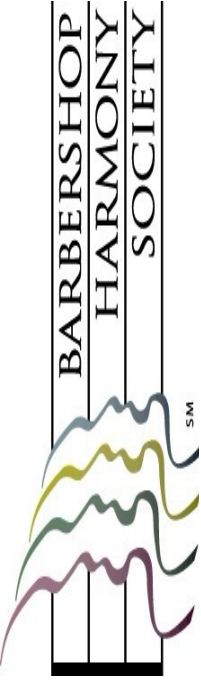


Notes 4 U

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 19



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR May 31 Music Committee —5:30

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May 24 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.



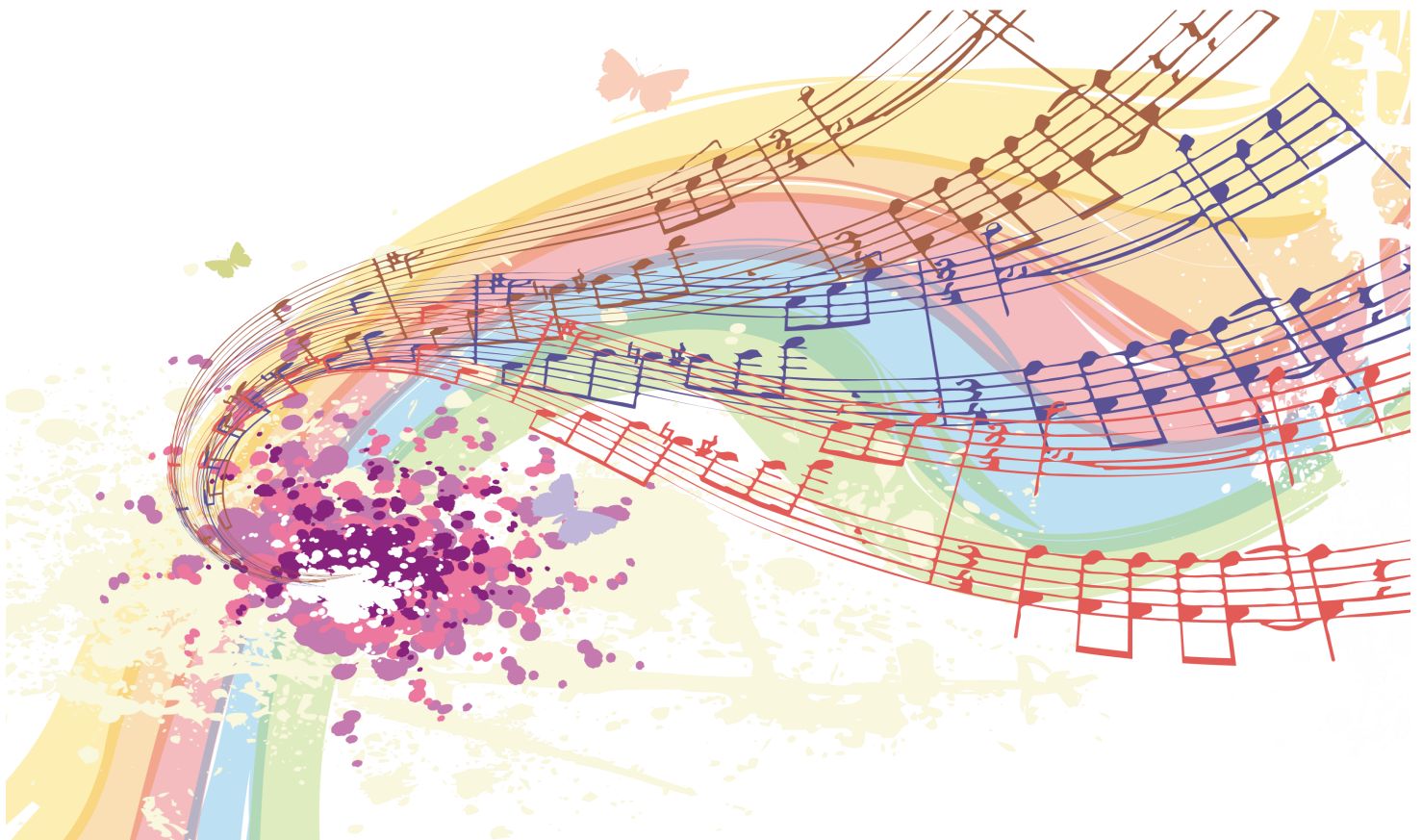
MAY 24 2023

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

By Rob Smith

President's Musings May 20, 2023

So, what do we do now that the show weekend has faded into memory, ease off and just attend rehearsals when we feel like it? WRONG ANSWER! Les and the music committee have some new music for us to learn so it will likely be back to sectionals between now and the end of June. As announced on Wednesday, there will be a barbeque on Wednesday June 28th, likely at Kildonan or one of the other city parks. We will scout the park and try to book one of the sites with a shelter just in case of rain. There won't be rehearsals in July but they will start again part way through August, especially if the chorus booking at Jonathan Toews Community Centre is confirmed. Meanwhile, I will keep this short and look forward to the reflections of others about the show as invited by Mae. Tag, your turn.



