

17 May Rehearsals - Wednesday 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at St. Andrews Church (basement) 255 oak street Issue 20 2017



# Notes 4 U

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
Land of Lakes District, Barbershop Harmony Society  
www.goldenchordsmen.com



### FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Take note of these important 2017 dates. Changes will be made as new information is received.

- May 27, 2017 WGC Annual Show - Bethel Mennonite Church - 465 Stafford St
- May 31, 2017—
- June 24—Clean Up The Locker
- July 2 - July 9 - Las Vegas, NV - International Convention
- July 22 - 30 - Nashville, TN - Harmony University
- Sep 1—Learn To Sing Promotion
- Sep 30—Nuit Blanche
- Oct 18—Learn to Sing Program
- Oct 28—Gig at Club Regent/Canad Inn
- Nov 3—BOTY Dinner
- Dec 9 Christmas Show (to be confirmed)

Note From Bruce Wilton - This is what makes this hobby a lot of fun!

Gentlemen,  
Thank you so very much for a superb performance at Government House last evening. Her Honour was absolutely delighted, and we all received many wonderful comments from our guests. You will most certainly be a part of many joyful conversations today, and the memories that the recipients and their families will carry with them forever.

Thank you again, and I do hope we have opportunity to work with you in the future.

With a grateful heart,  
Kate Gameiro  
Executive Director and Private Secretary  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba

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Important—On 24 June we will require a work party to help with the clean up of our locker space at the Church. We hope you all realize that this is important so we can find music etc easier and some important files on the History of the Chapter. We ask all of you to consider coming to help. As we always say many hand make light work. There are new shelves to be assembled and old ones to get rid of, backs for the risers to be relocated to gain easier access and wardrobe to be reorganized and inventory taken



## WC REHEARSAL - May 17, 2017

- 7:00 Warm Up
- 7:20 Director's Choice – Anything that needs work
- 7:50 Business Meeting & Short Break
- 8:00 Show run through  
Be Our Guest  
Hat's Off  
Shenandoah  
Hat's Off  
Harlequin  
VLQ  
Vocal Point  
Can You Feel the Love Tonight  
What Kind of Fool Am I  
Do You Hear the People Sing  
Bring Him Home
- 8:45 (ish) \*\*\*\*\*Intermission\*\*\*\*\* (short break)
- 8:55 (ish) Cabaret  
Vocal Point  
Fall Creek  
Harlequin  
Music of the Night  
Do You Hear the People Sing (Reprise)
- 9:25 (ish) anything that need work
- 9:45 Draw, clean up, tag singing & Fellowship

Reminder: We have some stools & riser seats for those who need them in the storage area

## Bridge star Danny Miles wins third national title

This past Sunday, Former Winnipegger Danny Miles and his teammates won the 2017 Canadian Bridge Championships which were held in Winnipeg at the Radisson Hotel downtown from April 29 to May 7. For Miles, this was the third time in six years that he has been a member of the Canadian Champion bridge foursome. He was also a member of the 2012 and 2015 winning teams. In 2012, the winning team represented Canada in the world championships in France. In 2015, Miles and his teammates represented our country in India. Miles explains that at the world level there are different tournaments, depending on the year. In years corresponding with the Olympic Games, every country can send an Olympic bridge team to the World Team Olympiad. Then there is the Bermuda Bowl. Held in odd-numbered years, the tournament is open only to teams representing each of the World Bridge Federation's different zones. Thus, Miles points out, only two team slots are allotted for North America. The United States sends one team and Canada and Mexico have a playoff to determine which country sends the second team. Miles' tournament in India was competing in the Bermuda Bowl. Miles and his teammates now have to face-off against the top Mexican team to determine which of the two will go to the Bermuda Bowl this year in Lyons in France. The world championships in even, non-Olympic years are open to anyone. The Canadian nationals in Winnipeg, Miles reports, drew about 500 bridge players from across the country. The teams, he says, consist of four to six members. His team included a fellow Torontonian, a player from Vancouver and three Winnipeggers - playing at the highest level - with the team making it to the final eights in the playoffs. Miles notes that there were also lower levels of competition, women's teams and seniors teams. Miles has been playing bridge since he was four years old - and has been a competitive player for the past 25 years. "I learned bridge from my baba, Frances (Miles)," he says. "She taught the whole family. Our family was always playing cards and, as I have always been a numbers guy, I kept playing," adds Miles, who has been working in the financial and investment fields in Toronto for the past 20 years. The bridge star began playing seriously while attending the University of Manitoba, where he won two tournaments during his time there. "There are so many different skill levels to bridge," Miles says. "You keep playing in the hope of getting better. As you begin to advance to higher levels, you begin encountering players who are better than you and may well wonder if you will ever be as good as they are. There is so much to learn. It is just a matter of keeping at it." At one time, he recalls, he would play every day for a period of time online and enter tournaments once or twice a month. But, with a new baby at home, he says, there is not a lot of time to practice. This past month, he only practiced one day. While the game is attracting more retirees, people with time on their hands who are looking for some social interaction, not a lot of younger people - at least not in North America, are taking up the game, Miles points out. "In this electronic age, it has been tough to interest younger people in bridge," he says. In some European and Asian countries, bridge is being taught in the schools, he reports. In some Winnipeg schools volunteers teach bridge. And, in Toronto, there is an annual daylong Easter tournament for high school students that attracts up to 500 students. Miles says that he gets back to Winnipeg once or twice a year to see his family. He adds that his 95-year-old baba is still playing bridge and sometimes calls him for advice.



