**Wausau Pro Musica**

**May 2021 Newsletter**

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***April Showers bring May….Ummm...***

by Dixie Hettinga & Karen Zuidema 5/7/2021

**Board President’s Notes:**

Highlights of Board meeting 5/4/21:

--We continue the search for a rehearsal venue

--Contracts for Karen and for Tatiana for the Fall/Winter semester were approved

--The proposed protocol for resuming rehearsals in September 2021 was approved

--The agenda for the May 18 business meeting was set

Please mark **May 18 at 6:00 PM** on your calendar. This is our annual business meeting and should take an hour or less. I will send out the zoom meeting notice next week along with: 1) the agenda; 2) the minutes from last year’s annual meeting which need to be approved; 3) the proposed protocol and waiver form for resuming rehearsals; 4) a president’s report summarizing the highlights of this past year. Please try to review the material prior to the meeting.

The Board will be taking a much needed break from formal meetings during the months of June and July--we have been working non-stop since last May and trying to adjust with the changing situations. As always, if you have any needs during those months, please feel free to contact us. Our next Board meeting is August 3.

You may hear from me later this summer as I try to get the committees lined up for Fall. We will send you a rehearsal schedule (rotating sectionals to start with) by mid August. First rehearsal tentatively September 15. We will also be updating the handbook for Fall. Shelly is working on updating the roster and the website. Rehearsal venue TBD.

Please remember to reach out to those of our members with special needs over the next few months. As a community of singing women, we want to continue to encourage and support those who are going through difficult times.

Happy Mother’s Day!! Let’s continue to look forward to the time when we can all be together again!!!

**Artistic Director’s Notes**:

OK - I’m jinxed. I bought annual flowers for my flower boxes but right now they now have to stay in the garage to keep them from freezing. Cross your fingers they make it. My rose bushes actually made it through the winter this time (for the first time!) and have green shoots - but we’ll see if these last few days are going to kill off the buds or not and if they survive our “spring”. **I keep sending out rehearsal tracks links in newsletters and then having to tell you to ignore them again.** However - all of this does remind me of a favorite quote: “In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer”. With a slight altering of text and a heartfelt apology to Albert Camus I can say: “In the midst of a freezing spring and a trying previous year - we find there is, within us, an invincible song!” (OK - so I’m not a world renowned writer…..). There *is* good news amidst all of this early spring frostiness:

1. We have a new member! Please welcome our newest Soprano, Danika Kozlovich. Danika has a beautiful voice, a wonderful sense of musicality, a warm and fun personality and will be a great fit with the choir when we reconvene this fall.
2. We **will** be rehearsing this fall! The board has really spent a lot of time and discussion in finding a safe way for us to meet, sing, share our musical sisterhood, and celebrate our internal invincible summers (no matter what the season is).
3. The work that went into planning our unrealized concerts has not been in vain - we will be using the planned music for our future concert season. Thanks again to those involved in the Sponsor a Song work - your pieces will be performed in the upcoming concerts!
4. I’ve gotten the chance to know some of our members better before we actually start rehearsing. The monthly Zoom meetings have really been fun, and a helpful way for me to get to know some of you. Also - I’ll be singing as a guest performer at the UU church on Sunday, May 16th along with WPM members Wendy Galbraith, Jeannie Russell and Danika Kozlovich (with Margaret Jerz as music director there). It feels so wonderful to sing with a small group again - I can’t wait until this fall when we *all* can experience this incredible musical rush of emotion. One thing is for certain - we will **never** take for granted the times we sing together ever again.
5. We have a great opportunity to reconnect at the annual meeting. Please make it a priority to attend!

Ignore the frost on the flowers - I’m fired up!!!!

Keep well and ***keep singing***!

Karen [karenazuidema@gmail.com](mailto:karenazuidema@gmail.com)

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| **New Website address: www.wausaupromusica.org** |