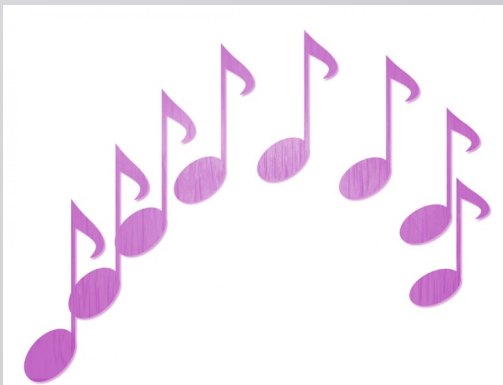
Free singing apps to make you a better vocalist

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



MUSIC COMMITTEE

MAY 31

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

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

Winnipeg Mennonite
Theatre Presents:

**When we
are married**

BY J. B. Priestley

0 Université de Saint-Boniface -
Salle Martial Caron 200 avenue
de la Cathédrale

FREE parking lot located on
Rue Despins

THU. JUNE 1 7:35 pm //

FRI. JUNE 2 7:35 pm

SAT. JUNE 3 2:05 pm //

SAT. JUNE 3 7:35 pm

SUN. JUNE 4 2:05 pm //

ADMISSION: \$20

TICKETS ONLINE AT:

winnipegmennonitetheatre.ca
EVENTBRITE or call Jeff or
Cindy Madden at 204-612-4141

TAG NEWS

The sole tag that has emerged (so far) was performed at the After-glow. The sheet music will arrive as an attachment to the next email from Shirley.

THANK YOU ANDREA!



MESSAGE FROM LES CREEK

After the discussion on Wednesday during rehearsal, it was apparent that the audience really appreciated the show as a whole. Yes, there are (and probably will always be) some items that can be improved, but each show that we perform is better and better. We are on the right track. You all deserve a great big pat on the back. It was a long day, but we sounded as good in the evening as we did in the afternoon. Well done!

This week we will start working on Perfect, as well as continuing with the other pieces that we dusted off last Wednesday. I've scheduled extended sectionals so that our newer members get a chance to work through these pieces. Then, as usual, we'll sing them in chorus.

The last half hour has been set aside for some 'quartet-ing', similar to what happened last week. Sherrie and / or Larry (1) will select the tag(s) or songs that we'll work on during this time. It is a great exercise that helps develop your ear and your timing, so step up and enjoy the singing. There is no judgement on anyone's part if you don't quite hit that note, or miss a beat here or there; it is a learning experience.

Stay well everyone, and enjoy the weather!





REHEARAL SCHEDULE May 24, 2023



From Les Creek

6:55 to 7:05 Physical warmup
 7:05 to 7:20 Vocal warmup
 7:20 to 7:30 New music introduction – Perfect (Ed Sheeran)
 7:30 to 8:15 Sectionals – review other repertoire music

Rhythm of Love
 Bridge Over Troubled Water
 I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)
 Imagine??
 Perfect



8:15 to 8:45 Repertoire Review
 Rhythm of Love
 Bridge Over Troubled Water
 I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)
 Yesterday
 Imagine??

8:45 to 9:10 Break and Business Meeting
 9:10 to 9:30 Repertoire Review (continued)
 9:30 to 9:55 Quartet-ing
 9:55 Wrap up and Final Song



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

	<u>New Music</u>	<u>Sectionals</u>	<u>Repertoire Review</u>	<u>Off page</u>
May 31	Perfect	Rhythm of Love Perfect Bridge I'm Gonna Be	Rhythm of Love Perfect Bridge I'm Gonna Be Yesterday Imagine	
June 6		Best of Doo Wop	same as May 24 Best of Doo Wop Perfect	

RIVER CITY SOUND WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

By Gordon Billows

This is an update to my “Celebrating” article in the March-April Pitch Piper.

Unlike most Chapters in our Barbershop Harmony Society, River City Sound Chapter has just installed 6 more new members. This will make it 10 new members joining the Chapter in 2023, so far! All 10 qualified to be on our very successful 75th Anniversary’s annual show, “Songs from Stage & Screen” on May 13th.

