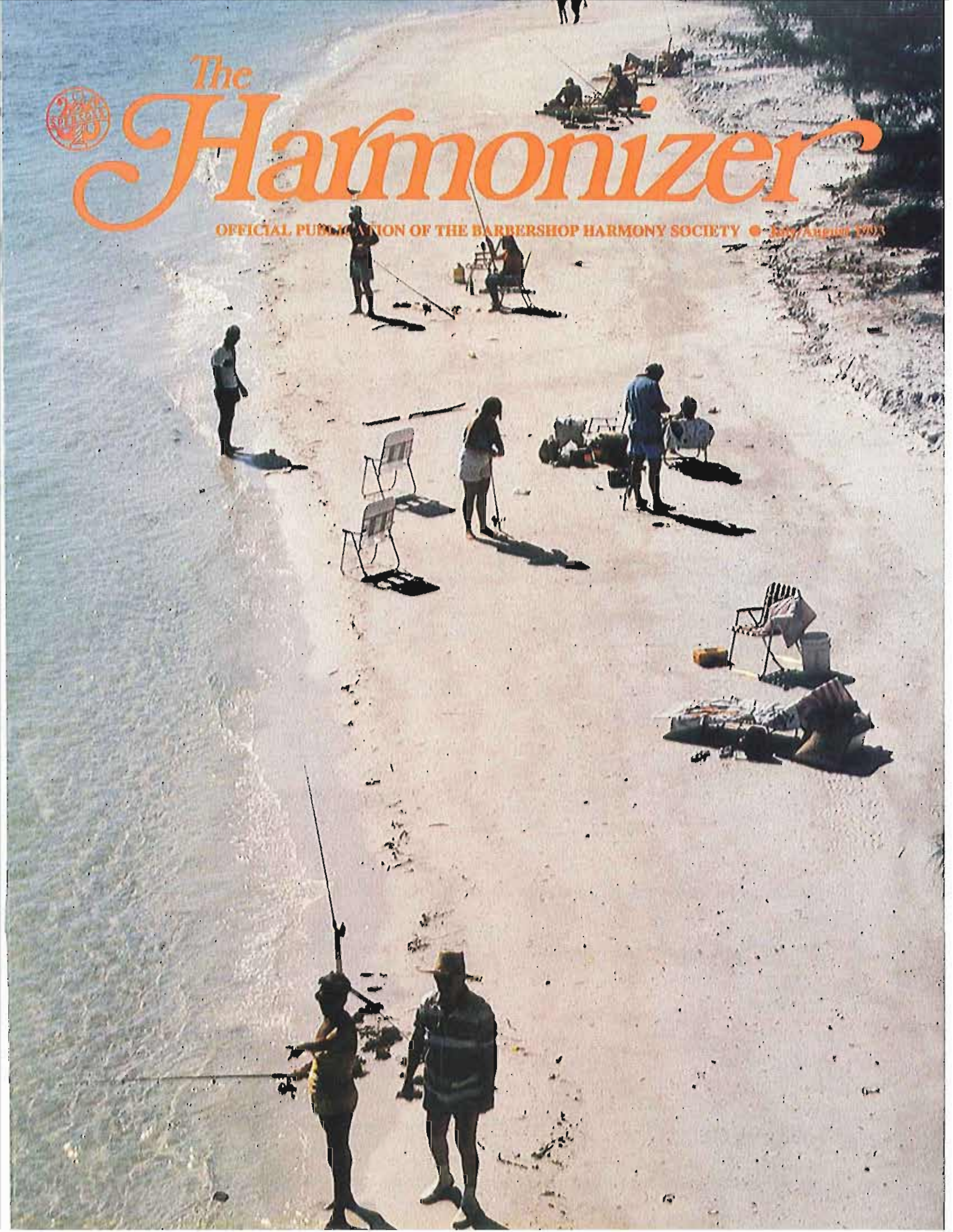




# The Harmonizer

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY • Fall/Winter 1993







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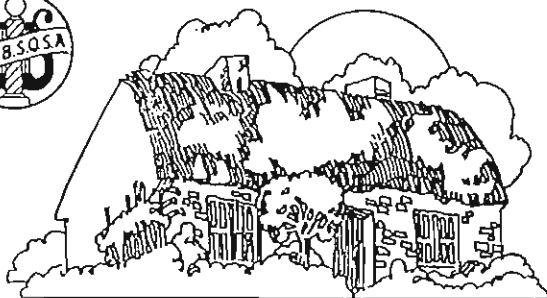


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1996 Salt Lake City, Utah .... June 30-July 7  
1997 Indianapolis, Ind. .... June 29-July 5

##### MIDWINTER

1994 Sarasota, Fla. .... January 23-30  
1995 Tucson, Ariz. .... January 22-29

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A BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE PUBLISHED FOR AND ABOUT MEMBERS OF  
SPEBSQSA, INC. IN THE INTERESTS OF BARBERSHOP HARMONY

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## On the cover

Miles of sunny beaches will offer a welcome respite from winter gloom for attendees at midwinter convention in Sarasota, Florida, January 23–30, 1994.



# In "Seventh" Heaven

by Joe Liles  
Executive Director

**"W**e live in a universe where everything—from the most distant stars to the minutest particles of matter—is an expression or manifestation of 'song,' or song vibration."\*

Maitreya Stillwater

When I was a kid, a couple of years or so ago, some of the happiest moments I recall were spent around the piano, singing with friends and relatives. There were other experiences, such as singing with the congregation in our church and in the choirs. Vocal music always provided me with great gratification.

In retrospect, I now realize it was more than just pleasure. I can see how it was a road to my personal awakening and growth. Singing glorious, joyous harmony and heart-healthy messages, was a physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aerobics program. I fell in love with people and the world around me. I learned that it was okay to have tingling skin and tears in my eyes.

I'm very concerned about the children and young people following us. Vocal music is being dropped from school programs. In some areas, it and other musical arts are almost non-existent. When was the last time you gathered family, friends and neighbors to sing around a piano? If you made the attempt, you probably found that a lot of them don't even sing, right?

The void of many years of not teaching people how to raise their voices in song has produced a mass of humanity that has taken the form of spectators and couch potatoes.

Lost is the freedom of expression found in the manifestation of song. Many people seem inhibited to the point of dysfunction when asked to make a joyful noise in song.

It is time for our Society to become a leader in bringing back community singing, putting vocal music in its rightful place in education, as well as encouraging parlor participation.

There is an intimate relationship between music and joy. We, as Barbershoppers, know this. When we stand together to "ring" chords, and at once invite the angelic presence of overtones, we become one with the universe. It is a healing experience. It is time, my friends, that we share this with the world. It is time to spend resources and talent in making our communities come alive with music and song.

Our start with HARMONY EXPLOSION and the Collegiate Quartet Competition is only an early effort in the scheme of things. Our Marketing Committee, under the chairmanship of John Krizek, is presently studying how we can become more involved. It is important to our future that we respond. It is essential to the health and welfare of people everywhere.

*\*"When joined together with others in singing songs of spiritual unity, a celebration occurs which transforms the conscientiousness of those participating. An atmosphere of harmony reigns and all things come into balance. Singing is a great equalizing force, giving expression to the creative joy within everyone, and leaving no one separate."*

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# Quality is our style

by **Ernie Nickoson**  
International President

**N**ot long ago, I wrote a letter to all chapter presidents, asking them to help me show how good leadership can create an environment in which our members can be their best. The following is one letter I received in response. I think it's worth sharing.

Dear Ernie,

Greetings from Crescenta Valley Chapter! My name is Larry Brown and I am the president of our chapter. This is my second year as president and I am proud of what our chapter has accomplished during this period of time. I would like to relate to you our story, which is similar to what you wrote about in your letter.

Our chapter is known as the "woodshed chapter." We love to sing and woodshed. We like to have a good time, and chorus work has always been secondary.

In the past, we did our singouts, put on an annual show and, when we would compete in contest, always with the fear that we might do well and have to go to district contest. Well, it never happened. Yes, we had fun, but our membership was stagnant.

When I was asked to be president last year, I was reluctant because I had only been a Barbershopper for two years. But, I love to sing and said I would try to do my part. I recognized the need for organization and, after stumbling around for a while, I used the resources available to me from the international office.

The president's manual is extremely well done, as are all the officers' books. It didn't take long to get things going, but it can't be done overnight. It took a few months to get a bulletin editor and ours does an exceptional job.

Shortly after I was elected, one of our co-directors had to resign, due to personal reasons. I felt the remaining director would do an excellent job because he was always prepared. Not only is he good but he put so much energy and planning into his portion of the meeting that our attendance went from 22 on summer nights to an average of 42—all summer long.

We asked two guys to be show chairmen for this year's show and one week after last fall's contest we had this year's show music, along with learning tapes for every member. This was five months ahead of any previous schedule.

The chapter was learning music so fast that I talked our director into putting on a Christmas show with our local Sweet Adelines chorus and it was extremely successful.

Now, we have a complete music team in place and it's doing a great job. We have a teaching octet, made up of section leaders, to help with new music. Next year's show chairman has been picked and he is already working on music for next year's show. As I write, we are having dress rehearsals for this year's show.

Our Membership Committee is putting on a membership drive this spring, scheduled to start just ten days after we compete in contest.

Our membership grew by only one person last year, but so far this year we have gained another four members. I am pleased that we are getting good turnouts for our meetings. Last week, we had 59 people at chapter meeting.

Our director, John Minsker, leads us with energy and enthusiasm. He believes in the "LIFE" principal. Learning—Improve-

ment—Fun—Encouragement. If you take out the "F" all you have is LIE.

To get where we are, we had to fight an anti-chorus bias in our chapter—"if it wasn't a quartet it wasn't worth spending time on." We overcame that by motivating the members into wanting to be better. We asked the logical question: If we don't have a chorus, how do you get that tenor or baritone you need for your quartet?

Our members responded by giving 110 percent. We won the Most Improved Chorus award at the SoCal West Division contest in May.

**Larry Brown**

*Creating an environment in which members can be their best—it worked for Crescenta Valley. Will it work in your chapter? I believe it will.*

*Thank you, Larry, for sharing your success story and allowing me to share it with the whole Society.*

*As always, I urge everyone to:  
Be Your Best.*



## 1997 MIDWINTER CONVENTION BIDDERS

Chapters interested in bidding for the 1997 midwinter convention must submit their bid to the international office by **February 1, 1994.**

For information, contact:  
Ken Buckner, Manager,  
Conventions & Meetings  
SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
6315 Third Avenue  
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199



# Midwinter in Sarasota

by Frank Astorino, Sarasota, Fla., Chapter

If you haven't heard the good news yet, the 1994 midwinter convention will be held in the beautiful resort city of Sarasota, Florida. So, mark the dates—January 23-30—and plan to be welcomed by the friendliest and most accommodating folks around to a week of barbershop fun that promises to be all that you could hope for.

"Everything under the sun" could well be the phrase that best describes, in a few words, all that Sarasota has to offer. Often referred to as "Florida's Number One West-Coast Paradise," several thousand acres of sparkling, blue-green water and 35 miles of beautiful beaches all lie within Sarasota County. So:

- ❖ If you are into boating, golf, tennis or beach activities, you will love Sarasota!
- ❖ If cultural activities (visiting art galleries, a world-renowned museum, the symphony, opera, ballet or jazz,) are your thing, you will love Sarasota!
- ❖ If you are the demanding sort who enjoys good food and a truly satisfying dining experience—from moderately priced fare to haute cuisine—you will love Sarasota!
- ❖ If your sport (or your spouse's) is shopping for bargains, antiques or boutiques, you will love Sarasota!

Our headquarters hotel, the Hyatt Sarasota, offers ten floors of comfort and luxury, with 297 rooms overlooking scenic Sarasota Bay. Conveniently located within walking distance to the beautiful Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, where all of our performance activities will take place, the hotel has two restaurants overlooking the

marina as well as a health club and heated pool. In addition to the Hyatt, there are several smaller hotels and motels located within easy driving distance to the convention center.

Set like a lavender jewel overlooking beautiful Sarasota Bay, the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall is a striking architectural



Sarasota's the place to be next January, one of the most beautiful cities in Florida.

landmark and, with its attractive seashell shape, is conspicuously visible for miles around.

## Golf & Tennis

Sarasota features several semi-private golf courses that are available to visitors. The public course, The Bobby Jones Golf Club, offers two 18-hole championship layouts as well as a nine-hole executive course. Tee times are on a first-come, first-served basis or, in some cases, can be reserved a day in advance.

The newly installed public tennis facility in downtown Sarasota features nine Har-Tru courts, all lighted, which are available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., on a first-come, first-served basis.

