

# AVMA Friends and Alumni Monthly Digest

January 2022

Hi everybody!

Welcome to the first Monthly Digest of the new year. We hope you're weathering this latest Covid storm OK but, like the rest of us, it's likely you've been closely if not directly impacted by it. Fingers crossed it dies down as quickly as it seems to have flared up so we can enjoy a 2022 that's more like 2019 than 2020 or 2021. Things were relatively quiet on the AVM front in December, but that doesn't mean we don't have a few updates to share with you. So let's get to it!

## me in 2022 looking back at 2019



**Tasty Tuesdays.** On December 7 we had a Tasty Tuesday at The Chateau in Andover, **which raised another \$104 for AVMA**, and which brought the **fall Tasty Tuesday total to \$1200!** We are so grateful for everybody who has and continues to participate in these fundraisers – it helps both AVMA and the local restaurants who offer to work with us! As we mentioned last time, we're taking January off, but we'll be back in February for a **Tasty Tuesday on Tuesday February 8 at \*any\* Bertucci's restaurant!** Mark the date on your calendar today and keep an eye out for more details as we get closer to Tasty Tuesday time.

**January Events.** Let's face it: until Omicron calms down, we all need to take everything one day at a time, so who knows how the rest of the month will play out. For now, at least, here's what's on deck for AVM and AVMA in January:

- Saturday January 15 – Mill City Show Choir Festival in Lowell. Mill City is shaping up to be more of an exhibition than a competition per se, with the choirs having a working session with the judges and adjudicators in the morning, followed by performances in the afternoon. The choirs will take the stage at Lowell High School late afternoon (likely between 4 and 6:30 PM ET). Join us in supporting our kids as they debut the 2022 sets, won't you?
- Wednesday January 19 – AVM Winter Concert at the Collins Center. Technically this isn't a show choir event, but so many choristers are in one of the groups performing at this event that we definitely want to promote it here!



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- Friday January 28 – AVMA Arctic Blast. We're still working out the details on this one, but the part that you all will be most interested in is the online gift basket raffle. Expect to see 10 or so baskets of goodies worth \$50-200 that you'll have a chance to bid on in the days leading up to the Blast. You won't have to be in attendance to win, so the auction offers another way to support AVMA and score yourself some decent swag in the process! As soon as we have everything squared away we will share with you all you need to know to participate.

Before we sign off, don't forget these other ways to easily support AVMA:

- **Scrip/RaiseRight**. Scrip/RaiseRight is a fundraising program in which you purchase gift cards from any of hundreds of stores and businesses through them, and a percentage of the value of the gift cards get donated back to AVMA. The stores we're talking about are all the ones you've heard of: Starbucks, Apple, Best Buy, the Gap, Stop & Shop, Chili's, Panera, you name it. And **we're talking some pretty significant cash back percentages – 10%+ in many cases, with occasional promotions taking things as high as 20%**. Scrip/RaiseRight offers up a really easy way to support AVMA without really costing you any more than you were going to spend on purchases in the first place. And it's open to everybody!

To sign up for Scrip and RaiseRight, follow these instructions:

1. Go to <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login/Enroll> and use enrollment code **DLEE76C872773**.
  2. Download the RaiseRight app on your smartphone.
  3. Visit <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop/Product/Browse> to see all the different vendors and the rebate percentages for each.
- **AmazonSmile**. AVMA also participates in AmazonSmile. Similar to Scrip/RaiseRight, AmazonSmile is a super easy way to donate back to AVMA each time you make a purchase on Amazon. To set up AmazonSmile to benefit AVMA, [follow these instructions](#), and be sure to select Andover Vocal Music Association as the organization you want to support. Then, each time you buy anything on Amazon, .5% of the purchase price will be donated back to AVMA. It doesn't seem like a lot, but over time, with enough people participating, it adds up!



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**Links.** We rely primarily on social media to get the word out on happenings and events and to otherwise communicate with the rest of the community. So if you haven't done so already, please give a subscribe or a like or a follow to the:

- **AVMA YouTube Channel:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGreFvbQIEKB\\_OrD7RLNY0g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGreFvbQIEKB_OrD7RLNY0g)
- **Andover Vocal Music Association public Facebook page:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/AHSVocalMusic>
- **AVMA Twitter Account:** [https://twitter.com/andovervma\\_org](https://twitter.com/andovervma_org)

Please feel free to share this digest with any folks not on Facebook who you think would be interested in it. And if you (or they) would like to receive future Monthly Digests directly via email, please use this [Google Form](#) to share your name and addresses with us.

Here's hoping that when we send out the February digest we're in a much better place Covid-wise than we are right now. We wish you and yours the strength and resolve to ride out this bit of turbulence – know that it *\*will\** get better, and just keep doing what you can to bring that day sooner rather than later. Until next time, stay safe and healthy, keep singing and dancing, and we'll catch you again next month!

The AVMA Board