

# AVMA Friends and Alumni Monthly Digest

April 2022

Hi everybody!

Welcome to April! It's hard to believe that tomorrow is the last show choir competition of the year (more on that in a bit). Last month was all about NESCS, this month is front-loaded with fun, and next month is the last month our seniors will be high school students. But enough watching the time fly by – let's get to the reviewing and previewing you're here for!

**NESCS 2022 Recap.** No sense in burying the lede here: March 18 and 19 saw the first NESCS since 2019, and while it may have been one small line item on the national show choir calendar, it was one giant leap towards a post-Covid normal. Thank you to all the alumni and friends of the program for coming back and making it all happen!

For a majority of the current kids in AVM, it was their first taste of the energy that overtakes the Collins Center during NESCS weekend. During FSTF's set on Saturday night, the noise levels regularly hit between 105 and 110 decibels, which sits roughly between a chainsaw and a jackhammer, and is the type of volume that will cause hearing damage after 30 minutes of exposure. Thank goodness for the ballads!

If you weren't able to catch NESCS, either live or via the livestream on AndoverTV, the recordings are available on the AndoverTV site. Here are the links:

- **Friday evening (including BTB):** <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/62363a00516ad70008d36b8f>
- **Saturday morning:** <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/62364a63094f190008bcd2ca>
- **Saturday afternoon (including NBT):** <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/6238de738257d50008ef2040>
- **Saturday evening (including FSTF):** <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/6238e600f8f5d100070fdc85>



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We may try to get these videos up on the AVMA YouTube channel, but as we all know, YouTube gets mad when common folk like us try to post copyrighted music (even if we have no intention of monetizing anything), so any and all efforts may be for naught. So enjoy on AndoverTV for now and keep an eye on the AVMA YouTube channel for updates if and when they may appear!

**Waltham Eastern Show Choir Festival.** With NESCS 2022 in the rear view mirror, that leaves one more competition on the calendar: the Eastern Show Choir Festival in Waltham on Saturday April 2. Waltham has posted the schedule for the event, and here's when our choirs are set to take the stage:

- BTB: 2:30 PM ET
- NBT: 4:30 PM ET
- FSTF: 7:00 PM ET

By now you know the drill: these competitions can (and frequently do) fall behind schedule, so our crews may not take the stage when they're scheduled to perform. That being said, BTB is the first competitor to take the stage in the Single-Gender Division, so they're more likely than usual to be on time. As of press time no livestream link has been released, but we're expecting to see one. When we do, we will post it to our social media channels, so for now, mark your calendars, and hope to see you in person or online on Saturday!

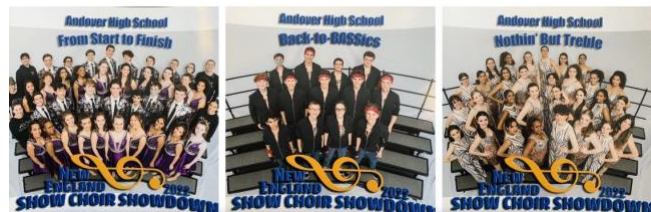
**Tasty Tuesday at Bartlet Street Tuesday Apr 5.** We teased this Tasty Tuesday last month; this month, we have all the details to share:

- Where: Bartlet Street Restaurant, 11 Bartlet Street, Andover (where King's Subs used to be)
- When: Tuesday Apr 5 from 10 AM to 8 PM (i.e. all day)
- What's the Deal: 10% of all purchases (including gift cards) will be donated back to AVMA! No codes, coupons, or passwords necessary – just show up and load up!



Support the AHS Show Choirs!  
Bartlet Street Restaurant  
Tuesday, April 5, 10am-8pm  
A percentage of all sales will be donated to  
AVMA!

See you there!





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**AVM 2022-23 Set Lists.** Not that anybody's looking past Waltham this Saturday or anything, but we've already got a leg up on 2022-23, in the form of next season's competition sets, and we're giving you all a sneak peek! First up is FSTF, who'll be going back to the themed approach, with the concept piece "It's A Small World." It's both a celebration of all cultures, at home and abroad, as well as a reminder that no matter our nationalities, we are all fellow citizens of Earth. From "Cherokee People" to "The Girl From Ipanema" and "Down Under", check out the full song list (and the costumes!!) on the AVMA web site here: <https://andovervma.org/avm-2022-2023-show-choir-sets/>. We'll reveal NBT and BTB later this month, so bookmark the page and be sure to check back!

**AVM Spring Car Wash Saturday May 14 9 AM-2 PM.** So what's after Waltham and Tasty Tuesday at Bartlet Street? Glad you asked! For now, at least, the next item up is the AVM Spring Car Wash, which will be held on Saturday May 14 (rain date Sunday May 15) in the West Middle School parking lot. You know the drill: bring your gross car to West Middle and have your favorite AVM choristers soap and hose it down while you wait! You can even get out of the car if you're not afraid of possibly getting a little wet. We'll announce any other pertinent details in next month's digest.

**AVM Alumni Cabaret Wednesday May 25.** Back at the Collins Center this year! More to come.

And that's all for this edition of the digest! In closing here's your monthly reminder of all the other ways you can 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.



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- **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!
- **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.

We hope to see you in Waltham on Saturday! If not there, then at Bartlet Street on Tuesday. And if we miss you there too, then we'll just have to catch you on the internet. Until next month (and hopefully sooner!), thanks for reading!

The AVMA Board