

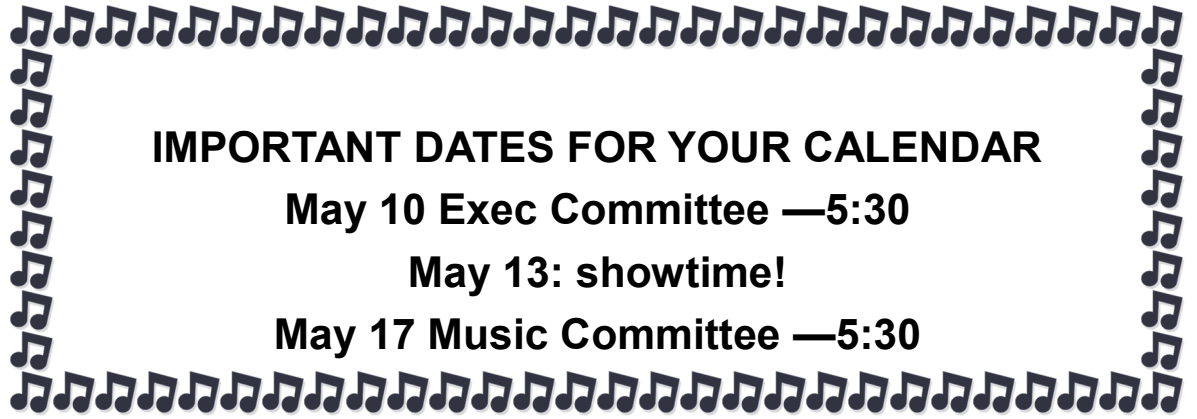
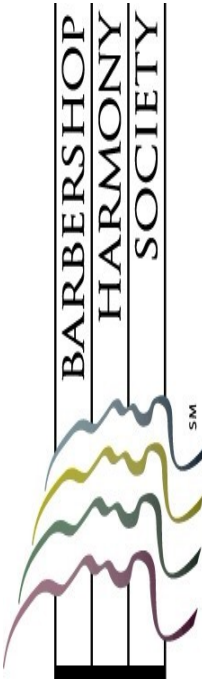
# Notes 4 U

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

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

MAY 10 2023

Vol 2023 Issue 17



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**May 10 Exec Committee —5:30**

**May 13: showtime!**

**May 17 Music Committee —5:30**

### Inside this issue

**May 10 2023**

Important Dates & Have Your Say	1
President's Musings Free singing apps to make you a better vocalist	2
Announcements	3
Message from Les Creek	4
Show Day Schedule (Repeat from last week)	5
Message from Gayle Wharton Break A Leg!	6
Message from Sherree Bredesen (Reprise from a past issue)	7
"DIAMONDS" Show - Ticket Sales Deadline - May 10th	8
75th Anniversary Fundraising FUNDRAISING	9/10
To Brighten Your Spirits	11
Calendars April & May	12
Editorial Page, 2023 Chapter Executive and Leadership	13

**Deadline for contributions to  
Notes 4 U is noon Saturday.**



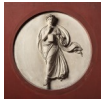
Please send your  
information to Mae at  
[Denby.Mae@gmail.com](mailto:Denby.Mae@gmail.com)

to have it Included.



# PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

President's Musings May 6, 2023



On May 5th 2023, Tedros Adhanom of the World Health Organization announced that Covid 19 no longer qualifies as a global emergency, a symbolic end to the pandemic that killed at least 7 million people globally.

WHO declared it a pandemic on Mar 11, 2020. For me personally, it started as an emergency in Canada, Mar 20, 2020, the day we were flown home from our Cuban vacation. That is more than 3 years ago. So, what has it meant to our chorus and how did we survive?

First, we didn't quit, we found ways to keep learning and performing and sharing our friendship. There were 4 numbers we performed, one person at a time, linked together by audio and video tracks that were synchronized together into polished on-line performances. They may have been a little stilted as we all followed a learning track to be able to synchronize our voices. It wasn't easy or familiar for the members, and some spent vast amounts of time doing the behind the scenes work of selecting videos, and graphics and weaving it all into something wonderful.

Then there were the outdoor gatherings at Paul & Wendy's, Sherrie's & Larry's and King`s Park. These were opportunities to sing together while distancing to minimize the risk of receiving or spreading Covid.