## The Beaches

Among the several beaches available, beautiful Lido Beach is the most conveniently located, and nearby Siesta Key Beach has gained worldwide acclaim for having "the whitest beach sand in the world." Whether you choose to surf in the gentle gulf waves, collect some shells or simply

stroll the beach while watching the pelicans perform their spectacular nose-dive fishing feats, you will surely soak up many delightful memories as well as some warm rays. (Don't forget to bring along your sun-block!)

## Boating

Sarasota has become a real boater's delight. The county is linked to the Gulf of Mexico by inlets, Sarasota Bay and the Intracoastal Waterway.

Whether you prefer sailing or powerboats, you will find several boat rental agencies and local marinas happy to accommodate your wishes.

## Snorkeling & Scuba Diving

A fascinating world of colorful sponges and tropical fish can be found just below the surface in just two-to-ten feet of water at Siesta Key. Lots of lovely shells abound as well. For the qualified diver, or those willing to take the time to acquire certification, the best scuba diving in the area can be found about ten miles out in the Gulf of Mexico. There, with visibility up to 50 feet, divers can swim among mangrove, snappers, groupers and lobsters, as well as see an occasional barracuda or sea turtle.

### Fishing & Outdoor Fun

Freshwater fishing in nearby lakes and streams, as well as saltwater game-fishing, are abundantly and conveniently available in Sarasota. Myakka River State Park, which is just east of Sarasota, covers nearly 29,000 acres of wetlands, prairies and dense woodlands along the twisting Myakka Lake. As one of America's outstanding wildlife sanctuaries, it features hundreds of species of plants, trees and flowers as well as deer, alligators and more than 200 species of birds including ospreys, bald eagles, sandhill cranes, and countless migrating water fowl.

Myakka is also one of the best fishing parks in the state of Florida, where bass (not the singing variety) typically range in size from two to twelve pounds. Bluegill, bream, catfish and crappie are also found in the area. River banks, as well as numerous piers, jetties, sea walls and bridges, are favorite spots for anglers. Half- or full-day outings into the Gulf of Mexico can be arranged for the saltwater-fishing enthusiast.

### Spectator Sports

The greyhounds are off and running at the Sarasota Kennel Club, just east of the Sarasota/Bradenton Airport. Parimutuel betting can help make the typically cool January evenings a bit warmer. Polo matches are held at the Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, where spectators are about equally divided between those who are watching the matches and those who prefer to watch each other. And, on Sunday afternoons, free water ski shows are held at City Island next to the Mote Marine Aquarium.

At the Mote Marine Aquarium, you will be able to observe, at close range, a fascinating variety of marine life, including sharks, rays and fish of all sizes and species. The aquarium features a 30-foot "touch tank" where children of all ages are able to touch and feel horseshoe crabs, rays, guitar fish, sea urchins and whelks.

At the Sarasota Jungle Gardens you will find a petting zoo, bird shows, a butterfly-and-shell museum, as well as turtles, snakes

and alligators—all part of "the jungle experience" nestled among winding lush trails and exotic waterfowl.

And for the garden buff and plant lover, a visit to the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is a must. There you will enjoy the beautiful display of air plants, exquisite orchids and colorful bromeliads.

Bird lovers will surely want to visit "The Pelican Man," who was named by former President George Bush as the 184th point of light in the 1000-points-of-light campaign for his successful efforts in rehabilitating some 22,000 birds. The Pelican Man's Bird Sanctuary features an active display of pelicans and other wild birds.

### Theater & The Arts


The extent and variety of cultural activity in Sarasota is remarkable.

The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art houses some of the country's finest collections of Old Master paintings and 17th-century tapestries. The Ringling residence, "Ca'd'Zan," a 30-room mansion, is an architectural showcase, modeled after a Venetian Palace.

### Shopping & Dining Out

Downtown Sarasota has a number of antique shops, art galleries and good-quality, moderately priced restaurants, plus a few that could challenge a gourmand's appetite, as well as his or her wallet. And the "boutique" shops located on the Saint Armand's Circle, along with the variety of finer restaurants located there, are certainly worth the ten-minute drive.

If you would rather spend those minutes walking, head south on the Tamiami Trail, a short block down from the convention center, and you will find a large, amber-colored structure, which Sarasotans quaintly refer to as, simply, "The Quay." Here, too, you will find an assortment of restaurants, featuring several that are of a more ethnic flair, including Italian, Cuban and Japanese, intermixed with some of the finer shops in town. And all of it looking out on beautiful Sarasota Bay! (Sunset dinner cruises are also available, and advance reservations are strongly recommended.)

Come join us, January 23-30, 1994, and enjoy some winter hospitality in sunny Sarasota! 

Some special happenings are planned for the 1994 midwinter.

About mid-week during a convention, every lady needs a "shopping fix." To ease this pain, we're arranging for a shop-till-you-drop tour at one of the megamalls near Sarasota. So, don't forget your MBNA America<sup>®</sup> credit card.

Many of you will remember the great time we had on the casino cruise at the Tampa convention. Well, it was so successful that we're gonna do it again! You'll be bused on Thursday morning to board one of the Europa ships for some afternoon adventures at sea.

Thursday evening features the international president's "Oom-Pah" dinner at the Old Heidelberg Castle, an authentic German restaurant, and yes, you'll be back from the cruise in time to change and get to the dinner.

Friday, a Sarasota Unlimited tour will include sight-seeing in the area and a stop at the famous Ringling Museum and Mansion.

Friday afternoon begins the midwinter barbershopping extravaganza. The Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions will present its very first Parade of Champions. This show, as well as all the others, will be held in the Van Wezel Auditorium, which is within a short walk of the Hyatt Sarasota Hotel, headquarters for the convention.

The Friday night show will feature the Sarasota Chapter's Chorus of the Keys and the 4th- and 5th-place quartet medalists from the Calgary convention.

The 1994 seniors champion will be selected at the ninth-annual seniors quartet contest on Saturday afternoon. This contest becomes more competitive every year.

Saturday night, the 3rd-place medalist, the silver medalist and the 1993 international quartet champion will headline the Show of Champions.

Information about all these events, as well as your hotel reservation card, will be sent to you as soon as we receive your 1994 midwinter registration. See page 19 for a registration order form.



## Joker's Wild goes extra mile

When 1992 medalist quartet **Joker's Wild** found out that there were high school vocal-music teachers and students in Tacoma interested in learning more about **HARMONY EXPLOSION** clubs, the group volunteered to arrive a day early for its gig on the Tacoma Chapter's annual show last April. Tacoma Youth Outreach Chairman Steve Mondau lined up demonstrations of the barbershop style at area high schools; in all, more than 100 male students participated in the activities.

The quartet and Mondau made three separate presentations as part of regularly scheduled vocal music classes; one each at Gig Harbor High, Wilson High and Foss High School. During each session, the students sang "My Wild Irish Rose" along with the quartet before singing it by themselves. They also learned and sang the "Banjo Doo Dah Day" and "When It's Sleepy Time Down South" tags.

After the session at Foss High, two students were overheard to agree, "Man, I'm joining that new **HARMONY EXPLOSION** club." As a matter of fact, clubs are forming at all three schools.

## Medalist demonstrates style

Last March, Belleville, Ill., Chapter Youth Outreach Chairman Dan Angenend asked Bill Rashleigh for assistance in presenting a Youth Outreach program at nearby McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill., where the music staff had shown interest in **HARMONY EXPLOSION**. Since Lebanon is only 25 miles from St. Louis, Rashleigh turned to David Wright for help.

Wright, whose multi-faceted barbershop talent includes holding the posts of Associate Society Historian and Arrangement Category Specialist, not only accepted, but arranged for **The Gas House Gang** to accompany him! The quartet presented a song, after which Wright delivered a brief overview of Society history, and then explained some of the technical aspects of barbershop sound, using the quartet to demonstrate how the four parts fit together.

The quartet concluded the program by singing several selections and, judging by their reactions, the students were hooked! Chalk up another club!

## Thoroughbreds host high school "Harmony College"

Last April, the Louisville **Thoroughbreds** sponsored and hosted an all-day training session for high school choral students. Invitations were sent to high school *show choirs* in a three-state area, inviting their members, directors and parents to attend a day of singing, instruction, entertainment and hospitality. Classes were scheduled on vocal production, breathing and posture, vowel targets, physiology of singing, student directing, choreography and stage presence.

Initially limited to 200 students, enrollment was reached within two weeks of mailing the invitations. The limit was increased to 400, and *that* number was reached two weeks ahead of registration deadline!

The facilities of Southwestern High School in Louisville provided the venue. The faculty was comprised of 15 high school directors, four coaches, two choreographers and one member of the **Thoroughbreds**. While the students were in classes, the president of the local booster organization conducted a seminar for parents on how to support their activities through local show-choir booster organizations.

Following classes, the entire group of some 600 persons adjourned to the cafete-

ria, where the **Thoroughbreds** provided a catered fried-chicken dinner. After dinner, everyone moved to the auditorium for an evening of entertainment. Four of the top show choirs from Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky performed their package shows. A number of solos and ensembles, vocal as well as instrumental, were also presented.

The **HARMONY EXPLOSION** video was shown and, following a brief review of the Society, the evening was brought to an end with a massed sing. Amid smiles and a few tears, the students exchanged goodbyes, with many a promise to return next year.

Each choir director was furnished with the name of a contact person in the Society chapter closest to his school. Even if this effort does not result in new members immediately, a large number of singers now know about the Society and realize they have available a lifetime outlet for singing after they leave school.

Plans are being made to expand to a three-day session next year, to be held in the summer at Hanover College in Indiana. This coincides with the time that the show choirs will be starting preparation for the forthcoming competition season, and should thus be more beneficial to their new members. Advanced classes will be offered for the more experienced.



**The Gas House Gang** demonstrated barbershop harmony to a group of interested faculty members and students at McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill., last March in support of **HARMONY EXPLOSION**.



## First-grader directs 250-man chorus

by John Shuron  
Seneca Land District Secretary

While the scores were being tabulated at the Seneca Land District spring chorus contest, about 250 men took the stage as a Joe Barbershopper Chorus. Under the direction of Society luminaries Phil Lambrinos, Ed Waesche and Darryl Flinn, they presented such favorites as "Sweet Roses Of Morn" and "Coney Island Baby."

Spotting a youngster in a front row seat who was making all the moves of a director, Lambrinos asked the boy to come up on stage. Kneeling, Phil asked the boy his name, to which he replied, "Jason." Phil then asked Jason if he would like to direct the chorus. Jason replied, "Yes." "What song would you like the chorus to sing, Jason," Phil asked. "My Wild Irish Rose," was Jason's reply.

The pitch pipe was sounded and Jason took over. From that point on, every eye was on the little director, who stood just a yardstick tall. Jason stretched his hands when he wanted loudness and closed his hands for softness. When the bass section did not obey his command, he gave them a stern look of reprimand.

Just as the song was about to end, Jason turned his back to the chorus and faced the audience for the climax, in typical "great director" style. This action brought cheers of joy from, and tears to the eyes of, the audience; many in the Joe Barbershop Chorus were noted to be a little misty-eyed, as well. International President Ernie Nickoson, who was in the audience, later remarked, "It made my day."

Seven-year-old Jason Weitz is the son of Barbershopper Al Weitz, who began singing with the Erie Canal (now Monroe County West) Chapter when only 12. Jason frequently accompanies his father to Rochester, N.Y., Chapter meetings, and claims he knows how to direct about a dozen songs. Asked about his own singing, Jason replied that he can sing lead, baritone and bass, but likes singing bass the best!

In recognition of his prowess, Jason was presented with a Seneca Land District pin by Allegheny Division Vice President Charles Payne, who stated that, as a director of the Joe Barbershopper Chorus, Jason was certainly entitled to such a memento. 🍷

## Barbershop and Boy Scouts?

Barbershopper Charlie Alvarez of the New Braunfels, Texas, Chapter is on the staff of the Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree, which will take place at Camp A. P. Hill, Va., August 4-10, 1993. Up to 35,000 scouts are expected to attend, and the supervising staff will be commensurate in size.

Alvarez suspects that there may be other Barbershoppers scheduled to be on the BSA staff, and thinks it would be a neat idea to put together some four-part-harmony-around-the-campfire activity. If you fit the bill and would like to participate, contact Alvarez: 1909 Eastlawn Terr., New Braunfels, TX 78130; (210) 629-1595, or look him up when you get to Camp A. P. Hill. 🍷

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## A youth writes about barbershop

Mr. Bill Rashleigh:

I recently felt compelled to write to you about how barbershop singing has affected my life. Perhaps you can use me as an example to enlighten other young men about barbershop singing.

I am seventeen years old and a product of a high school production of *The Music Man*, performed in May of 1992. After singing bass in the quartet (had I known the stereotype associated with the part, I may have thought twice about accepting the role), I was immediately humbled by the sound of a "real" quartet, the **Buffalo Bills**. The harmony of barbershop thus became a love of mine for the following reasons: it is perhaps the last non-Greek fraternal society available on college campuses, and there is more to "ringing" a chord than I thought.