**DANNY MILES at a national bridge tournament in Winnipeg**

## Golden Chordsmen love to sing

THE JEWISH POST & NEWS, Wednesday, May 10, 2017

Readers who recall the movie, "The Music Man" may remember how "Professor" Harold Hill persuaded the four town councillors to form a barbershop quartet, with the result that the foursome were forever breaking into song.

Winnipeg's modern-day equivalent - the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen Chorus - shares that

propensity to break into song. "We will do shows whenever we're asked," says Golden Chordsmen member Dr. Morley Bernstein. "We sing at seniors' homes and charity events. We participate in the Seniors Music Festival and in competitions with other chapters nationally and internationally. "We also offer a singing Valentine service. For a fee, we will send out a quartet to deliver a rose, chocolates and two songs. There is not as much demand as there used to be. But I would feel good for the whole day afterwards." The Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen Chorus, Bernstein reports, is a chapter

of the Barbershop Harmony Society - which was founded in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the 1930s. The Society now has about 30,000 members with chapters throughout North America and ten other countries worldwide. The Winnipeg chapter - which was founded in 1948 - has 48 members, eight of whom are Jewish. Among them are Gary Miles Bernstein, Jerry Moscovitch, Bernie Gunn, Norm Silverberg, Earl Golden, David Petrie and Perry Chochinov. The age range of members runs from 30 to 90. Bernstein himself was brought into the group 23 years ago by his friend, Martin Gurvey (who has since left Winnipeg). "I have always enjoyed singing," says Bernstein, a retired orthodontist who has served on the Chordsmen board of directors and produced a couple of the shows himself. "I just needed to find an outlet." Bernstein notes that there are 13 traditional songs in the repertoire that every Barbershop Harmony Society knows. "We have been trying to get away somewhat from the traditional songs as we try to attract younger members," he says. "Our recent shows have included rock and roll, the

music of Broadway, a tribute to Al Jolson and Western music." Bernstein notes that the Golden Chordsmen's next public performance will be titled Music of the Night, featuring songs from "Les Miz", "Cabaret", "Beauty and the Beast" and "Phantom of the Opera". The performance is scheduled for Saturday, May 27, at Bethel Mennonite Church on Stafford. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from chorus members, online at eventbrite or by phoning 204 255-4558. "We practice 52 weeks a year," Bernstein says. "I love the group and group singing. They say that singing contributes to a healthier life."



## Doing Your Part and Deadlines

by Brian Metcalfe

Regardless of whether you are in the chorus or in a quartet, you should appreciate the efforts that all individuals make to get a chord "to ring". Regardless, if three members of your quartet or three sections of your chorus are performing at 100 percent, and you are not hitting the right note or your particular section is not singing accurately, the harmony fails. So too, in many of the volunteer efforts made by individuals working behind the scenes or distributing tickets and collecting funds for our annual show.

As most of you know, our annual show is the most important fundraising event each year. From the proceeds of this endeavour we gain a significant amount of funds to continue our harmonizing hobby.

For this reason, **I encourage all members to do their best to sell a minimum of two tickets to our upcoming May 27th "Music of the Night" show.**

Some may feel that their only concern is to learn the music and be prepared to perform on May 27. However, there are many "behind the scenes" aspects that must be completed that I sometimes feel are not fully appreciated. Until you have volunteered to help out at a particular task, you cannot appreciate the work behind this endeavour. The following suggestions will help reduce the stress on many of your colleagues who are working very hard on many tasks related to our annual show.