The chapter bought 4 high volume air cleaners in the hope they could filter out the virus particles once we returned to in-person rehearsals, and set up expectations for testing and mask-wearing. Some members didn't want to take any risks and stayed home. Others didn't agree with the chapter decisions about Covid mandate and excluded themselves for that reason. Our chorus did diminish in size for a time.

When it looked like most members were vaccinated and the risks were diminishing, we started rehearsals once again just in time for our 2021 Christmas performances. They were successful for the members and the audiences but soon the risk of new Covid variants overtook us and we had to hibernate again. Many began to wonder if this would ever be over. In 2022 we returned to successful spring and Christmas performances. We also began to accept daytime bookings, and offered a few community performances, which were very well received. It was an interesting experience to sing with a plastic curtain between us and our audience - like singing in the shower but with onlookers. All this adjusting was worthwhile, just to keep on singing!

Members often used Covid Rapid tests to make sure their sniffly nose or persistent cough wasn't Covid. Many members did get Covid at least once or maybe more but as far as I know, none of us suffered serious consequences. Early in the Pandemic, Gord & Paula were in Florida and both got Covid. Gord did require some intensive care treatment when he got back to Winnipeg. If there are any after effects, they haven't stopped him from working tirelessly for our chapter and for Barbershop Harmony in general.

So where do we go from here now the Pandemic is officially over? Well actually, it isn't over, it is still all around us and almost anyone can get infected. Thankfully the consequences are not a serious for those who are vaccinated. We still need to take reasonable precautions but at least we can participate in our choral endeavours such as the 2 concerts next weekend. We can also be grateful that chapter membership has been increasing, especially since last year's Learn to Sing Better Program. Others of our new members just showed up, and we certainly welcome that. When there are more of us on the risers, it is a fuller, richer sound and we have been hearing some of that.

It is Great to Be a Barbershopper!

Rob

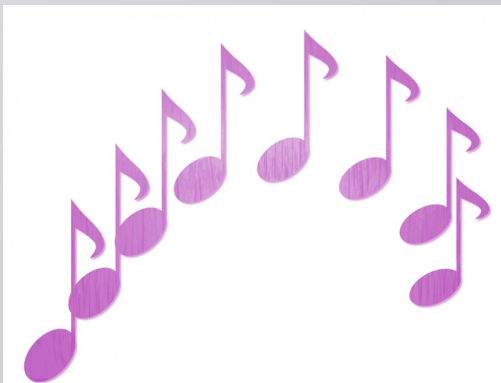
## Free singing apps to make you a better vocalist

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?**

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

**TICKET NEWS  
SEE BRIAN'S UPDATE  
PAGE 8**

## **SHOW WARDROBE**

**Men:** black tux pants, white shirt, blue tie and blue vest for the first half and add the tux jacket for the second half.

**Ladies:** the long black skirt and black sparkly top for the entire show.

## **DIAMONDS**

**FROM  
STAGE AND SCREEN**

A copy of the script is now listed on the Members page and the Prospective Members page, just below the heading "2023 Spring Show Songs:".

## **SING TO US!**

**If you are preparing to perform at the Afterglow, please talk to Chris Magas, who will be our Afterglow MC.**



# MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

This is our last rehearsal before the show. A time that we've all been anticipating. A time where we will see all of our efforts come to fruition. A time to celebrate success with our families and friends. Our music is performance ready; our choreography is well on its way; the script is tight and convincing. After the warmups, we will run through the show from start to finish, including quartet songs if possible. Any tweaking of songs will be addressed after we've finished the run-through.

We will have a great show!

Of course, we have to be physically ready to perform as well. So try to get some extra rest in the days before the show, and drink plenty of fluids. Hydration is a VERY important factor in being able to sing well. We don't have water on the risers during a show as a rule, so good preparation is important.

Also, we will be standing for about an hour during the first half of the show, so make sure you have comfortable, supportive shoes (Don't forget that we get to stand for an hour again during the second show....). The wardrobe hasn't changed, with the exception that the men in the first half will not wear their tuxedo jackets, but will in the second half.

We will be taking our NEW risers to Prairie Spirit on Friday evening at about 7. This is our time to set up the stage and do the initial setup of the sound system and lighting. Your help in unloading the trailer and setting up the risers and the tables in the lobby would be greatly appreciated. We hope to be done by 8:30 or so. Please come help if you can.

For those of you who cannot join us - we will miss you greatly! - but we also know that health and prior commitments do take precedence - and we look forward to seeing you soon.

