

Christmas Show 2021

- Version 2.2

Clipper City Chordsmen – Manitowoc, WI

Written by: Bill Fricke

Not a Hall, Mark Christmas

**It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas
My Favorite Things
Silver Bells**

Quartet #1 - Touch of Harmony - 2 songs

**I'll Be Home for Christmas
Home for the Holidays**

**Quartet #2 - Private Stock - 2 songs
Warm and Fuzzy
Let it Snow
Winter Wonderland**

Quartet # 3 BarberPops - 1 song

**The Secret of Christmas
Carol of the Bells
Jingle Bells**

Quartet #4 - Lake Effect - 2 songs

- - - Intermission - - -

**O Holy Night
Silent Night
We Need a Little Christmas Now**

**Valders Choir - 5-6 songs
Little Drummer Boy**

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Characters:

**Mark Hall - Paul Hacker
Narrator - Donald Lachowicz
Guy #1 - Bill Fricke
Guy #2 - Bob Fricke
Guy #3 - Bob Brey
Guy #4 - Jim Rasmus
Guy #5 - Al Boeldt**

Touch of Harmony
All I Want is Hippo
Private Stock
Barberpops
Christmastime
Lake Effect
Auld Lang Syne
Do You hear What I Hear

Room dims and spotlight on the center stage with curtains closed

Holy Family Conservatory gives brief welcome - both using quartet mics

Chorus President steps out in front of the curtains and introduces the show.

Jim Rasmus: Thank you all for joining us this evening for our Christmas Show in this our 76th anniversary year. We really missed seeing you all during the last many months and hope that you enjoy this show. Now is the time to **move to the edge of your seats**, and **prepare yourselves**. I give you, under the direction of Dave Buss, the Clipper City Chordsmen.

Curtains open and stage lights up to reveal guys decorating the trees and fireplace for Christmas and singing.

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas

Guys mill around a bit after singing as Mark Hall stands outside the door. Narrator steps into his booth...

Narrator: Tonight's show is about Mark Hall, who runs Hall, comma, Mark Delivery Service. He has been driving his route for several years and has been getting more and more frustrated by the busy schedule this time of year. In fact, it is fair to say that he really hates it when the Christmas Season comes around each year.

Mark: I really hate this time of year! People get chatty and make me late. They always want to tell me about their Favorite Things...

My Favorite Things

Mark knocks on the door.

Bill F: - answers the door

Mark: Excuse me ma'am, but I have a package here for a Bill Fricke?

Bill F: Ummm, that's me - I'll take it.

Mark: Sorry Ma'am...I mean sir. I guess I just am a bit rattled with all my deliveries this year.

Bill F: No problem, in fact maybe this will help you out a bit....

*(proceeds to tell him a joke about Christmas that Mark doesn't "get" while giving him a tip.)
Mark keeps a straight face, shakes his head and leaves.*

Bill F: Wow, what a grouch. Hey Guys, Why don't we sing Silver Bells?

Silver Bells

Narrator: Meanwhile, the guys are sharing some good times together singing and getting ready for the upcoming holidays. There's not much a Barbershopper likes better than hanging out with his buddies in harmony. In fact, here is one of their quartets with nearly 2 centuries of combined singing experience - A Touch of Harmony.

Guys turn from miming their decorating and pay attention as TOH goes to the quartet mics.

Quartet #1 - Touch of Harmony

Mark comes to the door again and knocks.

Bob Fricke answers the door

Mark: I have a package here for a Rupert Fricke.

Bob F - I think that's me...I'm Bob Fricke. That's Bob with one "O". Hey, aren't you that same delivery guy who was here the other day?

Narrator: Mark proceeds to tell Bob about his woes and about being too busy during the holidays to even see the Christmas Concert for his granddaughter who sings with the Valders a cappella choir. *(Bob and Mark mime their conversation)*

Mark: I probably won't even get to see my granddaughter sing with her choir this year.

Bob F: Well you're not alone in missing out on some things over Christmas, Let me tell you a story about my son...*(locked out of the house. Finish with)*...at least he did make it home for Christmas. Here you go *(gives tip)*.

Mark leaves after getting a "tip" - bites coin and throws hand into the air.

I'll Be Home for Christmas

Home for the Holidays

Narrator: Another quartet appears to be ready to sing for their pals. These guys really have a clean sound...and call themselves Private Stock.

Quartet #2 - Private Stock

Narrator: It looks like snow is really starting to come down outside *(guys all look outside to see)*. It sure is a good thing that our guys are all warm and snug inside tonight.

Warm and Fuzzy

Mark arrives again with snow on his outfit and knocks on the door.

Bob B: *answers the door* - Holy cow - Hey guys, it's really snowing outside!

Mark: *(sounding disgusted)* I have a delivery for a Bob Bray. *mispronounced...*

Bob B: That would be Bob Brey! ... and that's me.

Narrator: Mark is pretty upset because he nearly hit three cars just coming into the neighborhood to make this delivery. However, Bob points out that despite the driving challenges, the snow really makes everything look fresh and clean.

Bob B: Hey thanks for the package. *(goes on to tell story about snow and Christmas past)*

Instead of a cash tip, he finishes with:

Oh and I've got a tip for you *(Mark holds out his hand expectantly)* Don't try to brake too hard when its slippery, only bad things happen if you do. *(gesture with hands to emphasize)* Oh, and here's something else...*(no cash given)*

Narrator: That story really started to get to Mark and got him to think maybe the snow wasn't such a terrible thing after all, even if it did make his life a little more challenging.

Mark: Thanks...I guess maybe I'll see you guys later.

Bob B: He really should try to enjoy life more - I say we should just Let it Snow

Let it Snow

Mark stumbles/walks across the stage left to right in front of the chorus and is ignored by them (as if out on the street), snow piled up on his arm full of boxes and hat and says sarcastically:

Mark: This is what they call a Winter Wonderland?

