Conductor **Robert Jones** earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Windsor in 1980, and, two years later, a Master of Music degree in Literature and Performance (organ) from the University of Western Ontario. Bob studied at the Royal School of Church Music in Croydon, England, and also holds Associateship and Choir Master diplomas from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. From 1982-1999, he was the Director of Music at Central United Church in Sault Ste. Marie, where he built up the music program to include four vocal choirs, three handbell choirs and a recital series. Since 1999, Bob has held the position of Organist and Choir Director at St. Luke's Anglican Church, as well as playing for the Saturday mass at St. Basil's Church, both in Ottawa. From 2004-2012 he directed the two handbell choirs at Winchester United Church, and from 2004-2015, he was also the conductor of Ottawa's Bytown Voices. Bob has lived with his wife Lynn in Chesterville since 2001. This is his 15th season as conductor of the Seaway Valley Singers.

Accompanist Margaret Whisselle graduated from Queen's University, Kingston, with a Bachelor of Music degree. She was not only Seaway Valley Singers' original accompanist (1993-2000), but also a featured soloist and member of the spin-off "Renaissance Voyces" choir. She returned to SVS as accompanist in 2010. Margaret has been the Organist and Choir Director at Iroquois United Church since 1987 and, before that, at St. John's Evangelical Parish in Riverside Heights. Since 2015 she has served as Organist and Choir Director at Lakeshore Drive United Church in Morrisburg. Margaret has been giving private lessons – in piano, vocals and theory – since 1986, and currently also teaches piano and vocals at Rock My House Music Centre in Kemptville. She has performed in musicals at Upper Canada Playhouse, and, with the Brockville Operatic Society, has portrayed Bloody Mary (*South Pacific*) and Mrs. Gloop (*Willy Wonka*). She is currently rehearsing for upcoming concerts with Christopher Coyea, Alex Fleuriau Chateau, and Ottawa's Maple Leaf Brass Band. Margaret comes from the Ingleside area and is the mother of five.

Master of Ceremonies **Gerry Rosenquist** established a family medical practice in Williamsburg, arriving in August 1960 with his new wife, Lois. As his family of five children flourished, so did his practice. Dr. Rosenquist established the St. Lawrence Medical Clinic, specialized in surgery and remained very active in community affairs. He has been a Morrisburg councillor, an SD&G School Board trustee and twice attempted a seat in the provincial legislature. He was a founding member of both Upper Canada Playhouse and the Winchester-Kemptville Medical Society. Now retired from medical practice, he serves on the council of South Dundas Lutheran Community Church.



Seaway Valley Singers



Programme

All: Hymn 2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Descant by David Willcocks

Long Ago, Prophets Knew Malcolm Archer

The Linden Tree Carol Reginald Jacques

Sussex Carol arr. David Willcocks

One Small Child David Meece

In Dulci Jubilo Bob Chilcott

Pavane for a Silent Night Maurice Ravel (arr. Patrick Liebergen)

(Annette McRae, recorder)

Sir Christèmas William Mathias

All: Hymn 75 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks Descant by C. S. Lang

Carol of the Kings Linda Steen Spevacek

Hanukkah Song Yiddish Folk Song (arr. James Keefe and Robert Jones)

Good King Kong P. D. Q. Bach (arr. Peter Schickele)

Frosty the Snowman arr. Kirby Shaw

A Merry Christmas arr. Arthur Warrell

Please join us downstairs for refreshments following the concert.

Seaway Valley Singers

Robert Jones, conductor Margaret Whisselle, accompanist

Sopranos Eleanor Allison, Chris Jarvis, Marilyn Markell, Barbara Pilkington, Margaret

Reid, Rhonda Schneckenburger, Madeleine Sisk, Sydney Smith, Margaret Swerdfeger, Judy Veinotte, Susan Wells, Aria Whisselle, Mary Ann

Whittaker

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

Isabelle Delage, Alice Douma, Jill Dumaresq, Heather Garlough, Lorraine Howard, Nancy Jordan, Annette McRae, Elizabeth Temple, Lis Vandenberg,

Margo Van Gilst

Tenors Bob Gilroy, Volker Gruetzner, Sam Moss, Bob Ruddock, Brian Vandenberg,

Andy Van Leyen

Basses David Black, Ab Carr, Randy Lacey, Mike Ouellette, Stuart Staal, Gary

Unsworth, Dick Vandeneykel, Fred Zandbergen

Absent Elizabeth Irwin

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. Alex Thomson took over in 2000, followed by Mark Ehlebrecht for the 2003-2004 season. The current conductor, Robert Jones, has been leading the choir since 2004. Seaway Valley Singers strives 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. New members are welcomed at the beginning of each of the fall and winter sessions. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening (7:15 - 9:15) at the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg (12436 County Road 18, 1/2 km east of County Road 31). Rehearsals for the next session will begin on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. For more information, please phone the president, Annette McRae, at (613) 346 2616 or visit www.seawayvalleysingers.ca.