We've been working on this show non-stop for about 3 months now; so what comes next, you might wonder? Well, there are a number of our repertoire songs that we haven't worked on for quite some time; songs like Rhythm of Love, Bridge Over Troubled Water, I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles). We will start working on these again, with sectionals for our newer members, and so that we can get them performance ready. Also we will start working on Ed Sheeran's Perfect, as a repertoire replacement for Can't Help Falling in Love, which we'll retire in the near future.

There is another song that we are considering - Pentatonix's Sing, which will be a bit of a challenge (I am a strong believer that you get better by being challenged, and we all want to get better!). We are always on the lookout for music that will fit within our repertoire, so any suggestions are gratefully considered.

See you Wednesday!

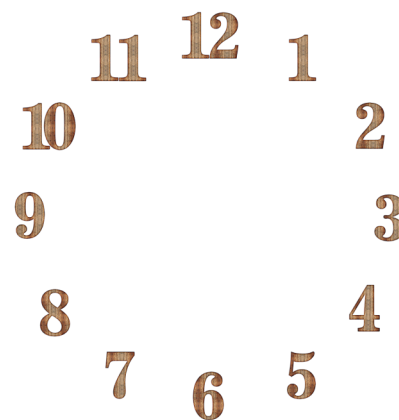


**No rehearsal schedule for this week as we already know what we will be doing**

# SPRING 2023 SHOW DAY SCHEDULE

Repeated from last week)

9:30 - 10:30	final stage dressing, lobby setup, final microphone setup
10:15	MCs, narrators, quartets arrive ready to sing
10:15 to 11:00	MC, narrator and Quartet Sound Check MCs and Narrators Harlequin Leather 'n Lace Treble in Paradise Honeycomb
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Chorus Arrive at Church</b>
10:45 to 11:00	Chorus warm up
11:00 to 12:15	Chorus Sound Check and Mini Show run-through – no tweaking!!
12:15 to 1:00	Lunch (bring your own.....)
12:30	St Croix Crossing arrive at church
1:00 to 1:30	St Croix Crossing sound check
1:00 to 1:30	Chorus Dressing
1:30 to 2:15	Brief vocal warmup and HYDRATION – no tweaking!!
2:15	ready at stage entrance
2:30 to 4:30	afternoon performance
4:30 to 5:10	greet friends and family
5:10 to 6:00	supper meal
6:00 to 6:20	dressing
6:20 to 6:50	vocal warmup and HYDRATION
6:50	ready at stage entrance
7:00 to 9:00	evening show
9:00 to 9:15	photos ??
9:15 to 9:30	greet friends and family
9:30 to 10:00	changing and stage teardown
9:30	Afterglow at Masonic Temple



## MESSAGE FROM GAYLE WHARTON

The show is shaping up very nicely and I am getting excited to perform for an audience. The photo session added even more excitement at Sunday rehearsal. Do you think he took enough pictures!!!!!!? Yikes.

I am so pleased with the way the planned choreo has come along. Thanks to everyone on stage for firstly buying into the planned moves, performing them and contributing to a very lively, fun performance.

Special thanks to Donna and Brian Strong for their Pretty Woman Choreo. You are such an exciting addition to this fun song and we really appreciate it.

To our “plate people”: Thank you for accepting our request and working to perfect this little routine. It looks great and here is ONE TIP: If one of us gets the plate tilt or plate up move mixed up please just keep going till the end of routine. Do not try to get back in sync with the others.

Thank you to our little acting crew out front. You are all terrific and getting right into character doing the “set up” (intro) and “take down” (while Larry is announcing RCS to the audience) extremely well. I love it and I’m sure my co choreo buddy, Donna Boyle, feels the same way. Donna has supplied most of the props for this set up including making the aprons and arm cloths and with the use of a foil wrapped golf ball, a dome handle and a tomato plant support for a wine cooler. Please join me in a Big thank you to Donna.



The phrase is believed to be rooted in the theatre community, which is known to be a bit superstitious. Performers believed saying “good luck” would actually bring bad luck on stage, so they’d tell one another to “break a leg” instead. That way, the opposite would happen. Instead of breaking a leg, the performer would put on a flawless performance. It’s believed to have originated in the American theatre scene in the early 20th century. Some believe it was adapted from the German saying “Hals-und Beinbruch,” which means “neck and leg break.” That phrase may also be derived from the Hebrew blessing “hatzlakha u-brakha,” which means “success and blessing.”

