

## President's Report

October 2022

This month I first have to focus my report on saying “thank you” to all the members of this Board who have been putting in such enormous amounts of work. I have to say that Fred has been doing an amazing job of herding cats in trying to get this cabaret up and running. It seems as though it is finally starting to take shape and should be a really fun evening for everyone involved. Lawrence has been working like a trooper trying to get RPR under control the difficulty of which is now compounded by the fact that we no longer have Lindsay as an intern. She completed her time with us the first of this month. Stephanie has asked to, and I have very much agreed to having her, work with Lawrence in the further development especially of our social media. Kyle has been so on the mark with getting music files and recordings posted into Groupanizer for everybody's benefit. Marlene carried the torch for the chorus at the LGBTQ+ Business mixer, which is a very important event for us. Not only are we actually members but these are the folks we have to cultivate for sponsorships, items for our auctions as well as for potential new Board Members. Robb has been working tirelessly to get minutes out, edited, and posted as well as getting used to operating zoom for our meetings. And Steven has once again completed a monumental task in writing, printing, assembling, and, hopefully getting lots of help with, stuffing the mailing for our annual campaign. As you can see there is a lot of work to keep this organization running smoothly, and we are just getting used to the processes all over again.

I feel as though I've been the lazy one on the board this month, only managing to keep paperwork up to date and schedule various meetings, answer emails and texts and juggle the minutiae of chorus business. The one thing I would like to bring to the floor with this report and in this month's meeting is a brief discussion on our communications with one another. We all are extremely busy. We all are bombarded with incredible amounts of e-mail every day. We all have our phones often dinging endlessly with incoming text messages. That being said, we need to be as professional in our responses to one another as possible. We are a non-profit organization run by volunteers, but it also has to be run as any business would be. I'd like us to make a decided effort to treat our correspondence with one another in a fully businesslike manner; that being to apply standard business rules in answering all correspondence. With e-mail, it is customary to have a reply in 24 to 48 hours at the longest. If an action that's requested by an e-mail will take longer than 48 hours, the usual practice is an “immediate” acknowledgement of having received the e-mail and a simple “I will get back to you by . . . insert date or sooner”. I realize that we often have so many emails in our inboxes that it's very easy to overlook something. That's why I've adopted a personal policy of sending an important e-mail to someone, followed by an immediate text telling them to look at their emails. Not necessarily business practice, but it is helpful in getting something noticed. Email is the

common form of communication for a business or an organization. They are our written record of what's transpired or of what's needed. That's why we have to do them, as bothersome or unpleasant as they may be. Texts are great ways to get short answers to immediate problems and are commonly used in the business world for that purpose. Often a simple emoji response is enough to know that the text was received and oftentimes reacted to. But texts of themselves cannot replace the traceable trail that e-mail currently supplies.

Let's all be a bit more cognizant of the efforts of one another for this organization, and try to always have prompt, respectful, and timely exchanges with one another.

Respectfully submitted

Paul R Foltz

President