

# *The Town and Country Chorus*

## *NOTES ♪ NEWS and VIEWS for March 24, 2020*

I started off the newsletter last week talking about the coronavirus. This week is the same I'm afraid as it remains the number one topic in the news.

Social activities are more affected than a week ago. Almost all sporting events and productions of any size have been postponed at the very least, or outright canceled.

Schools are entertaining the idea of calling the 2019-2020 school year over as far as using the buildings and assembling the students in one spot are concerned. Thankfully technology is allowing education and assignments to go on. I do not know how well this is working out. Don, I'm sure, will have some insight on this for us.

Businesses are shuttering their doors and reducing services at an increasing rate. Smaller operations are most affected at this point. We all drive by restaurants with empty parking lots. Other social gathering places have essentially pulled up the welcome mats too.

Big business now is on the line. The news tells us that the big three auto makers are going into hibernation for a time and perhaps turning their talents and resources to the building of medical equipment. Shades of WWII; medical machines instead of war machines.

The trickle-down effect of decreased automotive work touches most of us however. Directly or indirectly "Detroit" leaves its mark on everyone. In this case what happens in Detroit does NOT stay in Detroit.

What this means to the Town & Country Chorus I do not know. As of today, our Spring Show is still on the calendar. Until we know differently personal practice time of our show music is as important as ever. Keep after the advertising, too. I'm sure businesses are eliminating all non-essential spending but please approach them anyway. I know of one chorus member who is telling his contacts that ads are used for the Spring Show as well as the Fall Gospel Show and anything in between, and that their contribution helps keep us going throughout the year.

The main thing right now is to take all the precautions necessary to minimize the virus effects in your life. We will get through this and the lessons learned will be many. As the saying goes, hind sight is 20/20.

At this time the next show meeting is still scheduled for our first night back to rehearsals on Tuesday, April 7 at 6:15 p.m. All is subject to change.

Many of you may be aware of this already but a sad news item to report is the passing of Gene Taphouse on March 19. I do not know any details or any arrangements at this time. Those of you with Facebook capabilities may be able to discover more.

Gene was a bass in the T&C Chorus when I started some 15 years ago (in fact Gene sponsored me in) and sang in the chapter quartet *Just Four Friends Singing*. He then at some point switched over to baritone and continued supporting the chorus and participating in various quarteting opportunities. He will be missed.

We still need to pick a date for the Reading United Methodist sing-out. We've narrowed it to Sunday, July 19 or Sunday, July 26. Please keep both times open until we can decide which one it is to be.

Stay healthy and we'll see you ... on some Tuesday,

Gary

*Make The Music That Makes The Difference*

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<b><u>Calendar for 2020</u></b>
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**MARCH**

~~**24 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm. **CANCELED.**~~

~~**31 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm. **CANCELED.**~~

**APRIL**

~~**4 Sat:** Defiance Northwesternaires Chapter Spring Show. **POSTPONED.**~~

~~**4 Sat:** Chapter Leadership Summit in Mt. Pleasant. **POSTPONED.**~~

~~**7 Tue:** Show Committee meeting 6:15 p.m., rehearsal 7:00 p.m.~~

~~**14 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

~~**21 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

~~**24-26; Fri-Sun:** Spring Convention, Battle Creek. Headquarters Hotel is the Holiday Inn, 12812 Harper Village Drive @ exit 98. To reserve rooms here use the code "BAR." There is also a block of rooms reserved at the Courtyard by Marriott just across the street from the Holiday Inn (12891 Harper Village Drive). Performances will be held at the W.K. Kellogg Auditorium downtown. Host chapter is Motor City Metro. **CANCELED.**~~

~~**28 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

**MAY**

~~**5 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

~~**11 Mon:** Barbershopalooza, also known as Jug Night will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Royal Oak Middle School, 709 N. Washington Ave., Royal Oak, 48067.~~

~~**12 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

~~**15 Fri: Technical & Dress Rehearsal**~~

~~**16 Sat: Spring Show, 6:00 pm.**~~

~~**19 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.~~

~~**26 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm; Second Quarter Birthday Bash.~~

~~**29-31 Fri-Sun:** Great Lakes Harmony Brigade.~~

**JUNE**

**2 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**9 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**12 Fri:** Windsor Send-Off Show, Serbian Centre, 6776 Tecumseh Road E., Windsor.

**16 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**20 Sat:** Quartet Boot Camp, Okemos, MI.

**23 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**28-Jul 5 Sun-Sun:** International Convention, Los Angeles, California.

**30 Tue:** No Rehearsal.

## JULY

**7 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**14 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**21 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**25 Sat:** *Concord Civil War Days. Quartet or octet needed. Please contact Curt Evans if interested.*

**28 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

## AUGUST

**4 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**9 Sun:** The Great Lakes Chorus has accepted an offer to sing *God Bless America* at Michigan International Speedway for this NASCAR race. They are extending an invitation to any barbershopper in the district to join them. Participant tickets have been drastically discounted and family and friends' tickets have been reduced as well. More information to be available as date approaches.

**11 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**14-15 Fri-Sat:** Bush League Contest, Cadillac, MI.

**18 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**25 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm; Third Quarter Birthday Bash.

## SEPTEMBER

**1 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**8 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**15 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**22 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**29 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

## OCTOBER

**2-4 Fri-Sun:** Pioneer District Fall Convention, Kalamazoo.

**6 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**13 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**20 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**27 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

## NOVEMBER

**3 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**10 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**17 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm; Fourth Quarter Birthday Bash

**24 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

#### **DECEMBER**

**1 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**8 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**15 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**22 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**29 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

#### **JANUARY 2021**

**5 Tue;** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**12 Tue;** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**19 Tue;** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**26 Tue;** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

#### **FEBRUARY 2021**

**2 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**9 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**16 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

**23 Tue:** Rehearsal 7:00 pm.

***“Seek, develop, use and enhance the skills and talents of each member to such an extent that progress seems limitless.”***



(See the next page for the rehearsal agenda.)

<b>Rehearsal Agenda for March 10, 2020</b>										
10 rehearsals until Spring Show										
7:00	<b>SPRING SHOW POSSIBILITIES</b>									
7:05	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON									
7:10	CRUSIN DOWN THE RIVER									
7:15	EASTER PARADE									
7:20	FOLLOW THE FLAG									
7:25	PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND ME HONEY									
7:30	SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY									
7:35										
7:40										
7:45	<b>TAKE 5</b>									
7:50	STARDUST									
7:55	SWINGIN ON A STAR									
8:00	THE ARMED FORCES MEDLEY (NW'Airies arr. #200906)									
8:05	THIS IS MY COUNTRY / THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND									
8:10	WHITE CHRISTMAS									
8:15										
8:20										
8:25										
8:30	<b>TAKE 5</b>									
8:35	GONNA RISE UP SINGIN - A									
8:40	HE TOUCHED ME									
8:45	ZIP A DE DOO DAH									
8:50	KISS THE GIRL									
8:55										
9:00										
9:05										
9:10										
9:15	<b>CLOSER</b>		Keep The Whole World Singing					<i>Raffle Winner</i>		
9:20	<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b>						<i>Championing Team</i>			