Another source attributes it to a shortening of ‘Break a Legend! - also from theatre, from the days when. in olde English, great performers were called ‘legends’, not ‘stars’. Break a legend—Break a Leg!

# MESSAGE FROM SHERRIE BREDESEN

(Reprise from March 2022)

## STAGE MAKE-UP IS NECESSARY FOR A PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION OF ANY SHOW.

So, unless you are completely allergic (in which case, avoid what you must), please be prepared to make up your face (and blend into the neck area as necessary) MUCH MORE than you would wear on the street. We may look rather dramatic up close (not clown-like, though) but a stage performer needs to get comfortable with being more dramatic.



**MAKE-UP** –Our make-up helps to draw attention up to our faces and we use it to smooth the colour of the skin, make it more vibrant, and also outline eyes, cheeks and lips so that our facial features are highlighted. In this way, the audience sees our expressions more clearly

Our kind of stage (no professional stage lighting) requires us to wear Bass – er- make that, Base, make-up one shade darker than our skin tone.

**EYE SHADOW** can be whatever suits you, just wear enough of it to highlight the eye. If you can wear it, **EYELINER** is great for this too. Use it on both top and on bottom lashes. Make sure your **EYEBROWS** are defined as well, using your natural colour.

A dusky rosy **CHEEK** blush (not leaning toward purple) makes our face glow but it must be blended and show no edges. Use more than would be usual.

**MASCARA** (preferably black) will top off the look of the eyes.

**LIPSTICK** should be a coral type of **RED** and fairly rich/bright colour. A pale lipstick will disappear onstage and not highlight the lips at all, and one with purple, plum, or blue tones will appear somewhat blackish under the lights. A **LIPLINER** helps lipstick to stay “inside the lines”. Line the outer inside edges of your lips, and do not colour “outside the lines” as this can allow your lipstick to bleed. Finish off your lip look with some Vaseline to add shine and help set the lipstick. If you have powder, using powder over the lipstick also helps to set it. (You can use powder to set the rest of your make-up as well so it doesn’t fade as much.)

**HAIR** should not drag across the face (thereby hiding it) but any hairstyle that compliments your outfit is fine.

**NOTE** - these make-up requirements were learned at U of W where I majored in Music and minored in Theatre and Drama. I have successfully used this format for over 50 years of shows and competitions in my Barbershop career. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call me (204-477-8023) or email me at [sbredesen@gmail.com](mailto:sbredesen@gmail.com)



# “DIAMONDS” SHOW - TICKET SALES DEADLINE - MAY 10TH

By Brian Metcalfe

Thanks to all our chorus members who have been busy selling tickets to our upcoming “Diamonds From Stage & Screen”. In order for me to balance the chorus ticket sales prior to our annual show, I need all outstanding ticket sales funds (which we hope are larger) together with any unsold tickets (which we hope are small) returned to me at rehearsal this week.

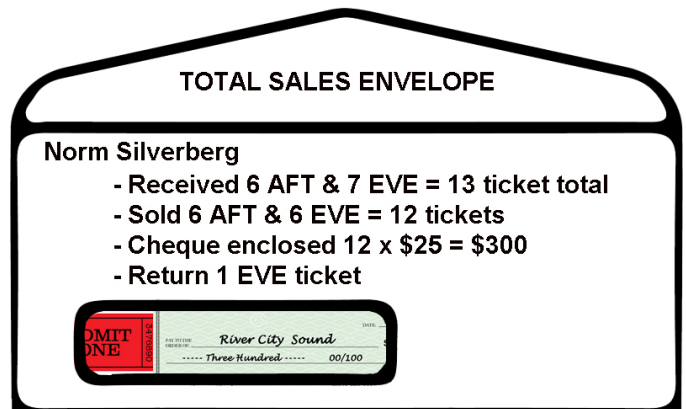
**Total Sales Envelope** - All chorus members, with sales funds and any unsold tickets, **MUST TURN THEM IN to Brian at our May 10 rehearsal.** I plan to arrive at rehearsal early at 6:15 pm to receive your “TOTAL SALES” envelopes with the following details:

- Your Name
- Total tickets Received & Sold
- A cheque payable to River City Sound
- Any unsold tickets

**TOTAL SALES ENVELOPE**

Norm Silverberg

- Received 6 AFT & 7 EVE = 13 ticket total
- Sold 6 AFT & 6 EVE = 12 tickets
- Cheque enclosed 12 x \$25 = \$300
- Return 1 EVE ticket



**But I still need tickets!** Note ...I can still provide you with tickets at our May 10th rehearsal, but I will only trade them for a cheque for the appropriate ticket costs.

