

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

MUSIC MATTERS

Arnprior Community Choir Newsletter



Issue 6 - 210202

A Message from Lisa Let Music Surround Us

Music, most definitely, surrounds us. In our daily lives most of us use music to celebrate, to relax, to exercise, to clean, to dance and to mourn. For me there are so many musical moments and events in my life that shaped who I am today.

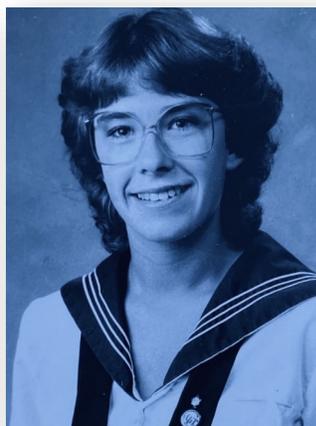
Around age four I had the **best** album of Disney songs. I could sing, act, imagine and perform all the songs – look out Cinderella! In the early grades I sang in choirs, belonged to a ukulele band and tried my best not to squeak on my red recorder. In grade four I started my life long “love/hate” relationship with Festivals. But no matter the outcome, I always seemed to keep that smile – bring on the braces!

In Grade seven I joined CGIT and followed the same group of girls until we all graduated from high school. I led many campfires with my guitar and gained a passion for leading others in song. With my duties as Provincial President I began developing skills to program services in creative and unique ways - every concert program **ever!**

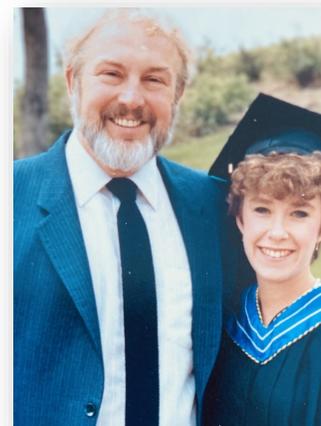
My music teachers along the way were absolutely phenomenal - kind, positive, encouraging and nurturing. These traits, along with their skillful teaching, continue to guide and inspire me in my studio. Singing, and the friends I sing with, makes this 5'2", (well, ok, 1") eyes of blue, mezzo-soprano very whole!



Grade Four



CGIT



**With Dr. George Evelyn.
Voice teacher and mentor
at U. of L.**

30 *Years of Singing*

This segment of **MUSIC MATTERS** reveals what we have in store for you this month.

Week One is always our newsletter.

After that we have lots of surprises up our sleeves.

The sky's the limit! Don't miss a minute.



MUSIC MATTERS

ACC's Monthly Newsletter

Music Surround Us, by Ian Douglas

Join Lisa as she rehearses the vocal parts of our newly written 30th Anniversary composition. We'll discover the distinctive theme throughout, the counter melody, the dissonances resolving to a gentle harmony and the soaring five-part division in the stunning chorus.

You will be emailed a working copy of Ian's composition to print.

As a choir, we'll bring this song alive!



Coming this Month ...

MUSIC MATTERS

Music Surround Us, by Ian Douglas



Join Ian (Guenette) as he explores the piano accompaniment for *Music Surround Us*. With Ian's insight we will discover harmonies, structures, motifs, and vocal support.

Ian will also explain the role of the accompanist, and how interpretation is important.



Ian Guenette

February Concert

Featuring Elizabeth Brumm

ACC Zoom presents a very special February concert. Direct from Newfoundland, our former accompanist and ACC friend Elizabeth Brumm will present piano solos just for us!

Elizabeth will lead us down memory lane and share her life's musical journey. Piano solo's from her early years studying with her mom, university days, festivals, competitions and recital tours.

What more can we ask for? A "staycation" concert right from our living room as we "Travel with Liz".





Jean Cassidy, soprano

I have always liked to sing. I think I have improved my ability since my grade four teacher told me not to sing, just to mouth the words in a class concert. I have been in many choirs since then with a brief hiatus when my children were young and I was working a part-time job that involved some travel. I have participated in a few church choirs, three community choirs, a small choir that was part of Grandmothers for Grandmothers. I also sang with the University Community Choir when we sang the Messiah with the Saskatoon orchestra. Interestingly enough, I have learned that Louise (a soprano in ACC) was also part of that choir. A couple of my choirs were interesting.