Though one does not usually find female companionship lingering around the singing hall of the church at which my chorus practices, there is nothing lacking. Nowhere else could I hear such interesting jokes and still consider myself a couth individual. I have yet to notice any rivalry between members, or the slightest hint of negativity towards any member. Such is a rarity in high school. The hours of studying spent and hours of study ahead are immediately forgotten with the first chord of "The Old Songs."

Thus, I approach a sensitive topic (from what I have been reading). The average high schooler tends to find relief from pressures at home and school through cheap, easy methods, such as partying and drunkenness (which is not to say that Barbershoppers do not, though in more moderate amounts). Unfortunately, drugs also play a role in many a high schooler's life.

What most have not realized, though, is that *barbershopping* is a drug. The sensational feeling when producing an overtone is actually the brain producing its own narcotics, many similar to morphine (but less addicting). Of course, I am not suggesting that the slogan be changed from "Quality is our style" to "Make your own heroin," but perhaps this idea could be used somehow to market the institution—it's cheaper to blend a bass, bari, lead and tenor than it is to blend a gin, rum, Coke, and vodka. Barbershopping is harmless euphoria.

I can see how so many people can dedicate so much of their lives to the preservation of a large part of America's heritage, and, in a way, our sanity. They are following their bliss, and thus I follow mine the same. I never experienced those days about which I reminisce every Tuesday night—but you'd never know it.

Joel A. Harris  
Calabasas, Calif.



# It's all in the numbers

by Gary Stamm, Director of Marketing

We have all heard the statistics on what a human being is worth; it comes to something under twenty dollars for the cost of the chemicals. Well, the worth of a member to the Society is far greater than twenty bucks. Think about it.

If one considers the international dues, plus all the merchandise purchases, conventions and schools attended, minus the costs of all these programs, the average member is worth about \$68 a year. Considering that the average member stays in the Society nearly 13 years, this brings the total to about \$877.

Most of our members are gained through existing members, so an \$877 member will possibly bring in one or more additional \$877 members. The chapter, of course, realizes chapter dues from members, as well as sale of show tickets and advertisements and paid performances. The member-bringing-in-another-member principle works here, too.

But throw the dollars aside.

I contend that most Barbershoppers are as happy with the social aspect of this great hobby as they are with the music. Take a minute and write down a list of your friends. How many of them are your fellow chapter members, or past and present quartet members? \$877 doesn't buy that kind of friendship—it's priceless.

Also, how many jobs need to be done to make your chapter successful? Have you ever sung in a chorus that's just a little bigger (or a lot bigger) than yours? What happens to that potential sing-out performance when your lone tenor can't make it? The answer to all these questions is that numbers *do* make a difference in your success and enjoyment of our hobby.

Let me throw out another statistic that might surprise you. Over the past five years, we have averaged a gross loss of 4,626 members a year. While that sounds like a lot, it is really quite low compared to other organizations. Still, we can't sustain a 1.5 percent annual net loss.

Now, we currently have 34,557 members in our organization. If each man brought in a new member *once every six years*, our organization would experience an annual

net membership gain of three percent. That three-percent growth would give us 42,500 members by the year 2000. We would all be happy. In fact, we would all be ecstatic.

Just bring in one new member, once every six years? Incredible! It's too easy.

Not all of us are salesman—myself included—but I can talk to friends about something pleasurable that I believe in. I have six Man of Note awards, which I always thought was far below spectacular. Considering, however, that I've been a member for twenty-two years, I'm just one new membership (and I'm working on him right now) of doubling my quota of one new member once every six years.

**If each man brought in a new member *once every six years*, our organization would experience an annual net membership gain of three percent.**

Talk about your hobby. Play barbershop tapes in your car or at home when a friend is around. Wear barbershop shirts, jackets or caps. Put a bumper sticker, license plate frame or decal on your car. Write your notes on barbershop stationery. Use barbershop post-it notes. Have a barbershop coffee mug at work. Simply invite a friend to a show or chapter meeting. If your chapter leadership is doing its job right, the meeting will be interesting, upbeat and provide plenty of variety and fun.

So, what gets your attention? The financial asset a new member would represent to your chapter and the Society? The added enjoyment another member can bring to your chapter? The new friend you might make? The fact that *your* share in all this is one new member, once every six years?

Whatever it is, you can improve your hobby and your enjoyment of it by simply finding another man with which to share it. You don't have to wait six years to get your next Man of Note.

## New Music Notes

by Burt Szabo

Music Specialist/Music Publishing

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"Shenandoah," stock no. 8603. This Burt Szabo arrangement of an early American folk song is designed for ease of singing.

"Bad Buncha Boys (Singin' Barbershop)," stock no. 8604. This neat, '60s-sounding toe-tapper was composed and arranged by Kirk Roose. You can have some real fun with this unusual number.

"Under The Boardwalk," stock no. 8605. We have had many requests for this '60s number since it appeared in the HARMONY EXPLOSION videotape, performed by Water Street Junction, the 1992 collegiate quartet champion.

"Yesterday," stock no. 8606. Tom Gentry arranged this 20th-century classic composed in 1965 by John Lennon and Paul McCartney of Beatles fame. The arrangement is easy to sing. Try it. Incidentally, it has been reported that "Yesterday" has been broadcast on radio more than any other song in history—more than *six million times!* That's an average of 4,465 times per week!

"Aura Lee/Love Me Tender - Medley," stock no. 8607. Elvis Presley and Vera Matson composed new words to the old civil war favorite "Aura Lee" in 1956. This arrangement, edited by Tom Gentry, combines the two songs in a very singable fashion. It is an ideal contest number—easy to sing and pure barbershop.

"When I'm Sixty-Four," stock no. 8608. Another great Beatles song by Lennon and McCartney, arranged for us by Tom Gentry. Its clever lyric and musical-rhythmic "hook" will make it a favorite of yours.

### Harmony Heritage Series

There is one new song in the Harmony Heritage Series, "Meet Me With Spangles And Bells On," stock no. 8141, arranged by Burt Szabo. This 1907 song is sure to tickle your funny bone and entertain your audience, as well as the judges.

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# Damon Runyon knew his quartets

from Damon Runyon's "Brighter Side," circa 1943

I was a terrific quartet fan in my day and, in fact, I confess that I was a frustrated amateur quartet warbler. My difficulty was that I could not carry a tune, and even the bartenders of my youth protested against my efforts.

I cannot say just when quartets began going out of fashion in the entertainment world, but I suppose it was with the decline of vaudeville. You seldom hear of them anymore, though some survive on the radio.

A combination known as *The Revelers* came to great fame and high salary on the radio, but that was after the big days of the old-time quartets. Among my favorite groups were the *Empire City Four* and the *Avon Comedy Four*. The former was made up of Harry Cooper, Irving Cooper, Harry Tally and Harry Mayo.

The latter had a changing personnel, always built around the famous Joe Smith and Charley Dale. I believe the original members, other than Smith and Dale, were Jack Coleman and Lester, whose first name escapes me, but who is now a theatrical man in Detroit. Afterward came the melodious Eddie Miller, Frank Corbett, Joe Goodwin and perhaps others, but Smith and Dale were never absent.

A great quartet of the old days was *The Bootblacks*, made up of Max Hayes, George Elliott, Phil Adams and Charley Weber. They were supposed to be shoeshine boys right off the street and were a good novelty attraction in the era when vaudeville patrons felt they could not get along without quartets. Hayes is now a well-known book-agent in Hollywood.

A combination of boys in Eton jackets made a strong bid for public attention and approval as the *Four Nightingales* and it may surprise you to know that three of the members were Groucho Marx, Gummo Marx and Harpo Marx, later to become famous in a somewhat different theatrical field. Groucho was the baritone, Gummo the tenor and Harpo, whose complete silence on the stage in after years was his most distinguishing characteristic, was the bass. A slim little kid from Boston named Lou Levy was the lead. He grew up to a man of around 250 pounds, according to Harpo.

Speaking of heft, the *Primrose Four*, billed as "A Thousand Pounds of Harmony," had no member weighing less than 250 pounds. They were Bob Webb, Murphy,

Stanley and Gibner—I do not recall the first names of the last three. They teetered the stage when they walked on, but they could sing.

The *Elm City Four* sang in one of Charley Dillingham's shows at the Hippodrome around 1916. The *Clipper Four* was named for the old theatrical publication, *The New York Clipper*. The *Bison City Four*, the *Exposition Four* and the *Four Miners*, from Scranton, all had greater or less fame in their day. The *Diamond Comedy Four* was a combination of perhaps forty years back.

"Tubby" Garon, who did some singing in quartets himself, and who is now one of the best-known song pushers in the business, remembers a quartet I never happened to catch, which billed its program as "Christmas Eve on Blackwell's Island." It always opened with a prison scene and "Tubby" asserts that it enjoyed considerable popularity.

The *Manhattan Comedy Four* was composed of Sam Curtis, tenor; Art Williams, lead; a chap named Mach and Al Shean, afterwards of Gallagher and Shean and still later a fine dramatic actor in his own right, was the baritone. They billed themselves as "The Four Fashion Plates."

The *Arlington Four* included Lou Leever, Harry Manny, a man named Roberts, and that same "Tubby" Garon, who was the baritone. The *Broadway Quartet* was famous in burlesque. It was with "Blooch" Cooper's show. The *American Comedy Four* and the *Empire Comedy Four*, headed by Joe Genny, were well-known combinations over a period of years. Then, there was the *Temple Four* and the *Baseball Four*, made up of ballplayers, and the *Worth While Waiting Four*, which some oldtimers think was more of an acrobatic act than a bonafide quartet.

I have no doubt I have missed a number of harmony groups in this dissertation, but I hope I have given my readers some idea of the widespread popularity of a form of public entertainment that, alas, has gone by the boards.

*This article was part of a series published in Hearst newspapers during the early '40s. Most of it was reprinted in The Harmonizer in 1945, courtesy of King Features Syndicate. Ed.*



# The first is the best

by Tom Larsen - taken from *Buckeye Buckshots*, bulletin of the Buckeye-Columbus, Ohio, Chapter, John Everett, Jr., editor

An article in the September/October 1992 *Harmonizer*, "Once upon a time" by Chuck Greene, reminded me of my first international convention. I suppose all Barbershoppers are most impressed by their first convention—the excitement and all the great singing.

As the 1959 district chorus champion, the **Singing Buckeyes**, under the direction of Ken Keller, were representing the Johnny Appleseed District at the 1960 international chorus contest in Dallas, Texas. Having joined the chapter only eight months previously, I had no idea what to expect and, although 30 years old, I felt like a real greenhorn.

My wife, Sue, had decided to take the kids to visit grandparents for the week, so I went to the convention alone—the first and last time I did that!

Arrangements were made to have a railway car designated for the Buckeye-Columbus Chapter so we could all travel together. George Cochran, who worked for the Penn Railroad (remember them?) made all the arrangements.

We assembled at the old Union Station on North High Street in downtown Columbus at 6 a.m. There were about 50 convention-bound people on the train, including wives, kids, some famous people and some people who were yet to become famous—**The Colonials** quartet from East Liverpool, Ohio, featured our own Bill Brooks, now singing with our JAD seniors champ, the **Silvertones**.

Some singing was done at the station before we boarded; "Mandy," "Gee, Boys, It's Great To Lead A Band" and "The Girl That Men Forget." It's hard to sing at six in the morning, but everyone was excited and ready to go. As the train left the station, most people settled down for a snooze but, as usual, some retired to the club car, mens room or a platform between cars to do some woodshedding—a term I was to learn the true meaning of on this trip.

As the train approached Richmond, Indiana, Cochran said that we needed some "groceries" and asked for a volunteer. Lucky

me. George gave me a list and some money, and informed me that when the train stopped at the station, I was to jump off and run across the tracks to a store on Main Street that sold "medicinal beverages." He assured me that the train would not leave without me.

All I could think of was that I would probably spend the week of my first international in Richmond, Indiana. But, I crossed the tracks, got the groceries and, as I stepped on board our car, George waved to the engineer and away we went.

The singing was continuous, and when we arrived in St. Louis, we had to have our car connected to another train heading for Dallas. It seems that on the other train was a special car from Muskegon, Mich., with the **Port City Chorus** on board.

Well, the woodshedding *really* got going at that point! I learned "Coney Island Baby" and several other chestnuts with the gang from Muskegon.

We arrived in Dallas the next morning and, as we were registering at our hotel, a bus pulled up and out stepped the **Fairfax Jubil-Aires**, from Fairfax, Va. They marched right into the hotel lobby, lined up, and proceeded to sing several songs. Wow! Was I impressed!

During the middle of the week, we held our rehearsals and went to the quartet contests. The most impressive quartet, to me, was the **Nighthawks**, from London, Ontario—boy, did they ring 'em! After the first session, they were in 16th place, but after they sang "Brother, Can You Spare A Dime?" in the second session, they moved into the top ten, and finished in sixth place.

