

September/October 1999

THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY



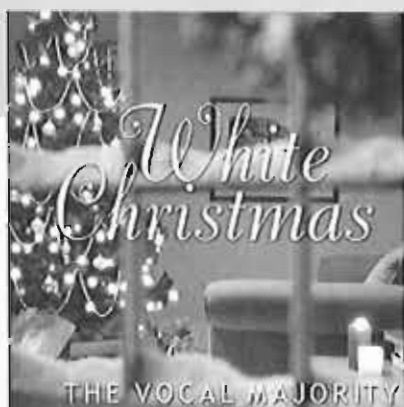
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*The Vocal
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It's a matter of style, and your opinion counts!

Hello friends:

Concerns have been widely expressed regarding the current definition or interpretation of "the barbershop style." Our leadership has been listening. The result is that the Society's Board of Directors has charged the Contest and Judging Committee with the awesome task of re-evaluating not only our current definition of the barbershop style, but how our "style" is interpreted, as it is performed from the contest stage.

The Music Category, headed by Specialist Roger Payne, has commissioned a "blue ribbon" Style Examination Committee (SEC).

Each member has been hand-picked to ensure the widest possible representation. The SEC will be chaired by noted quartet man and arranger Don Gray and will include judges, chorus directors, AIC quartet men, Society Board members, arrangers, young men and yes, a woman from Harmony Inc., who will represent all of our affiliates.

The SEC members are: Jim Bagby, Dennis Cook, Darryl Flinn, Tom Gentry, Mark Hale, Ken Hatton, Connie Keil, Joe Liles, Lauren Lindeman, Brody McDonald, Burt Szabo, Ed Waesche and David Wright. The SEC will be consulting with musical giants such as Val Hicks, Lou Perry, Jack Baird and others, but *your* opinion does, indeed, count.

The point of this article is to invite each of you—the entire Society membership—to become an ex-officio advisor to the SEC. That's to say, as an involved member, your thoughts and ideas are of key importance to this discussion and to our ultimate decisions.

First, a bit more background, then on to your "vote." The mission of the SEC is:

- To determine, in what ways and to what degree, the barbershop style, as currently performed in our contests, reflects the barbershop style, as we wish it to be.
- Based on those determinations, to make recommendations for change to the Music Category, and ultimately, to the Society Board.

If the Board of Directors supports the work and recommendations of the SEC, and if there are sub-

stantive changes, the next step would be to communicate those changes to all of our competitors and to provide specific training to our judging community.

Now, back to your opinion. There are several ways that you may want to respond to the Style Examination Committee. Don Gray suggests that you share with the committee your thoughts about:

- What especially pleases you about the music being performed in barbershop contests today; and, on the other hand,
- What displeases you and, of course, why.

Don goes on to suggest that you not restrict your comments to the above. As a committee, we are interested in all of your opinions on the subject of "style" and the contest performance, as well as how it is judged.

Another way to respond might be to consider: Is the style as performed today too restrictive (simple and old fashioned-sounding), or too liberal (fancy and modern-sounding)? Please share your reasons either way. Of course, it may be just right in your opinion. We want to know that, too.

Here is a statement for you to defend or refute: "The barbershop style must evolve to appeal to our youth and to ensure its future existence." Still another direction might be to share your thoughts about comedy, parodies, and talking, as performed from the contest stage.

So here is your job. Carefully consider these concerns about the barbershop style and then send your thoughts to the SEC in as few succinct words as you can manage. *No phone calls, please!*

Send your response to: #stylexc@spebsqsa.org by email (your response will go directly to each committee member), or your letter to: SPEBSQSA, 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143, attention: "Barbershop Style."

Friends, our interest in your opinion about all of this is the genuine article. If we are not hearing from our members, we are not hearing. The Board will consider the SEC report at Kansas City in 2000, but we need your response within the next 30 days so we can get on with it.

Thanks in advance for your thoughtfully considered responses.