It has been just over 6 months since these members participated in our Fall “Learn to Sing Better” program, learning several songs with the River City Sound chorus that were performed on our Christmas show, and continued into the new year to prepare for our annual show in May. Keep in mind that although most of the songs were quite familiar to many chorus members, these new Barbershoppers had to work EXTRA, EXTRA HARD to learn the 10 songs for the annual show plus other repertoire. They accepted the challenge and performed extremely well. Congratulations!

These few months, with River City Sound, have been a great introduction to our “hobby”. These new members learned Barbershop craft, sang some tags, did some quarteting, participated in section rehearsals every week, learned Barbershop style songs, performed with the chorus at a few community venues, participated in our LOL coaching session with Mark McLaurin, and they thoroughly enjoyed being entertained by a GOLD medal quartet—St Croix Crossing at River City Sound’s annual show!



NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS!

As announced at Rehearsal, a wide-ranging evaluation of the show, differentiated by sector (choristers, volunteers, audience) is planned, and will appear shortly. Your participation will be important, as we seek to capture the 'inside story'. The end purpose is to develop a sort of guidebook' for future show planners. Meanwhile we have two collections of audience feedback, plus comments from two choristers and the producer.

From Sherri and Larry

- * overall, the chorus sound was the best they've ever heard us - there was a wonderful blend of both men's and women's voices in the Barbershop style rather than choral.
- * song selection was wonderful!
- * every quartet was very good
- * the fun and funny selections by Leather 'n Lace and Honeycomb were very much appreciated and enjoyed
- * people commented on how much they particularly enjoyed the fun parody of Over the Rainbow by Honeycomb
- * Leather 'n Lace sounded amazing and impressive
- * much of the audience could not hear Dean's words - they thought he spoke too fast and perhaps the mic set up was not good
- * it would have been nice to have a "less bright" auditorium so the stage performers could have been even more highlighted.
- * Guest Quartet (St.Croix Crossing) was outstanding! EVERYBODY loved them!
- * parking was tough to find - having to park far away was a liability
- * the women's outfits were lovely and the men looked very dapper
- * the couple who danced during Pretty Woman were very cute
- * other people did not think that it added to the Pretty Woman song at all
- * mostly, the set-up at the beginning for Be our Guest was interesting
- * the Jack and Jill dialogue overshadowed the actual song introductions, especially when much of it was not heard
- * some people did not think we should be using a conflicting concept of someone not liking vs liking our musical show as it took away from the show- it would have been better to have two people up there who were both excited by the show about to be presented
- * comments were made that Larry B was still the best MC this chorus has ever had as he really knows how to draw in the audience
- * the SINGING was the strong part of the show rather than the scripting or actors

From Gordon Billows

Great show. Thank you for bringing in that quartet.

Missed hearing a great headliner quartet at your shows.

Good selection of songs, well sung.

So very nice to visit with many friends.

Mic was often late to pick up on the MC, Jack and Jill,

Jack and Jill were often hard to hear.

Really needed more pleasant faces/expression in the chorus. Very few singers showed that they were happy to have us in the audience. Your members should know this by now.

NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS! (Continued)

From Herold Driedger

A 75th anniversary lesson:

Something that stood out for me in this year's spring show *Diamonds* from Stage and Screen was that the show producer was a relative "newbe". Mae's contribution was the creative element. What she lacked in experience was more than made up by the support given her by chapter members learning their music; a show committee that provided the production nuts and bolts as well as helping her fine tune the script and making everything come together.

What this tells us is that we should not be afraid to encourage our new members to consider jumping into the "be a show producer fire." New members bring into the chapter different life ideas and skills. They usually want to wait and see how they may fit in before venturing into taking on specific chapter roles or functions. But waiting allows them to become ground down and jaded "oldies" reluctant to take on tasks that are seen as stressful and difficult undertakings. Taking on a major show does bring stress. But the chapter has in its membership and leadership the wisdom and knowledge to make this a manageable enterprise.

We've all heard the compliments that our audiences shared with us at the end of both the afternoon and the evening shows. This show was different...

Let's try learning from this experience.

Thank you,

From Gayle Wharton

My most memorable moment from the show was, from where I stand on the end of the front row, the full rich tone I suddenly realized I was surrounded by. Wow! So full of energy and emotion I could feel it. Exactly the way we strive to perform and we did it. YEA. I hope every chorus member feels as proud to be a member of RCS as I do.

From the Producer

Reflections—

The entire experience of producing an RCS show has been exciting, challenging, gratifying, and educational! I was/am a newbie. Though I have produced many a school show, I have never enjoyed the kind of proactive, unstoppable support that *Diamonds* offered.

It was most challenging at first, having little history with RCS, to sort out long-standing protocols and adjust my own expectations accordingly. I must again mention that Les Creek, as VP- Music, shouldered a heavy load, guiding me throughout the process—many an email! Les, as the producer of the first RCS show I ever witnessed (*The Reunion*) established the model; he showed great courage in entrusting me with this.