The **Evans Quartet**, from Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, won the championship. The **Town and Country Four**, from Pittsburgh, took the silver and **The Colonials** placed third. Soon-to-be champs, the **Sun Tones** (they spelled it as two words back then) and the **Four Renegades** were in the top ten, while the **Oriole Four**, still 11 years away from the gold, just got into the top 20. Getting to hear past champs such as the **Four Pitchikers**, the **Mid States Four** and

the **Schmitt Brothers** really impressed this Barbershopper.

When the time came for the chorus contest, we all assembled in the lower level of the convention hall. Each chorus was given a dressing area, and the warm-up risers were set up in the middle of the lower level. Each chorus rehearsed on these risers just before going on stage for the contest, and all the other choruses would stop dressing and applaud until the last man had left the risers. Talk about hype!

The **Singing Buckeyes** sang in 12th position, and by the time I got to my seat in the audience, there were only two choruses left to sing. We had worn black paper derby hats and, at the conclusion of our second song, "Can't You Hear Me Callin' Caroline?" we threw our hats into the audience. The derbies did not go far, but some made it to the judges' table.

The **Stampede City Chorus**, from Calgary, Alberta, was the first chorus I watched. They wore cowboy shirts, pants and boots, and *real* Stetsons. At the conclusion of their second number, their Stetsons were in their hands and, lo and behold, they sailed them into the audience—clear into the 15th row of seats! Judges were taking off paper derbies and putting on Stetsons.

The **Chordsmen**, from Alamo Heights (San Antonio), Texas, won the contest and we came in 11th, right behind Muskegon. Louisville's **Thoroughbreds**, competing in their second international, placed sixth.

As we boarded our train on Sunday to return to Columbus (we already had our groceries), it was obvious that this was going to be a singing trip home. Susan Schultz, 13-year-old daughter of Becky and Ted (later to become chapter president), was sitting with three of **The Colonials**. They were singing the tag to "I'm So Alone With The Crowd" (old friends seemed to be ...) with Susan singing a very soft, sweet lead. The other three matched perfectly and rang some beautiful chords. It's still one of my favorite tags.

The trip continued with lots of tag- and gang-singing and woodshedding abounding. I slept in the luggage rack (I wouldn't fit today) and, although eager to get home, joined in on a couple of songs before departing the Columbus train station.

Sue and I have attended many international conventions since then, including our first one together, in Philadelphia in 1961, but Dallas in 1960 will always be the most memorable convention for this Barbershopper.



# Douglas Walton: Heartspring success story

by Brenda Keeler, Director of Patron Organizations

Artist and teacher Douglas Walton was a frightened and anxious 14-year-old when he first walked through the doors of the Institute of Logopedics—now known as Heartspring. Almost no one could understand him when he spoke. He did not make consonant sounds. The situation had become so desperate that his parents sold their belongings in Carmen, Oklahoma, and moved to Wichita in 1956, so their son could get speech therapy at the Institute.

After two years of therapy at the Institute, Walton went on to graduate with honors from Wicluta High School East. In 1965, he graduated from the School of Architecture at Oklahoma State University and spent a number of years as an architect.

Today, Walton is a nationally-known watercolor artist who travels across the United States and to foreign countries to

present what he calls "Watercolor Encounters." "These encounters are intense workshops that help people get in touch with their genius and manifest that genius through expression," says Walton.

It was just last Thanksgiving that Walton returned to the Institute for the first time since 1957 to participate in a series of activities in conjunction with a fundraiser for Heartspring. On March 27, the Black-Tie Bingo and Celebrity Auction was presented by Heartspring to raise money for the Heartspring Assessment and Treatment Center. Douglas Walton donated one of his watercolor paintings to the auction.

"To me, it's a small token of appreciation for giving me life ... for teaching me to speak," Walton said. "And through my teaching, I have changed the lives of thousands.

"I can motivate people to believe that they can paint, to let go. I truly believe that everyone can be an artist, that everyone has the talent to be a great artist," Walton said. Even Heartspring students had a chance to show their artistic style, creating art by using watercolors and wax candles under Walton's direction during his visit this past March.

The Douglas Walton story is one of many success stories at Heartspring. With the continued support of Barbershoppers all over the country, we hope to share with you many more success stories.



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# Society strikes it big with "Gold Rush '93"

by Patrick Tucker-Kelly, Music and Membership Specialist

After two years of continuous membership decline, the Society struck gold during the first quarter of 1993 by posting a membership gain of 73 members over the end of last year! To mark this event we have established a new recognition program, "Gold Rush '93."

To qualify for Gold Medal recognition, a chapter must show a net membership increase of ten percent during calendar year 1993; for Silver Medal recognition, at least a five percent increase; and Bronze Medal recognition will be awarded to any chapter that shows an increase, but smaller than five percent. Chapters with no change from last year will receive an Honorable Mention.

In addition, any district that shows a gain of 50 or more members during any quarter qualifies for a Gold Medal Certificate. Districts showing a gain of between 25 and 50 members will receive a Silver Medal Certificate, and a Bronze Medal Certificate will be awarded to any district showing a gain, but fewer than 25 members, in a quarter. Districts that show no change over a quarter will receive a Certificate of Honorable Mention. The district with the greatest net percentage increase in members at the end of the year will receive a plaque attesting to its accomplishment.

## First quarter winners

Nine of our sixteen districts are eligible for certificates for first quarter gains. We have one Certificate of Honorable Mention, five Bronze Medal Certificate winners, two Silver Medal Certificate winners and one Gold Medal Certificate winner this quarter.

Our Certificate of Honorable Mention winner this quarter with no member loss is the Southwestern District.

### Bronze Medal Certificate winners are:

- Cardinal District .....+6
- Northeastern District .....+10
- Ontario District .....+11
- Johnny Appleseed District .....+15
- Sunshine District .....+15

### Silver Medal Certificate winners are:

- Rocky Mountain District .....+27
- Seneca Land District .....+40

Our Gold Medal Certificate winner this quarter is the Dixie District with an even +50 members. Congratulations to Director

of Membership Development Jack Frobose and the entire Dixie District for this achievement!

## Our new chapters

In other membership news, we have granted seven new chapter licenses so far this year (bringing the total to thirteen), and five licensed sites have petitioned for charter status.

### Newly licensed chapters are:

- Longview Area, Texas .....(SWD)
- Los Alamos, New Mexico .....(RMD)
- Mesa, Arizona .....(FWD)
- Newmarket, Ontario .....(ONT)
- Oregon Central Coast, Oregon ..(EVG)
- Redding, California .....(FWD)
- St. Marys, Pennsylvania .....(SLD)
- Texarkana, Texas .....(SWD)

### Newly chartered:

- Batavia, New York .....(SLD)
- Brockville, Ontario .....(ONT)
- Red Deer, Alberta .....(EVG)
- Vernon, British Columbia .....(EVG)
- Yuma, Arizona .....(FWD)

## "Strike gold" in your chapter

For many years we have been asking our members for names of men who like to sing. The problem seems to be that after five years or so, we've run through most of our friends, acquaintances, relatives and co-workers. We need a new way to "strike gold" in the membership sweepstakes.

Keith Huntley, membership vice president of the Louisville, Kentucky, Chapter, has come up with a "golden" idea for tapping another resource for names of prospective members, which he then uses as the recruitment base for the chapter's "MEMbership begins with ME!" program. Using this program, Louisville is recruiting an average of *ten new members a month*, and has a backlog of about 150 names at present. Here's the idea:

Ask each man in your chapter to come up with the names of at least three *women* who might like to sing. Tell them to think about their sisters, cousins, aunts, mothers, secretaries, bosses, bosses' wives, or any other women they know who *might* like to sing. Have them include name, address and telephone number for each person they list.

While you are working on the list of names, begin the buildup to the "MEMbership begins with ME!" and "Class of '93" programs. Both are outlined in the 1993 *Membership Vice President Manual*. These programs have been extremely effective and, if done by the book, they will help to increase the singing size of your chapter's chorus.

When you have the list of women's names compiled from your whole chapter, you are ready to go calling.

## Make a trade

Visit the nearest Sweet Adelines International or Harmony, Incorporated, chapter; take your list of names with you. Meet with the membership person or president of the women's group. Tell them you have a list of names of women who like to sing, and that you would like to share that list.

Explain how you gathered your list, and ask the women to do the same, only with *men's* names. Tell them you will give them one woman's name for every man's name they give you. Ask to make a brief presentation to their membership about what your chapter has done, and show them the list of names. Suggest that you will be back in a week or two to get their list, and to present yours.

Stay in contact with the membership person for the women's group to confirm a date and the number of names to be mutually exchanged. Take your list to their next meeting. Exchange lists.

## Make contact

Contact the men on your list. Huntley suggests sending a cassette tape of barber-shop music, so the prospective member can hear what you are talking about, along with a brief letter of introduction. Your letter might read something like this:

"Hi! A mutual friend in the Chordettes told me you enjoy music, and just might be interested in doing some singing. I'm a member of the Music Masters, the performing chorus of the Bigtown Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.



"The Society is the largest all-male singing organization in the world, with more than 800 chapters and 34,000 men in the United States and Canada, as well as seven affiliated organizations around the world. Our members come from all walks of life with one thing in common: the love of singing four-part barbershop harmony. We truly try to live up to our motto: Keep the Whole World Singing!

"Our chapter is currently having a membership drive, and we are looking for men just like you. I have enclosed a cassette tape featuring some barbershop singing, both chorus and quartet. I hope you enjoy what you hear, and that you will visit our chapter some Tuesday night to learn more about us.

"I will be calling you in a few days to introduce myself, and to answer any questions you might have about our chapter or the Society. Thank you for your time."

#### Make sure your chapter is ready

While your chapter is sending letters to the prospects, make sure it is also preparing a program to bring them in as members. Use the materials outlined in your PVP and

MVP manuals to help get ready for an influx of new members. Plan to make every chapter meeting as exciting and as much fun as possible. Order adequate supplies for guest kits, and make sure your music team has a plan in place to orient the new members to our style of music ("Class of '93" program).

Use the materials outlined in the *Membership Vice President* manual to organize your recruitment effort. Have your guest table staffed so that every guest will be welcomed immediately upon entering the rehearsal hall.

In short, do everything possible to be prepared to show your guests a great time.


#### Make the invitation

When you follow up on your letter, be sure to ask the prospect to come visit your chapter. Offer a ride, and try not to take "no" for an answer. The only guests you can be sure to have present at your guest night are those your chapter members actually pick up. Plain and simple, if you can't get 'em down to your chapter meeting, you can't get 'em to join the chapter.

Send a confirming card or note to your prospective member after he has agreed to visit your chapter. These little touches go a long way toward making him feel comfortable. The more comfortable he is, the better his initial barbershop experience will be. We all know that once we get him "hooked on harmony," signing him up is just a matter of time.

#### Make time for *Gold Rush '93* . . . now!

This idea *can* work for your chapter. All it takes is a little planning and nurturing. Wouldn't your chapter like to have a list of more men to contact about our Society? Don't you think your local Sweet Adelines International or Harmony, Incorporated, group would like a list of an equal number of women?

With summer upon us, there is no better time to start planning for a big fall membership campaign. Give this a try. You may never win a gold medal in the international chorus contest, but you can "strike gold" in "Gold Rush '93." 

## Keys to the Future—a new program

by Charlie Green, Director of Development

When did you last consider what might be your keys to the future?

They will differ from man to man, depending on family needs and financial resources. Right now, your keys might be a new financial planning newsletter, *Keys to the Future*.

As part of the Society's endowment program, *Keys to the Future* is being offered to Barbershoppers who have a serious interest


in making certain their financial houses are in order.

The first issue of *Keys to the Future* features important articles about wills. One can help you identify when you may need to draw up a new will. Another explains the benefits of having a will—as well as the dangers of having *no* will.

With each issue of *Keys*, you will have the opportunity to receive a free booklet that

further describes the main topics of that issue. *Use Your Will Power* is the first booklet to be offered.

If you would like to be included in future mailings of *Keys to the Future*, simply call me, Charlie Green, (612) 929-0041, fax (612) 929-0552, or drop a note to 4405 Curve Avenue, Edina, MN 55424-1048.

You may never find the keys to the future, but if you receive *Keys to the Future*, you will be better prepared to meet your *own* future. 

Applications for the position of Director of Music Education & Services on the international staff are now being accepted. The position requires:

- a masters in music education, or the equivalent, with a major field of study in business administration;
- skills in management and writing;
- knowledge of barbershop style and craft is essential;
- work experience of not less than ten years in music education;
- must be a Barbershopper with some experience in quartet and chorus activity;
- must travel.

