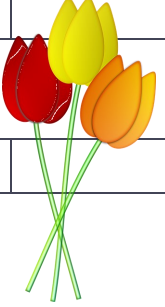
Marijuana Issue Sent to a Joint Committee

and finally

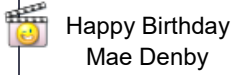


Barbershop Singers Bring Joy to School for the Deaf...



~ 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		Committee dates subject to change.					
						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

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, Susan Altomare

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

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,

Website: (update and maintain) Chris Magas

Spring Show Producer: Mae Denby

Spring Show Co-Chairs: Charlie Siegel, Donna Boyle

LOL District Chapter Advocate & Liaison: Gordon

Billows

Historian Assistant: **Need Volunteer**