In Saskatoon, I sang in a small group sponsored by Riversdale and the Health Unit. The aim of this choir was to encourage members of that inner city community to participate in community life along with people from other communities.

I was also a member of a community choir when we lived in Tasmania. Our director had emigrated from Scotland. There were people from many nationalities in that choir where we sang many African songs.

We lived in Germany for a year where I learned many German Christmas carols which are now some of my favourites.

I love being part of ACC. Lisa is so accepting and encouraging and one of the best directors I have had. The Choir is also very friendly and helpful. I truly miss our face-to-face practices but am enjoying our Tuesday night Zoom sessions and group lessons.

"Getting to Know You ..."

MUSIC MATTERS

Lucy has had music in her life since growing up on the farm outside of Earl Grey, Saskatchewan. Her earliest music instruction was in grade school. She recalls taking the cutter through the snow to piano lessons in town.

She became an elementary school teacher and taught in a one room country school at the age of eighteen. She used to hitchhike fifty miles to Regina for singing lessons when she was a young teacher. In 1955, at age 21, she went on a ship for a holiday in England and sang with the ship orchestra!

She moved to Regina and continued to teach school and study singing with the Conservatory to grade ten. She sang with the Regina Ladies' Choir, the Conservatory Choir, The Treble Clefs, and spent 27 years singing with the Regina Philharmonic Choir, with the Regina Symphony Orchestra. Lucy also sang with the Valley Festival Choir for several years.

She and her husband Dennis moved to Arnprior in 1999 to be closer to their family. Her neighbour Anne Stewart introduced her to the Arnprior Community Choir and she has been a member ever since!

Lucy says it is a delight to sing with such a variety of lovely people under the direction of a marvelous Choir Director, and accompanist!

Fun Fact:

Lucy sang the Messiah every second year in Regina ... that's 13 times! And that doesn't count the times she has sung it locally!

Written and submitted based on an interview conducted by Peggy Wallace, alto



Lucy Sandness, soprano

ACC is celebrating 30 years!

We are blessed with an active, enthusiastic and dedicated membership. Whether you joined in 1991, 2002 or last fall, you are an important part of Arnprior Community Choir (ACC) history. As an organization we have grown and developed because of you!

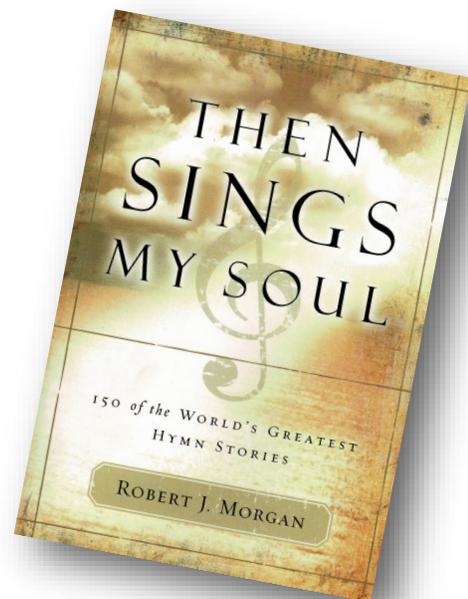
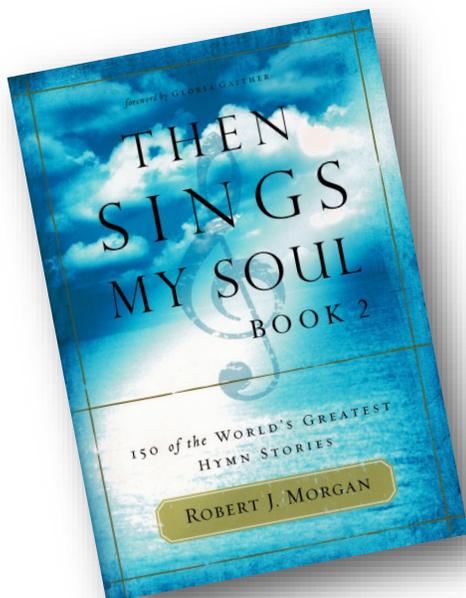
Did you know ...?