Let's harmonize,

(for the Style Examination Committee)



*Our interest
in your
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genuine.*



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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Ed Waesche, SPEBSQSA President

Let's Grow Young Together

On page 33 of this issue of *The Harmonizer*, you'll find an abbreviated version of our annual State of the Society report. It's a summary of how well we're doing fulfilling our Mission and achieving the Goals and Objectives we set to help us reach our Vision. It mentions a lot of programs we have to help our chapters grow musically and in membership, but also touches on a number of aspects of our hobby that have left me wondering: *Why doesn't everybody know that?*

Shortly after becoming Society president in January 1998, I was asked how I liked living in Kenosha. I've politely responded to that question a number of times, since I don't live in Kenosha.

I've filed away a lot of similar questions since then, and, as an ad-

junct to the facts and figures given in the State of the Society report, would like to share their answers with you, along with some other interesting bits of information and observations:

- The address of every Society Board member is in every *Harmonizer*. About 40 percent of our members have Internet access, so can view the Society's web page, where they can read the full version of the State of the Society report.

- Your copy of the 1999 Catalog of Arrangements includes so many contest-suitable song titles in its published and unpublished lists that every quartet and chorus competing in each of our 16 districts this fall could use a different one and there would be no repeats anywhere. So how come I keep hearing so many of the same arrangements?

- The Harmony Marketplace offers more than a dozen instructional books and tapes to help you sing better.

- Ten percent of our members are Canadian.

- It only takes 12 members (half of them new or out of the Society for at least a year) to charter a chapter. Recognizing the current problem of declining membership, the Society Board recently pledged to support an Extension Plan that would lead to 100 new chapters and another 1,000 members by the end of 2001.

- The average Society member pays less than \$2 a week in combined Society, district and chapter dues.

- Beginning with December 31, 1999 renewals, you can renew your membership at the standard one-year payment schedule, or you can make a three-year dues payment at a five-percent discount per year, or a five-year dues payment at a 10-percent discount, or an eight-year payment at a 15-percent discount.
- You can become a life member through a one-time payment of 20 times the annual Society dues.
- Your chapter president, secretary and bulletin editor are sent the monthly *Update* fact sheet. When's the last time you saw it?

**"Why
doesn't
everybody
know
that?"**

THE HARMONIZER

WWW.SPEBSQSA.ORG/HARMONIZER

September / October 1999



Volume LIX

Number 5

SPEBSQSA Vision Statement

The Society is to be an ever-growing fraternity of barbershop-style singers, leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities.



Harmony Foundation

Your clearinghouse for all charitable activities, including SingAmerica, SingCanada, Heartspring, the Heritage Hall Museum, the endowment program and memorial giving, may be reached at (800) 876-SING, ext. 8447

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- You can be a dual member in more than one chapter and compete with each chapter's chorus in any contest.
- The Society earns more than \$140,000 a year from members using the MBNA America card. So, if twice as many members used this credit card we could really hold down future dues increases!
- If each member contributed 50 cents per week to the Harmony Foundation General Fund, we could fully support our Service Projects: SingAmerica and SingCanada, Heartspring and the Heritage Hall Museum.
- If each member left \$1,000 to the Society as a bequest or through life insurance, we would virtually eliminate the need for dues increases 25 years from now.
- You can permanently memorialize a Barbershopper, spouse or friend in Harmony Hall by making a contribution of \$250 or more.
- Every Barbershopper on the staff at Kenosha has been a member of a registered quartet, a half dozen are active chorus directors, and 10 are contest judges. How's that for walking the walk?
- More than 25 quartets are coached at Harmony College each year, ranging from seniors quartets to recent district champs to a champion that went for coaching after winning!
- About half of the Masters of Harmony, 1999 chorus champion, are members of active quartets. Hmmm!
- The summer convention in Kansas City next year will have a theme—the first time that any Society convention has had one. It's *The Music Man*.

