Robert Jones earned music degrees from the University of Windsor and the University of Western Ontario. He has also studied at the Royal School of Church Music (Croydon, England). Bob holds the Associateship and Choir Master diplomas from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. He has been the Organist and Choir Director at St. Luke's Anglican Church (Somerset Street, Ottawa) since 1999 and plays for the Saturday mass at St. Basil's Church. This is Bob's 14th season as conductor of the Seaway Valley Singers. He has lived with his wife Lynn in Chesterville since 2001.

Our accompanist **Margaret Whisselle** graduated from Queen's University in Kingston with a Bachelor of Music degree. She was the original Seaway Valley Singers' accompanist (1993-2000) and returned to us in September 2010. She is Organist/Choir Director for both Iroquois Pastoral Charge and Lakeshore Drive United Church. Since 1986, she has taught private lessons in piano, voice and music theory. In her spare time Margaret collaborates with Christopher Coyea (tenor) and Alex Fleuriau Chateau (bass) and Ottawa's Maple Leaf Brass Band, and is a member of the Brockville Operatic Society. She has recently enjoyed playing the role of Mrs. Gloop in the BOS production of Willy Wonka. Margaret comes from the Ingleside area and is the mother of five.

Michael Goodwin studied at the Guildhall School of Music in London, England, graduating as an orchestral horn player. He played in England with the Bournemouth Symphony, the BBC Concert Orchestra and the London Symphony. In 1966 he came to Canada and freelanced in Toronto, playing with the Canadian Opera and National Ballet Orchestras and with Rob McConnell's Boss Brass. In 1969 he joined the NAC Orchestra in Ottawa for four years. After giving up horn playing, he concentrated his talents as a piano accompanist, was organist at the Lakeshore Drive United Church for nine years, director of the Ottawa Winds, the Cornwall Ecumenical Choir, the Seaway Valley Singers and Renaissance Voyces. He is now in his 15th year as music director at St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church in Picton, and director of the PEC Ecumenical Choir and the County Chamber Choir.

Born in Sarnia, our Master of Ceremonies **Wendy Gibb** came to Iroquois to teach at Seaway District High School. She fell in love with the school, the kids and the community and never went back. She graduated from Trent University in ancient history and 20th century history, with special training in theatre, but she also taught media studies and law over the years. Wendy sings, currently as a lady bass with the Thousand Islanders. She has directed several theatrical productions over the years, including the Lions Club community plays at the Upper Canada Playhouse. Since retiring from teaching, she has been working for the Morrisburg Leader as a reporter, usually in the arts, and writes a column called *Gibberish*.



Seaway Valley Singers

PRESENTS



Programme

To God be Joyful W. A. Mozart John Rutter For the Beauty of the Earth William Wirgen Peace I Leave With You Cantique de Jean Racine Gabriel Fauré Sure on this Shining Night Morton Lauridsen Medley from Kismet arr. Dick Averre Sands of Time | Night of My Nights | Baubles, Bangles and Beads Stranger in Paradise | He's in Love | And This is My Beloved All Through the Night arr. Robert Jones Sing We and Chant It Thomas Morley À la claire fontaine arr. Michael Goodwin Down by the Riverside John Rutter Rise Above Isabelle Delage Hallelujah (with SVS alumni) Leonard Cohen Medley from Les Misérables Arr. Ed Lojeski At the End of the Day | I Dreamed a Dream | Castle on a Cloud Do You Hear the People Sing? | On My Own | Bring Him Home | Finale

Please join us downstairs for refreshments following the concert.

Seaway Valley Singers

Robert Jones, conductor Margaret Whisselle, accompanist

Sopranos Eleanor Allison, Marianne Coligan, Elizabeth Irwin, Chris Jarvis, Minnie

MacKay, Marilyn Markell, Margaret Reid, Rhonda Schneckenburger, Sydney Smith, Judy Veinotte, Susan Wells, Aria Whisselle, Mary Ann Whittaker

Altos Dawn Atwood-Ouellette, Carol Barkley, Nancy Bresnahan, Harriet Clarke,

Isabelle Delage, Jill Dumaresq, Lorraine Howard, Nancy Jordan, Annette

McRae, Elizabeth Temple, Lis Vandenberg

Tenors Bob Gilroy, Volker Gruetzner, Sam Moss, Bob Ruddock, Manfred Staebler,

Brian Vandenberg

Basses David Black, Ab Carr, Mike Ouellette, Gary Unsworth

Absent Dan Edwards, Madeleine Sisk

Established in 1993, *Seaway Valley Singers* is a non-profit organization based in Williamsburg whose members, as the name suggests, come from throughout the Seaway Valley, including Avonmore, Brinston, Chesterville, Ingleside, Iroquois, Morrisburg, Mountain and Williamsburg. The first director of the Seaway Valley Singers was Michael Goodwin. He was succeeded by Alex Thomson in 2000, then by Mark Ehlebracht – who had served as accompanist in 2001-2002 – for the 2003-2004 season. Robert Jones has been conductor since 2004. Our purpose is to provide members with the opportunity to improve their singing skills by learning and singing choral music, both sacred and secular, for the entertainment of the general public. We welcome new members at the beginning of each of our fall and winter sessions. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening (7:30 – 9:30) at the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg (12436 County Road 18, ½ km east of County Road 31). Rehearsals for the next fall session begin on Wednesday, September 5, 2018. For more information, you may phone our president, Annette McRae, at (613) 346-2616 or visit www.seawayvalleysingers.ca.