The incumbent directs and coordinates department activities and functions consistent with the goals and objectives of the Society's long-range plans and the policies set forth in the Society's governing documents. The position opens January 1, 1994. Send applications to Executive Director Joe Liles.

*Lifeline®*, the Society's long-distance service, will be conducting a telemarketing solicitation to all members sometime after September 1. It's a good service, but if you're not interested, simply tell the operator up front and the call will be terminated.



## Barbershop Around the World

World Harmony Council Chairman Ed Waesche, in his midyear report to the International Board of SPEBSQSA, announced that plans for the remainder of 1993 will focus on judge and instructor training and music education in support of the seven affiliate organizations. About 80 percent of non-World Harmony Jamboree expenses are budgeted for these tasks, with about 45 percent of that amount directed toward education and training in the new judging categories. The goal is to establish a truly international roster of judges by the end of the century.

It should be noted that the World Harmony Council is self-supporting; no Society funds are provided. World Harmony Council efforts are financed primarily by proceeds from the World Harmony Jamboree, held annually in connection with the international convention. This event becomes more successful each year, as evidenced by the fact that tickets for the Calgary jamboree were approaching a sold-out status as early as May.



Former international staff member Tom Gentry is currently on a six-month residency as a guest of the Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers (AAMBS), coaching quartets and choruses and visiting schools as part of a youth outreach effort Down Under. Arrangements have been made for Gentry, along with Jim Casey and Marty Lovick, to judge both the AAMBS and New Zealand Association of Barbershop Singers (NZABS) contests, which take place just a week apart next October.

Gentry will also judge Arrangement at the contests in Calgary, and will again be on the Harmony College faculty this year.

For some time, several members of the World Harmony Council have advocated a Pan-Pacific Harmony College, in view of the distances that barbershoppers from Hawaii to Australia must travel to attend Harmony College in the U. S. Initial planning has now been completed for such an event to be held in Brisbane, Australia, in April, 1994.



Barbershop in Germany (BinG!) held its first national convention and contest in Cologne last March. According to WHC Chairman Waesche, it was a showcase of male and female, multi-national, barbershop singing and organization. The panel of judges was represented equally by members of the British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS) and the Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers (LABBS).

The mike tester for the BinG! quartet competition was **Downtown Express**, current LABBS champion. The **Sea Sound Singers**, a chorus from Holland Harmony, the ladies' organization in The Netherlands, warmed the mikes for the chorus contest.

The BinG! chorus contest was won by **Ladies First**, a group of 17 women, directed by Manfred Adams, who rehearse but once a month—all day on a Sunday. The first BinG! quartet champion is **Viertakt**, a male foursome from Cologne, whose baritone, Hans-Jürgen Wieneke, is president of the affiliate organization.



Kjell Lindberg, president of the Society of Nordic Barbershop Singers (SNOBS), reports that barbershop activity is growing in Norway; members of Sweet Adelines International and SNOBS have been providing coaching to male and female groups there. The second Danish Barbershop Festival is scheduled for May, 1994, and it appears the Danes are interested in organizational development.

SNOBS was well represented in international competition in Calgary by the **Helsingborg Barberboys**, a chorus from Helsingborg, Sweden, that also competed in Louisville in 1991. **Last Edition**, from Rönninge, Sweden, represented SNOBS in the quartet contest.






Arrangements are being made to host our Russian friends from Rostov-on-Don, the **Quiet Don Quartet**, for a three-week visit to California in August. Plans are being made to videotape the visit, which will include appearances in Monterey, Los Angeles, San Diego, Fresno and San Francisco. Members of the group and their wives, who have formed their own singing foursome, the **Quiet Wives Quartet**, will also vacation at Yosemite Park.



### A CHAMPIONSHIP AFFAIR

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PHOENICIANS

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Compact Disc @ \$15 each \$

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Total \$

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add 25% payable in U.S. funds.



I was working in my lab, late one night [OK, it was my office, and it was about 5:45 p.m.], when the doorbell sounded at Harmony Hall. Kent Henning, of Carthage College here in Kenosha, said he had four fellas with him who were interested in barbershop singing.

Sighing inwardly at the interruption, but ever willing to show off Harmony Hall and bring men into the Society, I told him I'd be happy to meet them and give them some info on barbershopping. As we walked to his van, I asked whence these fellas came. "Russia," he replied.

The four men were members of a choir from Russia that was embarking on a U.S. tour that very day—in fact, they had just come from the airport—and were scheduled to perform at Carthage the next morning. Kent had not been scheduled to house anyone, but when another host backed out at the last minute, he agreed to take four

students, whom he had been told would be girls. Through another mix-up, he ended up with these four men.

As they were driving to his house, one of them mentioned in broken English that the four sang barbershop, and Kent just happened to know about SPEBSQSA—in fact, he had been a quartet singer in his college days—and he knew where Harmony Hall was located. And, I just happened to still be at the office; I had nearly left 10 minutes earlier, but had decided to finish up one little project first.


The quartet sang a song in Harmony Hall's famed acoustic alcove, and were thrilled by the costumes, portraits and replica barbershop in the Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony. But, you should have seen them light up when I showed them the HARMONY EXPLOSION video. Pavcl, the lead, turned to me after seeing and hearing **The Gas House Gang** and said,

"We have never heard ... before ... never like ... wow!"

Up to that point, the only barbershop singing they had *ever* heard was themselves!

I took the quartet to the Milwaukee Chapter meeting, where they were completely floored by the sound of 65 voices in barber-shop harmony under the direction of Joe Liles. The quartet, in turn, received a standing ovation from the chapter after the four sang "Goodnight Ladies/Merrily We Roll Along." Good fellowship and tag-singing followed.

The highlight for me, though, came earlier, when we were driving to the meeting and the four started singing, very softly, very sweetly, "Oh beautiful, for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain ...." I nearly had to stop the car for the tears in my eyes.

Now I know what "Keep the Whole World Singing" means. 

July/August 1993



The 15th Annual (and positively final) Retirement of the **Boston Common**, 1980 international champion, occurred in March when the foursome headlined the Westchester County, N. Y., Chapter show. As a tribute to the popularity generated by the foursome's 22 years of harmony, the 13,000-seat auditorium was filled to capacity.

One special attendee was Chris Harris, a young woman and long-time fan who is in the late stages of ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) and is confined to a wheelchair. A former Sweet Adeline and chorus director, Chris came all the way from Ohio to hear and see the quartet perform one more time.

Famed for its off-stage antics, the group lost no time in proving that they had not slowed their pace. As quartet host Tom LaMotte was paying the parking toll at the airport after picking up the quartet, he glanced in his rearview mirror and was horrified to see lead Rich Knapp with a handkerchief stuffed in his mouth, grimacing and struggling. Bass Terry Clarke, who had done the stuffing, leaned over LaMotte's shoulder and told the startled attendant to "pay no attention to that man in the back seat" as Tom stepped on the gas.

At the head table at the afterglow was a gentleman who turned out to be Clarke's nephew, even though he was older. Repeated references to "Uncle Terry" sparked many humorous exchanges.

Before they left the afterglow, the members of the Boston Common gathered around Chris Harris' wheelchair and sang two more songs, just for her. That may have been their final performance as a quartet, and the dewy-eyed group still on hand to see it were well aware that they were witness to a bit of barbershop history.



The members of the 1983 international champion **Side Street Ramblers** celebrated their 10th anniversary of winning the gold by reuniting to appear on the Dallas Town North Chapter's annual show in May. Keith Houts, tenor; Brian Beck, lead [both now singing with the **Great Stage Robbery** as tenor and bass, respectively]; Dennis Malone, bari [now with the **Bingo Brothers** on the east coast] and Earl Hagn, bass [now with **Impromptu**] performed about 25 songs during the show and afterglow.



The popular Land O' Lakes quartet, the **Roadrunners**, retired in October of 1992, but forgot to tell anyone. What's more embarrassing, writes spokesman Norm Wolfe, no one noticed! The group herewith formally announces its retirement and, at the same time, thanks all of its wonderful friends and audiences of the past 20 years. "Our only wish is that each and every one of you could have had the experience of being a Roadrunner on just one chapter show," writes Wolfe. "You would never forget it ... we sure won't."



**Shenanigans** has a new contact man: Dave LaBar, P.O. Box 16232, Clearwater, FL 34629; (813) 786-6040 (H); (813) 799-5521 (B).



Some folks may not have noted address and phone number changes in the **Acoustix** ad carried in *The Harmonizer*. Please note: Acoustix, 10455 North Central Expressway, Suite 109-128, Dallas, TX 75231; (214) 265-STIX [7849]; FAX (214) 265-9555.



Following the Calgary convention, the 1992 College Quartet Champion **Water Street Junction** returned to its performing job in Germany. Contact: Eric Monson, Rackebuller Weg 11A, 1000 Berlin 49, Germany; phone 011 49 30 742 7463.



To help the Pennsylvania Lottery promote a special Mother's Day lottery, **Liberty Union**, from MAD, recorded a 60-second radio spot that was aired by 60 stations across the state for three weeks prior to the event. The song was a parody of

"M-O-T-H-E-R" sung at breakneck speed (M is for the money that you'll win there ...). Members of the group and their chapters are: Chuck Lower, Lansdale; Tom Halley, Bryn Mawr; Al Ziegler, Delco and Joe McGowan, Frank Thorne.



The **NurSING Notes** is a group of four male registered professional nurses from New York who perform regularly at hospitals, conferences and conventions. A comedy group, the quartet performs parodies of public-domain barbershop songs with lyrics pertinent to the vagaries of their profession, and are in great demand throughout the nursing community. Baritone Larry Brennan is a 13-year Barbershopper and the other three, Wayne Beach, Kerry Grant and Glen Gardner, plan to join the Society this fall after completion of advanced degrees and special training. Incidentally, all four men are married to nurses.



The **Bos-Tones**, two members of which are current members of the Concord, Mass., Chapter, perform regularly for special events in the Boston area. The group's "gimmick" is to sing "Down Mobile" with custom-tailored lyrics to suit the occasion.

At an engagement party for two medical students: "I met my pearl at medical school. She liked my psychology. I liked her anatomy. I practice on her, and she on me; it's called professional courtesy. Dr. Richard, and Dr. Anne."

For an open house at a local bank: "Auburndale Co-operative Bank—friendly banking is their aim; co-operative is their middle name. CDs are high, mortgages low. How they do it, we don't know—call 969-6090."



Shown performing parody lyrics to "Down Mobile" for Ben Edwards, president and CEO of A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. (at right) is the specialty quartet, the **Bos-Tones** (l to r): Edward Roush, tenor; Ralph Fishman, lead; Tom McMahon, bass and Dave Dettinger, bari.



# Chordiac Arrest-ed

This year, for the first time in its seven-year career, **Chordiac Arrest** failed to qualify for the international quartet competition. *The Harmonizer* has obtained a rehearsal diary from quartet coach George Peters, which we present here without comment.

Jan 6—Rehearsal spent arguing about which songs to use in contest. Settle on four, but later decide against "Rhapsody In Blue."

Jan 13—No rehearsal. Baritone on ski trip.

Jan 20—Discard another contest song. Bass can't sing that low.

Jan 27—Discard a third contest song. Tenor can't sing that high.

Feb 3—Bass and lead go to tenor's house for rehearsal. Tenor and baritone go to lead's house.

Feb 10—Rehearsal spent arguing about where previous rehearsal should have been.

Feb 17—Baritone on ski trip.

Feb 20—Bass has to babysit. Sitter joined religious cult.

Feb 27—Rehearsal spent arguing about what coach to get. Decide to coach selves. "Four coaches better than one."

Mar 3—Rehearsal cancelled. Tenor can't tonight. He has a headache.

Mar 10—Lead attacks 48-oz. steak; unfortunately, steak counterattacks. Rehearsal cancelled.

Mar 17—Baritone on ski trip.

Mar 24—Great rehearsal. Off the paper on one song, except for intro, bridge and two key changes.

Mar 31—Wives come to rehearsal. Excellent party, but no time for singing.

Apr 7—Rehearsal moved to Tuesday, but nobody tells lead.

Apr 14—Good rehearsal, but lead has to leave early. Coaching another quartet.

Apr 15—Baritone cancels ski trip, then sprains ankle practicing SP in hotel room.

Apr 16—Contest. Decide to use all old material.

Backstage: Bass gets hiccups. Tenor has to go to bathroom. Lead notices baritone has one black, one brown shoe.

On stage: Tenor blows F-sharp instead of B-flat. Fly lands on bass's nose; crawls in. Baritone recognizes Sound judge as man he made a non-barbershop gesture to on I-55 yesterday.

Hey ... wait 'til next year!



Contest preparations by **Chordiac Arrest** make quite a saga. Pictured are (l to r) Marty Jannel, tenor; Lynn Hauldren, bari; Earl Meseth, bass and Dick Johnson, lead.