In 30 years, ACC has done a lot of fundraising. By gloriously raising our voices in song we have helped community organizations, churches, nursing homes, hospitals, museums and even businesses. But **did you know** that in 2007 and 2009 we held two successful concerts to fundraise for **us**! A programs entitled *Then Sings My Soul* were designed to raise funds for a portable keyboard. The concerts were so successful we not only raised enough money to purchase our current keyboard, but also a sound system.

The concept of the programs was based on two books I own with the same title, *Then Sings My Soul*. In the book, hymns are featured along with the historical background of how it was conceived.

Our concerts featured dramatic readers, soloists (Lisa's students) and audience sing-along. People of Arnprior must love a good hymn sing because both concerts were packed!

Way to go ACC.



Then Sings My Soul

March 25, 2007

Held at First Baptist Church

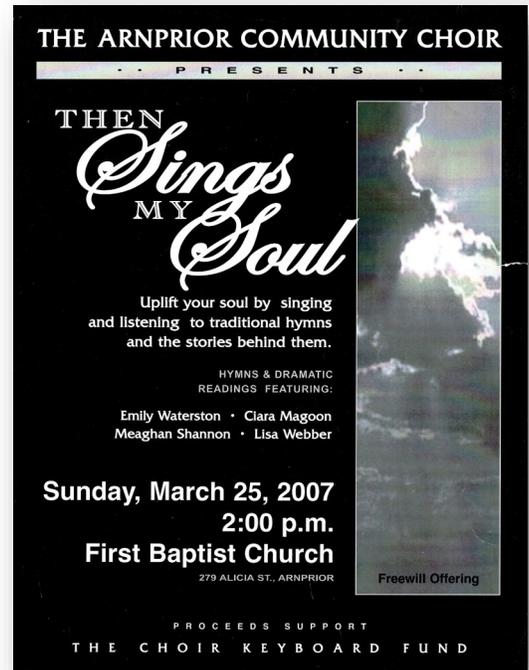
A collaborative event with much church support. My good friend, neighbour, and the Pastor of First Baptist Church, Norbert Janke, ran their brand new computer technical program – displaying song text and inspirational pictures for the audience singalong.

Soloists

Lisa Webber

(Lisa's students)

Emily Waterston, Ciara Magoon, Meaghan Shannon



Then Sings My Soul

May 10, 2009

Held at Grace St. Andrew's United Church

Dramatic Readers

Heather Kinkaid, Dan Baran, James Hrkach

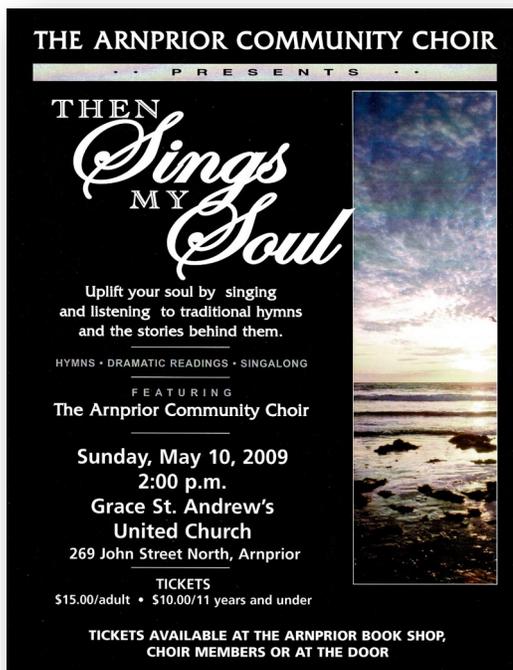
Soloists (Lisa's students)

Terry Millie, Ciara Magoon

ACC and a Children's Choir

Children's Choir

Gillian Aldridge, Claire Pecora, Adrienne Cavers, Tyler Poirier, Laurel Deriger, Janessa Russett, Vanessa Farmer, Janelle Russett, Hannah Fraser, Olivia Smart, Melissa Hartwick, Sydney Smart, Breanna Howarth, Jessica Landon



Now that's amazing!