**Paid In Full Envelope** - **No unpaid reserved tickets can be left for pickup at the door.** However, to accommodate your friends, who want to be assured that they will get a ticket, you may give me a separate envelope **on May 10th** that contains only “PAID IN FULL” tickets with these details:

- Your name
- # of tickets & AFT or EVE time
- PRINT name of patron in large letters

I will collect these sealed envelopes on May 10th and give them to Sally Metcalfe who will

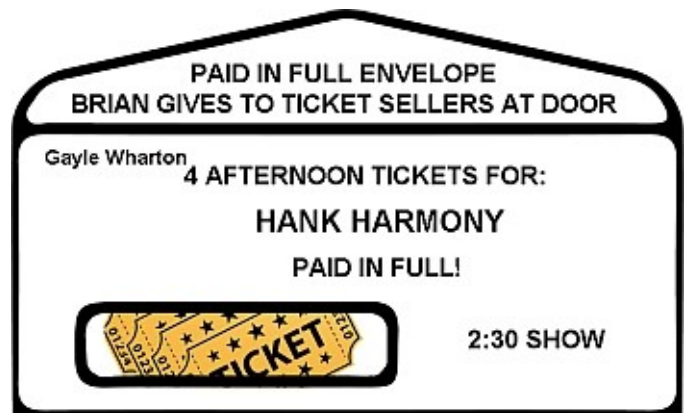
be selling tickets at the church door with her volunteer team. Tell patrons to proceed to the table with the “NEED TICKETS” sign & request their reserved tickets.

In closing, I want to thank the ticket sellers, ticket takers, ushers, lunch servers, and other helpers for their dedication to making our show a success!

**PAID IN FULL ENVELOPE  
BRIAN GIVES TO TICKET SELLERS AT DOOR**

Gayle Wharton

**4 AFTERNOON TICKETS FOR:  
HANK HARMONY  
PAID IN FULL!**





# 75TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING



Thank you Business & Association Sponsors and Personal Donors for supporting Winnipeg Chapter's 75th Anniversary Fundraiser. Your generous contributions to our 2023 celebrations are appreciated. Together, we have SURPASSED our Chapter's 75th Anniversary Fundraising goal of \$7500.00 and have raised approximately \$9400.00!

**Gordon Billows (Fundraiser)**

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Ferryl Casselman (in memory of Bill Casselman)		
Arline Christopherson (in memory of Norv Christopherson)		
Betty Cobb (in memory of Bob Cobb)		
Vern & Aggie Fast (in memory of Cass, Doug & Mike)		
Marybet & Family (in memory of Jim Gilroy)		
Rhonda Grist (in memory of Gord Grist)		
June Harris (in memory of Cliff & Ben Harris)		
Ardis & Ron Latourelle (in memory of Timothy Latourelle)		
Charlie Siegel (in memory of Debbie Siegel)		
Linda Soltys (in memory of Lenard Soltys)		

# RIVER CITY SOUND - 75TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING

## Gordon Billows – Fundraiser

River City Sound thanks these business & association sponsors for supporting our 75th Anniversary Fundraiser. Their generous contributions, in addition to the personal donations we have received, helped us surpass our original fundraising goal of \$7500.00. The total amount raised is now about \$9400.00!

If you happen to contact any of these sponsors, for your own personal reasons, please express your appreciation for their support for River City Sound.



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"Where words fail, music speaks."  
— Hans Christian Andersen

# TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Here and there

## When parents start to crack during lockdown



**I told my suitcases  
that there will be no  
vacation this year.  
Now I'm dealing with  
emotional baggage.**

**MY NEIGHBOR JUST YELLED  
AT HER KIDS SO LOUD THAT  
EVEN I BRUSHED MY TEETH  
AND WENT TO BED.**

TOPICS word of the day...

**Spuddle:** a useful verb from the 17th century that means to work feebly and ineffectively, because your mind is elsewhere or you haven't quite woken up yet. To be extremely busy whilst achieving absolutely nothing.





# 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, 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 Liaison:** Gordon Billows

**Historian Assistant:** **Need Volunteer**