Last fall, **The Naturals** participated in two benefit shows for the Bob Hope House in Cincinnati. Shown above are (l to r): Jim Gentil, bass; Bob Hope; Randy Chisholm, lead; Dolores Hope; Bob Moorehead, tenor and Jay Hawkins, bari.



When the "Storm of the Century" struck the east coast on March 13, the **Suntones**, scheduled to headline the Ft. Walton Beach Chapter show that night, called from Tampa to report that all flights had been cancelled. Scrambling for a backup position, chapter president John (J. J.) Jackson found that the lead of the only chapter quartet was out with the flu. Undaunted, J. J. turned to Jimmy Tomkins, the chapter's music director. Tomkins, an 18-month Barbershopper and product of the Young Men in Harmony program, is a professional musician and a quick study. A few hours before the show, with Tomkins on lead, the foursome put together a 30-minute package. Billed as the **Snowtones**, they more than pleased the second-half audience. Shown are (l to r): Paul Whittlesey, tenor; Jimmy Tomkins, lead; Phil Coty, bass and John (J. J.) Jackson, bari. Incidentally, Jackson is an Air Force F-15 pilot, so he's used to having to think fast.



**PrimeTime**, a quartet from the Hilltop, Minn., Chapter, was part of an all-day barbershop clinic held at Waunakee Community Middle School, Waunakee, Wis., in February. Although the oldest is only 29, the members of the foursome share more than 50 years of barbershopping experience among them; two started in high school under the Young Men in Harmony program. Shown at right, bass Steve McDonald (second from left) has just taught a tag to three young men. Their expressions tell the story.



The **Checkered Flag Four**, members of the Elmira, N. Y., Chapter, originally formed in 1985 to sing the U. S. and Canadian national anthems for races at Watkins Glen in upstate New York, has since become an integral part of NASCAR and other auto racing events throughout the northeast, performing at tracks in both the U. S. and Canada. No two-song foursome, the group also sings at sponsors' hospitality tents, for drivers' church services and in nearby restaurants during race weekends. Shown (l to r) are: Dick Davies, tenor; Maurice Radford, lead; Greg Emelski, bass and Bob Kelchner, bari.

## The tag in this issue

As sung by the **EASTERNAIRES**

### ROSES I BRING TO YOU

Bob Bohm, 1969

tenor melody

to you.

8

Sweet-heart I bring ros - es; Ros - es I bring to you.

## Midwinter Convention Registration • Sarasota, Fla. • Jan. 23 - 30, 1994

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/guest name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Bus. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Res. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I will be in a wheelchair  
☐ Require reserved seat nearby for a companion

**Please accept my order for:**

Quantity	Total (US funds)
_____	_____
Registrations @\$40.00 each	\$ _____

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA Exp. date: mo. \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Registration package includes: a personalized convention badge, preferred seating at the Saturday Night Show, admission to the Saturday Night Afterglow, admission to the Seniors Quartet Contest, admission to the "Meet the Medalists" reception and a ten-percent discount on all purchases at the midwinter Barbershoppers' Emporium. A \$50 value overall.

### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete order form and mail with payment to: **SPEBSQSA, 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143-5199.**

A housing application and information regarding convention events and tours will be sent to you following receipt of this registration form.

Preferred seating Saturday Night Show tickets will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis.

If you register for more than one person, please furnish *complete* information for each person on a separate sheet and attach to this order form.

Make checks payable to **SPEBSQSA. Registrations are transferable but not refundable.** When you receive confirmation, please keep it as your receipt.

For office use

**1994 CONVENTION ONLY**

## Pittsburgh International Convention Registration • July 3-10, 1994

### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete order form and mail with payment to: **SPEBSQSA, 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143-5199.**

Registration fee includes a convention badge, a reserved seat at all contest sessions and a souvenir program.

If you register for more than one person, please furnish *complete* information for each person on a separate sheet and attach to this order form.

Registrations may be picked up at the convention *or* obtained in advance by mail. If you would like to have your contest tickets mailed, please add \$3.00 postage and handling cost to your order. Mailings will be made during the month of May.

**Registrations are transferable but not refundable.** Make checks payable to **SPEBSQSA.** When you receive confirmation, please keep it as your receipt.

**1994 CONVENTION ONLY**

For office use

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/guest name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Bus. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Res. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Type	Rate	Total (US funds)
_____	Adult	\$75.00 ea.	\$ _____
_____	Jr. (under 19)	\$37.50 ea.	\$ _____
Postage and handling cost		\$ 3.00	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$ _____

- ☐ I require seating for handicapped ☐ I will be in a wheelchair  
☐ I require nearby reserved seat for a companion  
 General description of handicap \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA Exp. date: mo. \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

When members of the Dallas Town North, Texas, Chapter read in the Seneca Land District bulletin, *Smoke Signals*, that a fire had destroyed the meeting place of the Olean, N. Y., Chapter, including irreplaceable memorabilia, they decided to do something to help. Although insurance covered most lost items, the Olean Chapter had elected not to replace a large chapter banner, used at singouts and other events, deeming it a "luxury item."

Town North's Earl Hagn, a graphic artist, designed a three-by-four-foot plastic show card, to be used in place of the lost banner. After construction, the card, signed on the back by Town North members, was sent to Olean with best wishes. Members of the respective chapters are total strangers. It's great to be a Barbershopper!



Attending a Lancaster, Pa., Chapter meeting in April, Mid-Atlantic District Vice President for the Appalachian Division Art De Blasio took along a special guest: Bishop Abel Mosorewa, the first black Methodist minister from Zimbabwe, who was visiting the nearby Covenant Methodist Church.

After the chorus had performed "Amazing Grace," in response to the bishop's request, the bishop mentioned that he would like to sing it. "Do you want to sing with the chorus?" he was asked. "No," he replied, "I would like to sing it by myself. I sing in B-flat." He then proceeded to perform the song in the Zimbabwe language.

Later, the bishop related a story about sharing a meal with several children at a table on which his Bible lay open. One of the children said, "The Bible shouldn't be open on the table while we are eating, sir." The bishop replied, "If it weren't for that Bible, we might be eating *you*!"



The **Bullhook Bottoms Barbershop Chorus** of the Havre, Mont., Chapter will admit Barbershoppers *free of charge* to all future chapter shows; simply display a Society membership card. The next show, "What the Dickens—A Partridge in a Parody," will be December 4 in the Havre High School Auditorium. Whatta deal!

### Enchanted Mountains Barbershoppers



*Keep the Whole World Singing  
in Four Part Harmony*

### Olean, New York Chapter Chorus & Quartets

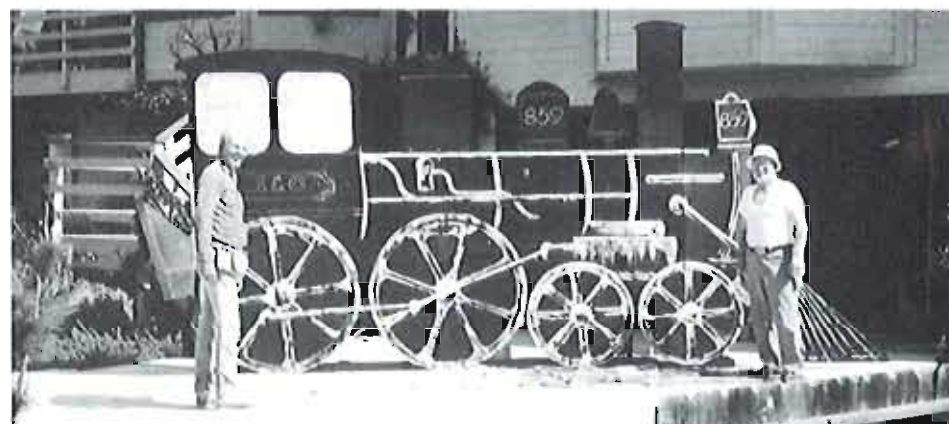
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Incorporated

Shown above is a line-art rendition of a plastic show card produced by the Dallas Town North Chapter and presented to the Olean, N. Y., Chapter after a fire destroyed the Olean show banner.



When the Aloha, Hawaii, Chapter celebrated its 45th anniversary last year, two special guests were in attendance. Shown above at left is Peter Chang, age 92, a 47-year Society member and charter member of the chapter. At right is "Andy" Anderson, age 98, who joined the Society in 1939 as an at-large member and still carries a card signed by O. C. Cash. A composer of contemporary Hawaiian songs, Anderson wrote the popular "Lovely Hula Hands."

Shown at left, Mid-Atlantic DVP Art DeBlasio (right) took visiting Bishop Abel Mosorewa of Zimbabwe to a Lancaster, Pa., Chapter meeting last April.



After the San Luis Obispo, Calif., Chapter show, "Ride the Railroad Tonight," which featured two 14-foot locomotives, cowcatchers touching in a duplication of the famous photo "Driving the Golden Spike," in the finale, a show patron and member of the local model railroading club asked to preserve the cardboard-and-wood constructions. Having planned otherwise to dismantle the work, the chapter was only too happy to comply. The replicas now adorn the walls of Booth 99 at Central Coast Plaza, a model railroad display and clubhouse. Shown above with one of their creations are Bob Gandy (left) and Bill Rollins.



Shown at right performing the national anthem at Fenway Park before a Boston Red Sox game, the Wellesley, Mass., Chapter's **Sound Assembly Chorus** will enter its second season this fall as the contracted performer of the anthem before all New England Patriot NFL home games. Prior to the season opener, the chorus will tour England, Scotland and Wales, its third European musical tour since 1989.



In addition to showing off a candy-striped parade float replicating a turn-of-the-century barbershop, members of the Sterling, Colo., Chapter's **Centennial State Chorus** ride a "quadracycle" during an average of six parades and festivals each year in northeastern Colorado. Shown above are (l to r): John Adams, Hubert Lague, Brad Clarke and Norm Berry, who represent *nearly one-quarter* of the membership! Who says small chapters can't have fun?

In his article, "The show's the thing ..." in the March/April *Harmonizer*, writer Don Gaffney omitted the names of two Cincinnati Chapter show stalwarts: set designer Dan Fitzpatrick and sound system operator Brad Scott. Gaffney apologizes to these two men and to *Harmonizer* readers for the oversight.



## NEW RELEASE!

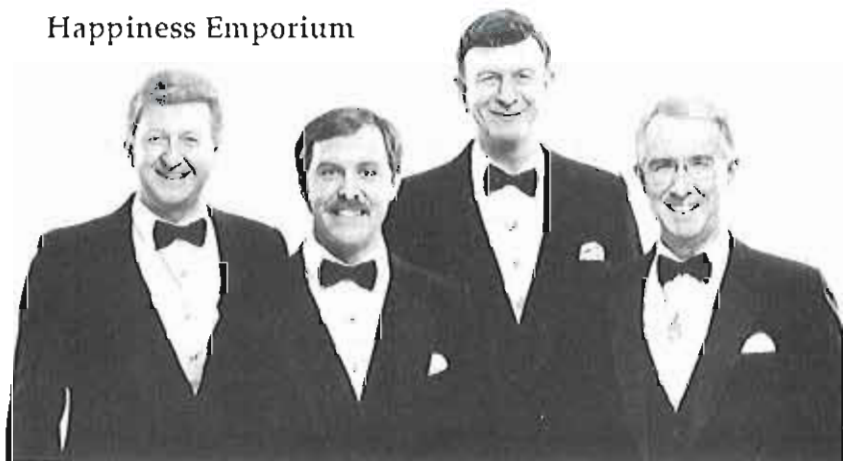
From the masters of the package show comes an exciting new recording of two show themes.

Side 1 - *That's Life* Side 2 - **Broadway**

*That's Life!* will transport you musically through life from birth through senior citizenship with a creative selection of songs and medleys. Experience the joys and struggles of life with *That's Life!*

Side 2 is another packaged show of Broadway songs. Some famous, some obscure, but all offering classic styles through decades of Broadway musicals.

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Following its winter show, the Montclair, N. J., Chapter received the following letter from the wife of a former member. The **Dapper Dads of Harmony** would like to share it with all Barbershoppers.

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this, not only on behalf of my husband, Mike, a 35-year Barbershopper and an inactive member of your chapter who has Alzheimer's Disease, but also for myself as well, to express our heartfelt thanks for the magnificent show we attended yesterday.

For two hours, Mike escaped his other world. He laughed (heartily), he applauded (vigorously), he hummed, he sang along with the familiar carols and songs, and he greeted old barbershop buddies after the show. He may not have remembered names, but he certainly recognized faces. For those two hours or so, this was the *real* Mike.

The Book of Proverbs tells us that "a merry heart doeth good like medicine." How true that is!

Mike is currently participating in a study of an experimental drug that may retard the progression of this dreadful disease. Will you keep him in your prayers?

God bless you all. You are one great bunch of guys. We are fortunate to count you among our friends.