He then goes off stage right and returns to stage left behind the back wall.

Winter Wonderland

Narrator: Our guys are proud to listen to another quartet made up of four fathers; they call themselves "Barberpops".

Quartet # 3 BarberPops

Mark arrives again - (just traces of snow remain on him...)

Narrator: As Mark arrives with another delivery, he comes up to the door, and hears singing inside...and just sits and listens to the beautiful sounds.

Mark stops outside the door and sits on the bench listening to the next song...

The Secret of Christmas

Mark knocks on the door

Jim R: (opens door) Hey Guys, look who's here! (*guys all wave to Mark*) I wonder if this box is for me?

Mark: It is if you're Jim Rushmoose.

Jim R: That's Jim Rasmus, but thanks!

Narrator: Mark is happy that the snow has eased up a bit on the roads, but is still a bit perturbed that folks are rushing off everywhere and the traffic is a nuisance. Jim tells him that he has often thought about how people spend too much time worrying about getting ready for Christmas and don't spend enough time thinking about Christmas.

Jim tells a story about the importance of family at this time of year.

Narrator: Mark agrees that family is important, but is still frustrated about not seeing his granddaughter sing in her show this year.

Jim R: Well, Christmas isn't here yet, so you never know... We'll see you later Mark. (*gives him a tip, leaves the door open and takes a step away.*)

Mark: Hold on a minute, I'll be right back!

Narrator: Mark heads back to his truck and remembers a broken box that has been rattling around all day. He heads down the driveway to get it...

Jim R: Hey guys, did I tell you that last night I was reading the story of A Christmas Carol to my kids and I dropped the book on my foot. Let me tell you, it hurt like the Dickens. (*guys can respond to the joke*)

Narrator: Speaking of "Carols", the guys have another song to sing.

Carol of the Bells

Narrator: Mark returns to the door with a mangled box containing jingle bells for the guys to play with ... and tells them that they have been rattling around the truck for weeks. The address label was illegible and the box was torn open.

Mark: Here you go...have fun with these!

(Some guys step up to take the bells and pass them around...)

Guys all say: Thanks Mark!

Mark closes the door and leaves.

Jingle Bells (*can ring bells in the "Jingle Bells" parts only*)

Narrator: I think that our guys have another quartet that wants to sing a couple of songs for everyone. These guys got their name because it's cooler near the lake and that matches their sound...here is Lake Effect...

**Quartet #4 - Lake Effect
Do You Hear What I Hear
Auld Lang Syne**

Don L: We will now take a ten minute intermission. Make sure to stick around and see whether or not Mark gets to see his granddaughter sing with her chorus.

- - - Intermission - - -

Narrator - We have seen how the mood of our character has changed as he has developed a relationship with the Chordsmen. However, I think that they have a bit more to teach him. So here once again are the Clipper City Chordsmen!...(curtains open)

Narrator: As he heads to the door with the last package of the night, a weary Mark Hall stops to listen once again just outside...

O Holy Night

Mark knocks on the door

Al B: Oh, Hi Mark, come on in.

Narrator: Mark comes in and explains that this is the last delivery of his route. He tells Al that he was just standing outside listening to the singing. He says that he may have been too harsh in his way of thinking of the Christmas Season. Maybe it really is a special time of the year that should be remembered and cherished instead of being rushed over.

Al B: Well I'm glad to hear that. Let me tell you a little story about my family...

Goes on with story about the importance of Christmas in the Christian tradition.

Paul hugs Al and Al then invites him to join the chorus...

Al B: In fact, since your route is finished, why don't you come on in and sing with us.

Silent Night

Narrator: It just so happens that the Valders High School A Cappella Choir is about to sing over at the High School and the Chordsmen are all going over to hear them. They invite Mark to go along with them.

We Need a Little Christmas Now

curtains close - and guys quickly leave the stage through the front to the side wings QUIETLY to see Valders perform.

In front of the curtains - at quartet mics...

Jim R: Welcome to guys to join the chorus.

Don L: If you're enjoying the show this evening, please keep Saturday April 30th in mind. That is the date of our upcoming **Spring Show**, right here in Endries Hall. Shows will be at 3 and 7 PM and will feature Kordal Kombat as our special guest quartet. Watch for information regarding ticket sales later in the spring.

Also, be thinking of that special someone in your life...and if we can help you to get a message to that person in a very special way with our **Singing Valentines** on Monday February 14th. We will be offering both live and virtual Valentine options this year. Check out our website at www.clippercitchordsmen.org for details come January.

We now have a very special presentation to make. Handling the award will be our secretary, Jon Cisewski!

Jon: Introduces **Harmony Award** - the nature of the award and introduces the recipient and why they were selected.

Narrator: We are now proud to introduce to you our special guests of the evening; under the direction of Damon Carlson the **Valders High School A Cappella Choir**.

Curtains open and piano gets moved into position.

Valders Choir

During the performance, the guys stay silent on the sides of the auditorium and either stand or take the seats that are available. When they get ready to sing with the chorus, a girl in the Valders choir shouts out:

Girl: Grandpa, you made it to the concert!

The guys move onto the stage around the choir...

Little Drummer Boy

Narrator: We thank you all for coming tonight and allowing us to share this story with you. We also thank Damon Carlson and the **Valders A Cappella Choir** for joining us on stage tonight. We also thank our guest actor, Paul Hacker as Mark Hall; our quartets, Touch of Harmony, Private Stock, BarberPops, and Lake Effect. Finally, we thank the **Franciscan Center for Music Education** for their help and for the use of this great performance venue. Have a good evening and drive home safely!

We Wish You a Merry Christmas