### TRANSACTION TIPS:

- **NO UN-PAID TICKETS WILL BE HELD IN RESERVE AT THE DOOR** - If a chorus member wishes to reserve a ticket for a patron, and the patron is not able to pick up and pay for the ticket before hand, the chorus member must purchase the ticket out of her/his own pocket and pay John Latham before the deadline (noted below). Such a "reserved & paid ticket" should be placed in an envelope which is marked as follows:
  1. the patron's name;
  2. the number of tickets; and
  3. the words "PAID TICKETS".

This "paid & reserved ticket" envelope should be given, on or before May 24th, to Brian Metcalfe, who will pass it along to the ticket taking volunteers at the door. Also, please remember to hand in your money and any returned tickets in an envelope to John by May 24. On the outside of the envelope write your name, total funds included, and number of returned tickets. Such info will help John when he balances the ticket sales.

**EMAIL OR PHONE TO REQUEST TICKETS BEFORE REHEARSAL** - Having distributed tickets in past, I know how important it is to be able to quickly record ticket numbers and distribute tickets in an efficient manner at rehearsals. With our change in rehearsal format, most of these quick transactions happen near the end of the rehearsal at coffee break. To facilitate a quick transfer of tickets, I know that both John Latham (Performance) and Gary Miles (Pre-Show Meal & Afterglow) would appreciate an email or phone call advising them of the number of tickets you require at the next rehearsal. Such a courtesy gives these individuals the necessary time to set aside the tickets, record the ticket numbers and have them ready for you in advance.

- **ONE CHEQUE COMPLICATES IT FOR US** - Some may think that it is more efficient to write one cheque to cover the total costs for their preshow meal, the performance tickets for the family, and Afterglow tickets. From your point of view, this may be true. However, from our ticket sales volunteer's perspective, it can cause unnecessary frustration. Realize, it is much easier if John Latham and Gary Miles can balance their respective monetary transactions independent of one another. Trying to split a single cheque over these two separate areas just causes them additional stress.



#### **DEADLINES & TASK DATES:**

Since there are many "behind the scenes" tasks that need to be completed on schedule. It is important that members adhere to the following deadlines:

- **Wednesday, May 17 - FINAL AFTERGLOW & PRE-SHOW MEAL SALES DEADLINE** - Since we have to advise the Masonic Center a week in advance as to the number of Afterglow meals to prepare, we need to have a final count no later than the May 17th rehearsal.
- **Wednesday, May 24 - All TICKET MONEY RETURNED** - All monetary performance ticket money and any outstanding unsold tickets must be returned to John Latham no later than this rehearsal. Any "Paid in full" ticket envelopes must be given to Brian Metcalfe at this rehearsal, as well.
- **Tickets retained after the May 24th cut-off date will be considered sold.** If unsold tickets have not been returned to John by this Wednesday night rehearsal, the WGC member will be responsible for purchasing these tickets and turning the respective funds over to John in a cheque.
- **Wednesday, May 24 - RISER LOADING** - Once again Victor Olafson has volunteered to transport the risers and equipment to Bethel Mennonite Church. We need help loading this equipment at the end of this rehearsal. See sign-up sheet at rehearsal.
- **Friday, May 26 - RISER UNLOAD & SET-UP** - Victor will arrive at Bethel Mennonite Church at 6:15 pm. We need volunteers to help unload the risers and set them up for our dress rehearsal which will begin at 7:00 pm.
- **Friday, May 26 - DRESS REHEARSAL**- 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm. Our final dress rehearsal will take place at Bethel Mennonite Church.
- **Saturday, May 27 - PERFORMANCE DAY** - The church will open at 2:00 pm and with ALL your help we can clean up, load risers, and vacate the church by 10:00 pm.
- **Saturday, May 27 - AFTERGLOW** - Masonic Centre - 9:30 pm to 1:00 am - DON'T FORGET YOUR TICKETS!
- **Sunday, May 28 - RISER UNLOAD** - Sunday afternoon, we will need help to transfer the risers from the trailer to our storage area at St. Andrews River Heights Church.

Take care & keep smiling :-)



~ May 2017 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Executive Meeting	11	12	13 Northern Plains Competition (Fargo)
14	15	16	17 Show Committee Meeting	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 WGC Annual Show - Bethel Mennonite Church - 465 Stafford St
28	29	30	31			

~ June 2017 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Executive Meeting	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Show Committee Meeting	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