Kinda sums up what we're all about.

**Don Attanasio**  
Nutley, N. J.

Dear Dan:

The following is an original—so far as I know: How many Barbershoppers does it take to change a light bulb? Five. One to write the quartet arrangement so the other four can sing about how they miss the old one most of all.

**Steve Rafe**  
Warrenton, Va.

Dear Dan:

Gary Fisk's article on the Frank H. Thorne Chapter-at-Large in the May/June issue brought back some memories to me, as an ex-Thorne member, that might be of interest to others.

I joined the Society in 1965 while in USAF Flight School in Waco, Texas but, within a year, I was off into the wild blue yonder worldwide with no chance to hook up with a local chapter; the nearest to my home base in Glasgow, Mont., was 300 miles away in Billings. I wrote my buddies in Waco and they sent me the forms to transfer to the Thorne Chapter. Thus, for six years, I was able to keep my Society membership "alive," before transferring to my current chapter in 1972.

I believe the Thorne Chapter is there for all members, whether in military service and uprooted or in business and rarely home, as a means for displaced singers to maintain an affiliation as Society Barbershoppers, wherever we are in the world, enabling us to seek out brothers in whatever country we find ourselves, making new friends, singing songs and tags—even competing.

And, of course, preserving our seniority. Otherwise, I'd be a mere youngster of 23 year's membership instead of an oldtimer of 29 this September.

**Jack Merrill**  
Medford Lakes, N. J.

*Merrill is the president of the Cherry Hill, N. J., Chapter. Ed*

Dear Dan:

The Minneapolis Chapter is very proud of its relationship with the University of Minnesota Heart Center and appreciates the recognition of its contributions to the center's Research Equipment Fund of \$304,000 over the past 41 years [*Harmonizer*, May/June 1993]. Of equal importance and possible interest is the growth of barbershopping in the Twin Cities Area over that same period.

Chartered in 1944, the Minneapolis Chapter was for a while "the only game in town," with 92 members and the nearest neighboring chapter 300 miles away. Today, there are 14 chapters within an 80-mile radius and another 21 within the next 130-mile radius—more than 1,000 singers in all.

**Bruce Churchill**  
Minneapolis, Minn.



Clarence Burgess

### Noted composer celebrates birthday

Clarence Burgess, composer of "We Sing That They Shall Speak," celebrated his 90th birthday June 14. Born in Toronto, Burgess joined the Oshawa, Ontario, Chapter in 1949 and sang with **The Horseless Carriagemen** chorus for more than 30 years. His son, Murray, is a 27-year member of the chapter.

An accomplished musician, Burgess worked for Electrolux, Canada, Ltd. for 52 years before retirement. He has composed more than 500 songs, many for the personal pleasure of doing so rather than commercial gain. He still teaches piano to a young student at his nursing home residence.

The Society copyrighted "We Sing That They Shall Speak" in 1966, and Hugh Ingraham, then director of public relations and later Society executive director, wrote the narration to be used with the song. In the 1980s, the Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers requested permission to compose and use a new set of lyrics, "We Sing That They Shall Stand," to recognize its charitable support of an organization dealing with walking disabilities. Clarence said, "Sure thing, no problem."

The photo above shows Burgess holding a plaque replica of his song, presented to him during the 1977 Ontario District convention. In 1982, he was awarded the district's Barbershopper of Renown. 🎵

## In Memory

JACK BEITZNER, composer of "Back In Dad And Mother's Day," "The Barbershop Strut," "That Old Quartet Of Mine" and many other barbershop songs, passed away April 8 in Clifton, N. J. at the age of 85. Several of his songs, sometimes written in collaboration with other composers, were popularized by the 1980 International Quartet Champion **Boston Common**.

ERWIN MARTIN, bass of the **Top Drawers** quartet that appeared in the 1971 movie, "Slaughterhouse Five," [*Harmonizer*, Nov/Dec 1971] died in Las Vegas, January 29. He was 71. The movie was an adaptation of a novel by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., and was produced by Universal Studios.

ED ROOKER, tenor of the popular **Merry Mugs** comedy quartet of the '60s from Kansas City, passed away May 11 in Carmel, Calif. A member of the Monterey, Calif., Chapter since 1982, he was 66.

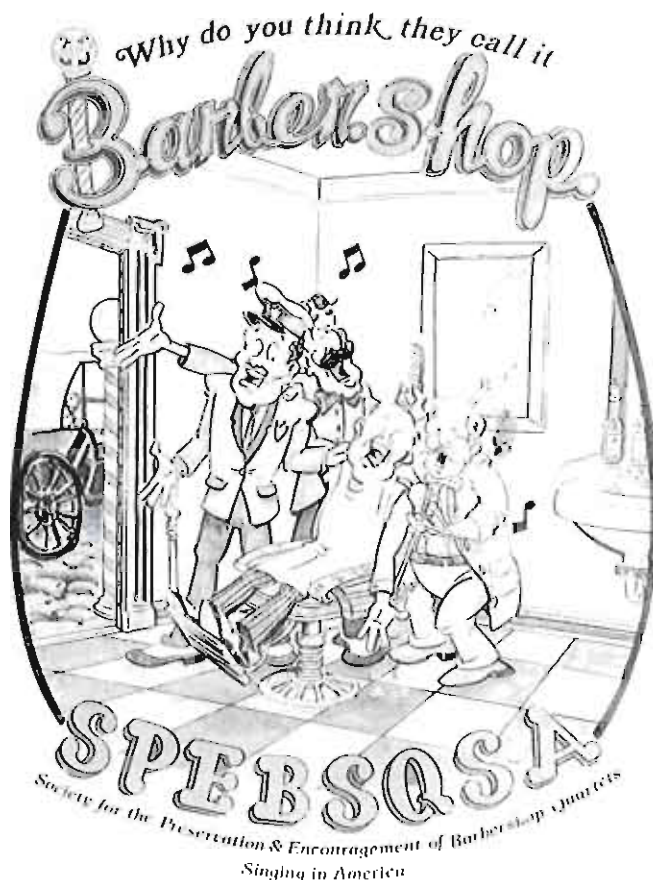
BILL WATSON, Cardinal District Historian and long-time member of the Society's Archives Committee, was killed in a head-on collision while driving to chapter meeting April 13. He was 69. Much of Bill's extensive collection of barbershop memorabilia [*Harmonizer*, Nov/Dec 1990] will be incorporated into the Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony in Kenosha.

A cassette tape of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "O Canada!" is available from the international office—stock no. 4658 at \$4. Both songs are recorded by *both* the Northbrook, Ill., **New Tradition** chorus and the 1988 International Quartet Champion **Chiefs of Staff**.

**The Ritz**, 1991 international quartet champion, has also recorded these two anthems and hopes to market the cassette to schools and athletic directors in the U.S. and Canada for use when "live" performers are not available. If interested, contact The Ritz: Box 126 Oakwood, OH 45873; (419) 594-2216.

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## Men of Note

Members with 21 or more total credits who earned additional credits in the first quarter. Total is shown in the second column.

<b>Cardinal</b>		<b>Northeastern</b>	
Limerick, Earl	25 ..... 1	Houpis, C. N.	24 ..... 1
<b>Central States</b>		Larivee, Leo	24 ..... 1
Easter, Jerry	21 ..... 2	<b>Pioneer</b>	
Stewart, Bob	21 ..... 4	Fricke, Albert	41 ..... 2
<b>Dixie</b>		Olger, Reese	30 ..... 1
Bowman, Anthony	26 ..... 5	<b>Rocky Mountain</b>	
Conway, Paul	37 ..... 1	Burgener, Robert	28 ..... 1
Miquelon, John	24 ..... 1	Peterson, Carroll	25 ..... 2
<b>Evergreen</b>		Wiese, Fred	34 ..... 1
Mondau, Stephen	22 ..... 1	<b>Seneca Land</b>	
Schmidt, Wyman	22 ..... 1	Eldridge, James	24 ..... 1
<b>Far Western</b>		<b>Sunshine</b>	
Anderson, Brent	25 ..... 1	Bridgham, George	35 ..... 1
Diamond, Stephen	62 ..... 1	Scalise, Ray	23 ..... 2
French, Stanley	27 ..... 1		
Gurule, John	27 ..... 1		
<b>Illinois</b>			
Johnson, William	30 ..... 2		
Monnich, John	43 ..... 2		
Smith, Ronald	43 ..... 1		
<b>Johnny Appleseed</b>			
Clark, James	24 ..... 1		
Mulkin, John	33 ..... 1		
Schlesinger, Joseph	33 ..... 1		
<b>Land O' Lakes</b>			
Bushong, Lane	25 ..... 1		
Williamson, Samuel	27 ..... 2		
<b>Mid-Atlantic</b>			
Fuller, Jerome	21 ..... 1		
Liles, Joe	42 ..... 7		
Wickenheiser, Thomas	43 ..... 2		
Gape, Raymond	22 ..... 1		
Speicher, Russel	36 ..... 1		

## Chapter Eternal

During the first quarter of 1993, the following members were reported to the international office as deceased.

<b>Cardinal</b>		<b>Johnny Appleseed</b>		<b>Ontario</b>	
Bashore, Elmer	Mammoth Cave, KY	Bour, Charles	Cleveland East Suburbanaire, OH	Inglis, Arthur	Halifax, NS
Filmer, Irvin	Louisville, KY	Dunning, Charles	Greater Pittsburgh, PA	Kutschera, Frank	Manchester, CT
Watson, William	Porter-LaPorte Counties, IN	Dyser, Luke	Zanesville, OH	Leighton, Robert	Bangor, ME
Yates, Charles	Lafayette, IN	Ellis, Ananias	Columbus, OH	Pack, Arnold	Laconia, NH
<b>Central States</b>		Knoff, Donald	Pittsburgh South Hills, PA	Richards, Joseph	Central, CT
Boatman, Russell	Waterloo, IA	Minger, M. E.	Canton, OH	Schuch, John	New London, CT
Bornemeier, Vernon	Lincoln, NE	Schmidt, Richard	Wayne County, OH	Stone, Herbert	New Bedford, MA
Eichman, Edgar	Kansas City, MO	Wayt, Harry	Wheeling Metro, WV	<b>Pioneer</b>	
Flier, Bert	St. Louis No 1, MO	Wilson, Bertsell	Columbus, OH	Adams, Sydney	St. Catharines, ON
Ward, Robert	Viborg, SD	<b>Land O' Lakes</b>		Barkey, Frank	Markham, ON
<b>Dixie</b>		Adamski, Robert	Stevens Point, WI	Barrett, John	Etobicoke, ON
Brown, Arthur	Grand Strand, SC	Amundson, Victor	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	Brown, Gerald	St. Catharines, ON
Ellard, Henry	Grand Strand, SC	Jahnke, Keith	Stevens Point, WI	Hill, Russell	Ottawa, ON
Funkhouser, Donald	Dothan, AL	Lipp, Tom	Minot, ND	Hord, Hugh	Markham, ON
Gardner, Bunk	Mississippi Gulf Coast, MS	Satre, Orvis	Le Roy, MN	Margison, Maynard	London, ON
Kolack, David	Marietta, GA	Sibley, Sonny	Burlington, WI	Marr, George	St. Thomas, ON
Pierce, Norwin	Greenville Area, NC	<b>Mid-Atlantic</b>		Mills, John	Etobicoke, ON
<b>Evergreen</b>		Boeshore, Robert	Lebanon, PA	Smith, Wilf	Simcoe, ON
Bandel, Arthur	Tacoma, WA	Butler, Victor	Manahawkin, NJ	<b>Rocky Mountain</b>	
Bertram, Lloyd	Nanaimo, BC	Davis, David	Wilkes Barre, PA	Barnhart, Arden	Boyne City, MI
Gutteridge, Russ	Olympia, WA	Finley, Charles	Nassau-Mid Island, NY	Kroon, Paul	Grand Rapids, MI
Haworth, Gene	Spokane, WA	Gabuzda, George	Wilmington, DE	Moon, Robert	Kalamazoo, MI
Hosmer, Kenneth	Portland, OR	Hackman, Carville	Dundalk, MD	Morgensai, Eugene	Rochester, MI
<b>Far Western</b>		Kelley, Edwin	Wilmington, DE	Reed, Herbert	Grosse Pointe, MI
Bennewitz, Robert	El Cajon, CA	Kinsey, William	Alexandria, VA	Sharp, Richard	Jackson, MI
Bratt, Carl	Chico, CA	Landrum, James	Ocean View, DE	<b>Seneca Land</b>	
Feenstra, Sam	Downey, CA	Meckes, Harlow	Harford County, MD	Bartley, Charles	Billings, MT
Hansen, Gerald	Westminster, CA	Messina, Charles	Nassau-Mid Island, NY	Hall, Jack	Pueblo, CO
Rooker, Edwin	Monterey Peninsula, CA	Radow, Samuel	Alexandria, VA	<b>Sunshine</b>	
Wadsworth, Donald	Walnut Creek, CA	Roth, Bruce	Freehold, NJ	Biehls, Chester	East Aurora, NY
Wright, Reddie	Pasadena, CA	Shetler, Ray	Manhattan, NY	Garcia, Frank	Rochester, NY
<b>Illinois</b>		Shields, John	Alexandria, VA	<b>Southwestern</b>	
Bollinger, Paul	Sterling Rock Falls, IL	Stival, Lewis	Hunterdon County, NJ	Johnson, William	Chordsmen, TX
Fischer, Jack	Greater Alton Area, IL	<b>Northeastern</b>		Miller, Gerald	El Paso, TX
Henderson, William	Aurora, IL	Atkinson, Hubert	Fredericton, NB	Waldman, William	El Paso, TX
Johnson, Clayton	Mt. Vernon, IL	Austin, John	Burlington, VT	<b>Sunshine</b>	
Keim, Menno	Bloomington, IL	Bourque, Louis	Lincoln, RI	Anderson, Roland	Greater Canaveral, FL
Loos, Joseph	Northbrook, IL	Calder, William	Keene, NH	Di Martino, Tony	Naples, FL
		Callum, Merrill	Canton, MA	Fraser, Terry	Pasco County, FL
		Duarte, Enoch	New Bedford, MA	Toon, George	Palm Harbor, FL
				Williams, Kenneth	Tampa, FL

## Senior Outreach program established

by Dee Paris, Chairman  
Senior Outreach Committee

"To study, develop and implement senior outreach programs" is the mission assigned to a committee that started its work in January 1993, having been established by then-President Terry Aramian in December 1992. "We must realize that the largest and fastest-growing segment of the population is the senior segment," wrote Aramian. This is verified by the Census Bureau; the 1992 census revealed that the number of people aged 65 and older grew by 22 percent during the 1980s.