Finally, 1999 Honorary Life Member Dick Van Dyke had as much fun as any member at the Anaheim convention. You should've been there! Next time?

Ed Walschke

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Brickbats and bouquets

Gets read

Congratulations on the new *Harmonizer*. I ordinarily leaf through the *Harmonizer* and file it. When I received the new one, the postal service (how about that for an oxymoron?) had sealed the edges of the pages so that the first convenient place to open it was at page 12 about Dick Van Dyke, one of my favorite actors. I read every article in it before I put it down.

CHUCK WILLIAMS

I can't tell you enough how much I love the new makeover of the *Harmonizer*. You've hit onto a winner with this one. I found myself reading the articles a little more closely now. Don't stop.

JOHN WILLIAMS

It's larger

At first glance the new format seemed OK but then I tried to read some of the articles. Please, go back to a larger and/or more easily read type face! Also "shadow" letters make the text behind them difficult to read as does black on gray type.

JOHN D. WITMER

The type face is actually a half-point larger. Ed.

Smaller heads

Good job on the new issue. Looks good and is easy to read. Having been through a couple of those in my editor career, I know what you faced. I think some of the headline typefaces are too big for the size and merit of the story.

JACK PITZER

Flag rag: Z + { = ↩

One of our long time members and readers of *The Harmonizer* was not complaining about the new format (which he liked) but wanted to know why the name was changed to *The Harmonier* (guess the stylized Z just didn't click with him).

BILL EASTWAY

I like everything about it except for the new title graphic. To me, the old one has much more character.

KIM BRITTAIN



At Anaheim, I picked up a copy of the new July/August issue. I was most amazed and sad-

dened to see the name of our periodic magazine changed to something few members will either understand or appreciate.

My first full-time job was as a commercial artist for a printing firm. If I had designed a new logo with a letter missing and a curled sheet of paper (or whatever it's supposed to be) substituted for it, I would have probably been fired! Please go back to the old logo.

DICK ELLENBERGER

On visual learning

I'm really impressed with the new *Harmonizer*. The layout of both the cover and the inside has made a quantum leap forward. Most of us are visual learners and more of what we read in *The Harmonizer* will stick with us.

FRANK LEITNAKER

Good looks

I love the look of the new *Harmonizer*. I think it's a huge step forward.

JOEL T. RUTHERFORD

Congratulations on the new *Harmonizer*. The look is fresh, bright and much easier to read.

JANE SAMPSON

The new *Harmonizer* is pretty spiffy, guys. It even seems to be oriented to quartet singing. Nice job!

MUNSON HINMAN

The new *Harmonizer* format is great. What an improvement; way to go, Kenosha.

MAX AXELROD

Congratulations on the newly designed *Harmonizer*. It's terrific and contemporary.

As a retired graphic designer, I can appreciate this meaningful step in the move for the Society to be completely "professional" in every presentation. You have made a tremendous leap to keeping up with the times.

JOE V. MURPHY

Let us hear from you

We welcome your thoughts, comments and concerns about articles that appear in *The Harmonizer*.

WRITE: *The Harmonizer*
6315 Third Avenue
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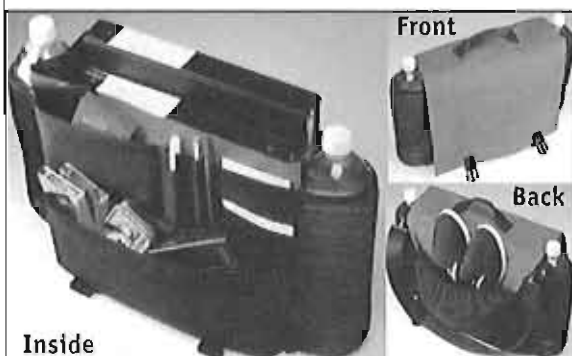
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Hatton to direct "Brats"

If this weren't such a healthy activity, it would sound like a 12-step support group: "Adult Children of Lifelong Barbershop Singers ... and the People Who Love Them."

