LRCC REHEARSAL NOTES
October 26, 2026

Charlie's Rehearsal Notes:

Things are starting to gel nicely. Just a few quick notes about ways to keep things fresh and tighten up some loose ends:

African Noel:
Staggered entrances on page six slow down a bit as each voice enters. But on page 7, voices enter right on time every time we rehearse. We will have percussion and that should tidy things up. Beautiful attention to dynamics (loudness) was evident starting at the bottom of page 7. Keep up the good work. This will be a real crowd pleaser, I'm sure.

The Christmas Tree Feud:
I really enjoyed conducting this. Both parts sound great when sung alone, and when the two parts combine, it is magic. I will put this on hold for next week.

Jingle ALLL the Ways:
We are getting there - this is not an easy piece, and you are handling it beautifully. A note about page 8: most notes are short and separated except for measure 52 "playing in" and measures 37 and 38 "toes and fingers". If you can pay special attention to those notes and connect them, it will be the icing on the cake. The transition from the "sneaky" section starting at the bottom of page 9 and then into Bluesy Shuffle on page 11 went very well. Keep up the good work on this

Long Ago (In the Bleak Midwinter)
The only challenge in this piece is the key change from page 7 to page 8. After Patrick played the accompaniment alone, you settled right in. It is not any ease shift, and that is where I will start the next time we rehearse this piece.

NEXT REHEARSAL"
I will focus on "I Saw Three Ships" and Enniscorthy Carol". There has not been much time devoted to "I Saw Three Ships", so most of my rehearsal time will be spent with this song. I will focus on pages 9, 10 and 11 of this piece next rehearsal, as that is the most challenging section.

IF THERE IS TIME: a run-through of "African Noel" without stopping.

Have a great week and keep up the good work.

Jan's Notes

On This Still, Silent Night – We revisited this piece after going over it only once before. This piece was originally sung by the LRCC in December, 2023 in honor and memory of Ginny Halligan, one of our LRCC founders. Both "Still, Still, Still" and "Silent Night" are German carols and the arranger did a wonderful job combining the two songs and adding Bell Chimes

and a Flute part. We talked about the gentleness of the piece and the legato phrasing. The beauty of this piece is its simplicity and it is important to keep up the tempo (quarter note = 88) and not start to slow down. We worked on singing from P. 2, M. 11 to M. 14 without taking a breath. (sneak a breath if you need to) Notice the three independent voice parts on P. 5, M. 25. The Altos have the melody until the Sopranos take over the melody with the pickup to M. 29 on P. 5. The Altos take over the melody again on P. 6, M. 33. Notice the change of time signature on P. 6, M. 36 where the lower voices introduce the Silent Night theme and the melody is beautifully passed to the Sopranos on P. 7, M. 40. A resemblance of the "Still, Still, Still" theme returns in ¾ time on P. 8, M. 52. Please note the beautiful Soprano line on P. 9, M. 58 and the time signature change on P. 10, M. 60. (returns to 4/4)

What to work on for next week – Please read through the notes above and then spend some time listening to the Rehearsal Track on the Lake Region Community Chorus website to hear all the places in the piece that I mentioned. Mark the time changes in your music. (with pencil) We return to ¾ time on P. 13, M. 78. There is a lot more to this piece than you might think. Sing your part along with the recording and enjoy your new appreciation of the this very talented and creative arranger, Laura Farnell.

Brightest and Best – We continued to make progress with this piece. Please try to memorize all or part of the Chorus which appears three times in the piece, P. 5, M. 25, P. 8, M. 60 and P. 12, M. 99. The dynamic markings for these three places are Forte, Mezzo Forte and Fortissimo (I changed this marking due to the cut we made in the music.

What to work on for next week – Sopranos and Altos, please go over your notes starting on P. 6, M. 45. Your notes are slightly different from the notes the lower voices are singing. All voices should practice your part from M. 44, P. 6 through M. 59 on P. 7. Basses, Baritones and Tenors, please practice your notes on P. 10, M. 83 through M. 90. Sopranos, Alto l and Alto ll, practice your parts on P. 11, M. 91 through P. 11, M. 98.

Winter Wonderland – We made a lot of progress on this piece on Monday night. Thank you for all your hard work and for listening to and singing with your part on the rehearsal tracks. The more you go over this piece the more confidence you will have with it. I use my index finger to track where I am so I can look up at the conductor and then find my place when I look back at the music. Sing this song with a carefree, easy going attitude and make it sound easy.

What to on for next week – Start on P. 9, M. 53 and use the slow tempo recording until the end. Play close attention to P. 10, pickup to M. 61 and P. 11, pickup to M. 69. To the end. The rhythm gets tricky. Then go back to the beginning and sing through the whole song.

Sleigh Ride – We worked on individual part on P. 5, pickup to M. 29 through P. 9, M. 60. Notice the notes for the Altos and Tenors on P. 9, M. 59 and 60. We worked on making a gradual crescendo on P. 9, pickup to M. 63. This sequence of eight repeated notes occurs four times in the piece. Practice speaking the words and getting gradually louder on each one. Be aware of the mp dynamic marking on the pickup to M. 75 on P. 10 and then the forte marking on M.78 for the staccato "Pop! Pop! Pop!" on P. 11.

What to work on for next week – Please be aware of going back to M. 13 on P. 4 at the bottom of P. 13 and going from M. 57 on P. 8 to the CODA on P. 14 the second time

through. Circle all dynamic markings. Practice the piece at the slower speed and then advance to the faster tempo. Have fun with this well known, joyous holiday piece.

Thank you for spending time with these rehearsal notes and for all your hard work.