The establishment of the Senior Outreach Committee closely follows the development of the Youth Outreach program, which is aimed at bringing barbershop harmony to college and high school students. Both programs may depend in part upon some form of alternative or associate membership in the Society.

The Senior Outreach Committee, under the leadership of Dee Paris, began with a study of the Minnesota Senior Options Exposition, in which more than 1,000 people visited the barbershop harmony booth manned by Minneapolis-area chapters. The feasibility of using the hostel as a venue for a teaching outreach to seniors, and seeking some cooperation with the American Association of Retarded Persons, with its 34 million membership, are being considered.

How communities offer the potential to have seniors singing, either as members of nearby chapters or as a community-independent senior barbershop group, are also being studied. The chapters support a chorus of veterans at a VA hospital—just one of the VA system.

The committee commenced by learning the average age of Society members is 55.7 years—median age—which is a surprise figure—is 59. A surprising 58.9 percent of Society members are eligible for the seniors quartet with a 55-year minimum age.

President Ernie Nickoson and the Executive Committee are most supportive of efforts to actively seek new membership sources. Our future may depend upon the elderly as, 50 years from now, the U. S. will have more people over 65 than under 20.

Members of the committee, who were nominated by their respective district presidents and international board members, are: Ned Fogler, Sunshine District; Fred Teller, Central States District; Earl Berry, Pioneer District; Ralph Delano, Dixie District; Ken

Christianson, Bruce Churchill and Jim Richards of Land O' Lakes District and Chairman Dee Paris, Mid-Atlantic District. Director of Marketing Gary Stanim is the international staff liaison.

Society members are invited to submit suggestions as to how to get more senior citizens singing barbershop harmony, as either full or alternative members. Send your ideas to: Senior Outreach Committee, P. O. Box 6141, Silver Spring, MD 20916.



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## Plan now for COTS this fall

It's only July, sure, and you've barely completed your plans for the first half of 1993, but now is the time to start planning to attend Chapter Officer Training School (COTS) this fall. With a revitalized schedule, new courses, more singing and more fun, COTS promises to be the best chapter- and team-building experience of the year.

COTS classes will place an increased emphasis on problem-solving and addressing specific chapter needs. Officers will work together to find ways of building membership by improving their musical product and developing community awareness.

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Nov. 20-21

CSD, SLD, SWD, FWD-South, MAD-North

CAPCOTS

Dec. 4-5

JAD, LOL, PIO, MAD-South

Jan. 8-9

ONT

### Start choosing the board now

Your chapter nominating committee should already be considering a slate of officers for 1994. In particular, it should assess how well the current officers are executing their responsibilities. If a man is doing a particularly good job, would he be willing to continue for a second year? If not, will his assistant make a good successor?

Men who have joined the chapter in the last year or two may have talents waiting to be put to work. Pull out their membership applications and check the skills and interests they reported. Many chapters find it a good idea to install at least one "rookie" on the chapter board each year, for the fresh perspective he can bring to the discussion.

### COTS: it's not just for officers any more

Many district schools will have course offerings that are unlike any COTS you've attended in the past. "Rookie" classes will provide new members an opportunity to attend COTS and receive a thorough orientation in the affairs and programs of the district, SPEBSQSA, and the huge world of barbershopping—and the chance to spend a weekend doing a lot of singing!

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### CHORUS DIRECTOR WANTED

The **Thoroughbred Chorus** is accepting applications for chorus director. Please direct inquiries to W. C. Walter, Jr., Chairman, Search Committee, Thoroughbred Chorus, 10609 Watterson Trail, P. O. Box 99993, Jeffersonton, KY 40269-0993; (502) 267-8142.

**City Lights**, an 80-man-plus international-caliber chorus, seeks an energetic director to help continue its quest for a gold medal. Only two-and-a-half years old, we are 1992 Pioneer District champions and on our way to a second international contest. If you are interested in molding champions, please contact President Ed Conn, 25408 Henley, Huntington Woods, MI 48070; (313) 543-4555.

### UNIFORMS FOR SALE

The Frederick, Md., Catotones chorus has 45 uniforms to sell. Coats are dandelion yellow with orange piping; trousers are all-yellow; vests are reversible forest-green and orange; bow ties are orange and green; dickies are ruffled, edged in orange and green. For sale to the highest reasonable bid. Send SASE to D. L. Brengle, P.O. Box 202, Middletown, MD 21769 for picture and sale details.

For sale: 90 julep-green After Six tuxedos. Good quality. You name quantity. Will sell to any size group, including quartets and individuals. Price negotiable. Contact Jim Berry, RR 1, Box 120, Lewis, IA 51544; (712) 778-2218.

About 150 outfits, consisting of light-blue blazers with gold buttons, cream-colored trousers and red print ties, for sale. Also, accessories for about 160 tuxedos: reversible gold/blue vest, reversible gold/blue bow tie, gold pocket stuffer, ruffled white dicky with gold edges. Photos on request. Contact Allen Hanenbaum, (301) 439-1030 (B); (301) 983-9198 (H).

For sale: cocoa-brown-and-cream evening dress uniforms, cocoa pants with satin stripe, cream vests, cream long-sleeved shirt with ruffled front and cuffs, cream coat with orange sequin trim, cream bow tie with orange sequins. 52 full sets for \$750. Uniform sizes for 30-plus men. Call or write Dick C. Davies, 145 Prospect Hill Road, Horseheads, N.Y.; (607) 739-2144; fax (607) 739-8750.

### MISCELLANEOUS

NOT QUITE SO DESPERATE. Thanks to all who have donated memorabilia over the past five years. To help make room, we're offering near-complete sets of *The Harmonizer* for a \$250 donation to the Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony. If you lack a few copies to complete your set, write me: Grady Kerr, SWD Historian, 8403 Manderville Lane #1072, Dallas, TX 75231 or call (214) 369-5893.

Guest quartet wanted for Saturday, Nov. 6, 1993, in Alamogordo, N. M. Will your group be in our area? Need a fill-in date? Call Cliff at (800) 733-2406.

### UNIFORMS FOR RENT

FOR RENT- World War I replica uniforms (60) complete with helmet, belt and wrap leggings. Will rent smaller quantities. Super-successful show theme or contest package. Ideal for quartet/chorus. Contact: Terry Johnson, 309 Tioga St., Catasauqua, PA 18032; (215) 264-3533 24 hrs.

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Try the *LifeLine*® program for 90 days. If you are not completely satisfied with *LifeLine*®, we will change you back to the carrier of your choice at no charge.

When you subscribe to *LifeLine*, your long distance service is provided through a major carrier with the most competitive overall rates on quality fiber optic lines. The benefits include:

- **Discounts!** You will receive an average discount of four to eight percent off standard AT&T tariffed rates, and in some cases up to fifteen percent. There is no monthly service charge with *LifeLine*.
- **Support the Society!** *LifeLine* will send ten percent of your net paid billing to SPEBSQSA every month. Every call makes a contribution to the Society!
- **Calling Card!** For use when away from home or business. Up to 20% savings over competitors' rates!
- **Convenient Bell System Billing!** You will receive ONE phone bill for both local and long distance service through Bell or your present local telephone company.
- **1+ Dialing Convenience!** Because *LifeLine* uses the services of major carriers, you dial normally; there are no access codes to dial (Equal Access Areas Only).

Yes!! I agree to become a *LifeLine*® Long Distance contributor by having a portion of my future long distance billing given to SPEBSQSA. For that purpose, I authorize AmeriVision Communications, Inc. to act under my authority as my telecommunications agent in providing "One Plus" long distance service by placing the service orders for the number(s) listed below whenever necessary. I understand that once my application has been processed and approved, I will become a *LifeLine* customer. **Note: Your Long Distance Carrier will change. If a carrier change fee appears on your bill, send us a copy, and we will reimburse you.**

**\*\* 020025 \*\***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated monthly long distance usage: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

My phone number : ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Additional phone : ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT LONG DISTANCE CO. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ *LifeLine*® Calling Cards

PRESENT LOCAL PHONE CO. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please contact me about my business phone.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** AmeriVision Communications, Inc.  
P. O. Box 7735, Moore, OK 73153-9998  
For further information call: (800) 800-7550

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# Selected closeouts from the Barbershoppers' Emporium.



**HEAVY CANVAS BAG**  
Zipper top and snap front pocket. Society emblem on front. 2 1/2" gusset. 13 1/2" x 14" in natural color with navy. Great for hauling things around at conventions.  
1144...was \$9.50  
NOW ONLY \$6.00



**POPCORN**  
Gourmet yellow corn. Heavy, reusable drawstring bag with Society logo. Ideal for friends with corny sense of humor.  
5822...was \$4.95  
NOW ONLY \$2.95



**MAXI SPORT TOWEL**  
Deep shear white velour is 11" x 43."  
1135...was \$4.95  
NOW ONLY \$2.95



## TANK COVERUP

Versatile oversized tank-style. Wear by itself or as coverup. All cotton, one-size-fits-all. Light green only (color not shown) with Mickey Mouse design.  
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## ADULT T-SHIRT

Black t-shirt with neon diagonal sunburst stripes in 50% cotton, 50% poly.

Sunburst Black

9414...Medium; was \$10.50..NOW ONLY \$8.00

9415...Large; was \$10.50.....NOW ONLY \$8.00

9416...X-Large; was \$10.50..NOW ONLY \$8.00

Navy Blue

9409...XX-Large; was \$14.75..NOW ONLY \$11.00



## YOUTH T-SHIRT

50/50 in black with neon lines.

SPEBSQSA in white.

9568.....Small

was \$10.50..NOW ONLY \$7.00

9569.....Medium

was \$10.50..NOW ONLY \$7.00

9570.....Large

was \$10.50..NOW ONLY \$7.00



## ROLL-UP SLEEVE SHIRT

100% cotton striped body with contrasting inner collar and roll-up sleeves.

Ash/white stripes with turquoise green collar and sleeves.

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was \$21.95

NOW ONLY \$14.00

9600...Large

was \$21.95

NOW ONLY \$14.00

9601...X-Large

was \$21.95

NOW ONLY \$14.00



**T-SHIRT  
TIE BUCKLE,  
BUTTON  
COVERS**

Beautiful clear plastic on gold with black notes. Five button covers match buckle.

1252..Button covers; were \$15 ..\$8.95/five

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Floor mat is 18" x 27" with non-skid backing. Durable, stain resistant construction. Cleans easily with mild detergent and water. Beige background. Dancing bears, Society emblem.

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**TO ORDER:** Call 1-800-876-7476 to charge your order. Order by FAX at 414-654-5552 or mail to SPEBSQSA Inc., 6315 Third Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143-5199. All items in stock but quantities limited. Payment in U.S. funds only. Wisc. residents please add 5% sales tax. If you are a SPEBSQSA member, watch for your free 1994 merchandise catalog, hot-off-the-press, in early-November.

## PLEASE ADD FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING:

\$5.01 to 11.00.....add \$2.45

11.01 to 25.00.....add 3.45

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