Wacky or inspired, a mixed chorus of SPEBSQSA, Sweet Adelines International and Harmony Inc. crooners will assemble at the Society's mid-winter convention in Tucson next January. Co-Founder Ken Hatton will direct the group, select arrangements and produce part tapes for all interested singers.

The group was born in a hospitality room at the Anaheim convention, when Hatton struck up a conversation with Barbara Strong Borsack and Jan Clause Saperton, themselves also "Barbershop Brats" raised on the sounds of harmony.

For more information or to join the group, email Jan Clause Saperton at LdpBari@aol.com, or call her at (480) 816-9100; fax (480) 816-9700. □



Founding Brat Ken Hatton



Society to assist WHC management

A Memorandum of Understanding between SPEBSQSA and the World Harmony Council was signed in Anaheim. The MOU sets out various administrative relationships between the two organizations and formalizes arrangements whereby the Society administers the WHC Fund, which is the money raised each year by the WHC Jamboree. ■



Main Street USA Chapter chartered

Receiving the charter for the Main Street, USA, Chapter during Thursday night ceremonies was the Dapper Dans of Disneyland quartet, who also performed for a delighted audience. Quartet spokesman Shelby Grimm later reported that during convention week, hundreds of Barbershoppers came by Main Street in Disneyland to sing with the foursome. "At one point, we had some 30 voices singing 'Shine On Me.' What a glorious sound." ■

The "First Mouse of Harmony" mixes it up with the Dapper Dans of Disneyland at the Anaheim convention.

Revival to appear at West Coast A Cappella Summit

Our 1998 international quartet champion Revival is scheduled to appear on the West Coast A Cappella Summit at the Marin Civic Center in San Rafael, Calif., November 6-7, along with groups such as The Bobs, The Blenders, Seven (1999 Harmony Sweepstakes national champion) and Kitka (Eastern European female chorus).

Co-sponsored by Harmony Sweepstakes and Primarily A Cappella, the summit will also offer daytime lectures by Sweet Adelines arranger Renee Craig and SPEBSQSA musicians on topics including vocal technique, song arranging and recording methods. Barbershoppers, jazz vocalists and pop singers can listen and learn side-by-side. Details: 415-455-8602 or www.singers.com/summit.html ■

Mid-States Four celebrate 50th



Marty Mendro and Forry Haynes of the 1949 champion Mid-States Four clown it up as they are honored on their 50th anniversary of winning the gold medals. ■

TAKE ME HOME TO VIRGINIA

Words and Music by GARY PARKER



Parker pens potential state song

The Commonwealth of Virginia is holding a contest for a new state song to replace Stephen Foster's "Carry Me Back To Old Virginny." Among the finalists: "Take Me Home To Virginia," by Gary Parker, bass of Dealer's Choice, 1973 international quartet champion, written for a 1991 chapter show when Gary was directing the Richmond Virginians chorus.

When Parker realized that the song was a real contender, he asked Joe



Gary Parker: tunesmith to the commonwealth?

Liles to write a lead sheet (melody and chord symbols) and Greg Lyne prepared an SATB choral arrangement.

More than 330 entries were received in 1998, and the finalist songs will be reviewed by state universities, with recommendations to go to the state legislature by the end of the year. Register

your preference at the State Song Feedback Form at www.vipnet.org/song/song.html □

Barbershop history film slated

Film and news crews are becoming a regular part of the barbershop convention experience, and Anaheim was no exception. Many convention-goers saw the three-man crew from Goodrat Productions that is preparing a documentary on the history of the barbershop style.

The team, led by Harry Hughes, spent a week at the convention filming, interviewing and discovering what it means to be a Barbershopper. From the start, Hughes had a good idea what the whole experience is all about, as his father is a Barbershopper, and so is his partner, Jussi Ratsula.