I am pleased to see Herold's 'take'; I hope the Guidelines that emerge from the evaluation process will support his recommendations.

I must echo Gayle's comment also. What a sound! Sherrie and Larry, you are inspiring! Thank you also to the Show Committee, the Music Committee, and all those who asked tough questions along the way.

And my favourite moment: that opening line: 'We're glad to see you here tonight' - still thrilling.

Thank you all!



A STANDING OVATION FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

by Brian Metcalfe

Wikipedia defines a standing ovation as “a form of applause where members of a seated audience stand up while applauding after an extraordinary performance of particularly high acclaim”. I’m sure most River City Sound chorus members are familiar with what a standing ovation is and many experienced such audience reaction after we performed “Diamonds From Stage & Screen”. However, far fewer members know about Neil Klippenstein, a former member of our Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen.

Neil, who was a father of four, had been riding a motorcycle for 35 years. On August 3rd, 2011 around 12:20 pm, he was riding his Honda motorcycle north-bound on Lagimodiere, near the the Royal Canadian Mint, when traffic came to a sudden stop. Unfortunately, the driver in the car behind Neil did not see him and crashed his car, travelling at 72 km/hr, into Neil, his motorcycle and two vehicles in front. Neil and his bike flew onto the boulevard and he ended up as a quadriplegic requiring 24/7 care. In hindsight, Neil was grateful that he was not sandwiched between the scrap metal of the the three vehicle pile-up. As a devout Christian, Neil believes God had a purpose for sparing his life.

Neil was at our show in his motorized wheel chair on on May 13. I have to thank Denise Hunter for sharing her perspective of the “Diamonds From Stage & Screen” standing ovation from the perspective of two audience members. When the audience struggled to their feet amid the sustained clapping, Denise observed Neil slowly raise his wheel chair to the extreme highest position as a tribute to our performance. Denise admitted that Neil’s action brough tears to her eyes as her late husband, who suffered from ALS, was wheel chair bound and she could relate to Neil’s effort required to acknowledge our performance.

I was very lucky to be with the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen when we visited Neil and his wife at their home a few years ago. We sang some of Neil’s favourite barbershopper songs and the harmony resonance within their home was magical. I know as well that when Harlequin was rehearsing on Tuesday nights at Paul & Wendy’s home, the four quartet members would drop by Neil’s house to share their love of harmony with him.

In closing, I want to share with you Neil’s amazing outlook. He admits that his glass is half full and does not blame the driver of the car that hit him. Rather he suggested that the Mint area is a popular location for geese to gather and perhaps it was a goose who blocked the traffic on that fateful day and if anyone is to blame, Neil proposes that perhaps it should be the goose crossing Lagimodiere.

I know that if I am singing in future River City Sound performances and we get a standing ovation, I will think of Neil with admiration for his effort and outlook.

Take care & keep smiling :-)



TO BRIGHTEN YOUR SPIRITS DURING THESE TRYING TIMES

From Here and there



There are more microorganisms in one teaspoon of soil than there are people on earth. It's aliiiiive!

Okay, in all seriousness, that fact might make you uncomfortable, but microbes are important for keeping your soil full of nutrients.

What does the robin symbolize?



The whole world is
short-staffed;
be kind to
those who show up.



For centuries, this tiny bird has been the symbol of good luck, happiness, rebirth - and sometimes even as a messenger for lost, loved ones. There are tales stretching back to Norse mythology where the robin is the protector from storms and lightning. And in Celtic folklore the robin is known as the Oak King of Summer.



~ 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		Happy Birthday Mae Denby		Showtime!	
14		15		16		17		18		19		20	
								Rehearsal 7:00					
21	Happy Birthday Duncan Zalusky	22		23		24		25		26		27	
				(Possible) rehearsal		Rehearsal 6:55							
28		29		30		31							
						Music Cmte 5:30 Rehearsal 6:55							

~ June 2023 ~

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
								1		2		3	
										Happy Birthday Donna Strong		Happy Birthday Rhonda Grist	
4	Happy Birthday Carol Seburn Heather Lumsden	5		6		7		8		9		10	
1		12		13		14		15		16		17	
						Happy Birthday Andrea Leader Rehearsal 6:55							
1		19		20		21		22		23		24	
2		26		27		28		29		30			
						Happy Birthday Drummond Barbecue		Committee dates t.b.a.					

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 Co-Chairs: Charlie Siegel, Donna Boyle

LOL District Liaison: Gordon Billows

Historian Assistant: **Need Volunteer**

Spring Show 2024 Producer: **Need Volunteer**