The interview process included many Society notables, coaches, members of Society affiliate organizations, as well as conversations with non-competitors attending the Anaheim convention. The crew videotaped pick-up quartets singing in hotel lobbies, the Massed Sing outside the Marriott, contest venues, shows and, of course, recorded several hours of interviews.

Later this year, Hughes will visit Harmony Hall in Kenosha to interview staff, and do additional research in the Society archives. A release date has not been determined at this time, but will be announced as that information becomes available. ■

Hey man, we're in *The Harmonizer*

If there is a single word that can summarize what it takes to get an article in *The Harmonizer*, that word is "quality." We want quality writing accompanied by quality photography.

The article and photo should be of interest to people outside your chapter—something unique or unusual.

The article should help other Barbershoppers get more enjoyment from their hobby—an idea that can help another chapter, chorus or quartet overcome an obstacle.

Photos tell the story. Action shots are far more compelling for the readers than static shots of four guys in a line. One of the worst types of photos is commonly called a "grip and grin,"

wherein two guys shake hands over a check, plaque, certificate or some other object, and try to smile as they stare at the camera. It's not strong.

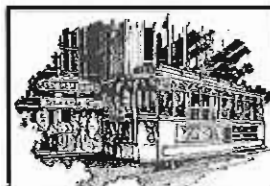
Photos of choruses need not include the entire group. Use shots taken during performance. Take a look at the back cover of this issue. It features a photo of the Masters of Harmony, yet only eight singers are clearly visible in the photo, somewhat fewer than the MoH normally puts on the risers. But it works very well. Experiment; take shots from different angles rather than straight at the chorus or quartet.

If you need assistance or direction as you prepare to write an article, call

Assistant Editor Reed Sampson at 800-876-7464, ext. 8592. Discuss the article with him to determine how best to focus the piece. ■

In the next issue

To Russia With Harmony. Read all about the fabulously successful trip that brought barbershop harmony to Russia. The Singing Buckeyes, Dr. Greg Lyne and The Ritz will be among the contributors to the article. Photos will take you into the beauty of St. Petersburg and the many historic concert halls. Look for it in the November/December issue of *The Harmonizer*. ■



**CONVENTIONS
INTERNATIONAL**
2000
KANSAS CITY, MO.
July 2-9

2001
NASHVILLE, TENN.
July 1-8

2002
PORTLAND, ORE.
June 30-July 7

2003
MONTREAL, QUEBEC
June 29-July 6

2004
LOUISVILLE, KY.
June 27-July 4

MIDWINTER
2000
TUCSON, ARIZ.
January 24-30

2001
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
January 22-28

**HARMONY COLLEGE /
DIRECTORS COLLEGE**
2000

Missouri Western State College
ST. JOSEPH, MO.
July 30-August 6



"Desert Island" disc re-issued

What barbershop albums would you bring on a desert island? How about *Barbershopping in Brass*?

Upon Roger Blackburn's return in 1974 from playing with the Israel Philharmonic for a year and a half, his father encouraged him to record some of their favorite barbershop arrangements on the trumpet.

The project took about 36 hours of studio time over a period of several months. Roger used three differently pitched trumpets to record all four parts.

After last year's convention, Blackburn browsed through H@rmonet archives and found that the album he made 25 years ago appeared on this list. Many of the younger Barbershoppers had never heard of *Barbershopping in Brass*.

Blackburn decided to remaster the original recording on CD, as well as cassette, for those Barbershoppers who had not heard it yet, and for those whose record players had become obsolete.

Even after 25 years, it still remains a unique recording in the barbershop world. [See ad on page 35]

ROGER BLACKBURN plays trumpet in the Philadelphia Orchestra.

G# over TCP/IP

Must-see sites for Barbershoppers
www.real.com

Get the free RealPlayer G2 for streaming audio on the web

www.adobe.com

Get the free Acrobat Reader for access to print-ready content.

spebsqsa.org/jukebox

Can you hear the people sing? Yup — if you have RealPlayer installed.

Harmonet Archive Database

www.louisvilletimes.org/harmonet

Browse recent postings, search by topic, manage your account. ■

Song for a penny

Truman Engelking, a Frank Thorne member from Nacogdoches, Texas, is sort of a one-man-band when it comes to promoting barbershop for a worthy cause. A few years ago, he learned that while the state furnishes hearing aids free of charge to school children who need them, there is no program to provide replacement batteries.

Engelking decided to take action. He places Mason jars next to the cash registers of cooperating shops and restaurants to collect funds that he turns over to the Nacogdoches County school district to purchase replacement hearing-aid batteries for the children.



As indicated on the jar's note, upon receiving a call when the jar is full, Truman will arrange to have a quartet come to the place of business and perform. That's putting your mouth where the money is! □

Pint fruit jars placed near a cash register collect spare change for a worthy cause



KC will be most "sociable" meeting ever

Where can you meet Mayor Shinn, Charlie Cowell, Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn and, of course, Professor Harold Hill? Next July

you won't find them in River City, Iowa, as you might expect. They will all be in Kansas City attending the Society's 62nd international convention.

What mischief will they be into? Will Professor Hill try to foist the "Think System" onto thousands of assembled Barbershoppers at the massed sing? The only way to find out what fun and frolic our Music Man cohorts are going to spread is to be in Kansas City from July 2-9, 2000. You "gotta know the territory." ■

PROBE awards

Public Relations Officer of the Year

First Place, one-time PR event: Art Lane, Holland, Mich.

First Place, year-long PR program: Bob Fisher, Harrisburg, Pa.

PROBE Hall of Honor 1999 inductees

Buddy Myers, SWD

Craig Rigg, ILL

Dick Teeters, LOL

International Bulletin Contest - 1998

1. Dick Cote
Fullerton, Calif.
Barbershop Clippin's
 2. Tom Wheatley
Dundalk, Md.
Charivari
 3. Fred Hinesley
Macon, Ga.
Sharptalk
- Most Improved
Alan Burt
Rogue River, Ore.
The Rogue Rhapsody

Thank heavens for Chuck Leavitt



The planning and execution of Anaheim

Convention General Chairman Chuck Leavitt and his hard-working troops paid off bigtime for convention goers. It was a class operation all the way.



FRED, Masters of Harmony mine California gold

When the gold dust settled over the quartet contest at the international convention in Anaheim, Dixie District's **FRED** was declared the winner and is the 1999 international champion. Leading in all three rounds, FRED bested by a comfortable margin other medalist foursomes **PLATINUM (SUN)**, Michigan Jake (**CAR**), **BSQ (MAD)** and Bank Street (**RMD**).

In the chorus contest, convention-host chorus **Masters of Harmony** won by a scant two points over perennial second-place finisher **New Tradition (ILL)**. Other top five choruses were **Big Chicken Chorus (DIX)**, **Ambassadors of Harmony (CSD)** and **Thoroughbreds (CAR)**. Three sets of scoring summaries for all contests were sent to each chapter with the July mailing of *Update*. Additional score sheets may be obtained by calling the headquarters office. Scores and stories may also be found on our website at www.spebsqsa.org.

Masters of Harmony took the gold by holding an edge in the Singing Category.



New Tradition gave a stunning performance of two songs from *Les Miserables*, topping other categories.



After introducing the **Alexandria Harmonizers** at a Friday performance in Disneyland, Van Dyke got to play the Deagan Organ Chimes with the **Dapper Dans** quartet.



Dick Van Dyke reprised his TV quartet performance with members of **Mutual Fun**.

My first time: confessions of a Nincompoopie for FRED Groopie

What I expected at my first convention: *when are those guys going to stop singing in the halls?*

Well, now that I've spent four days and nights at an international barber-shop convention, I realize

there's a lot more to it than that. There's a lot of fun, harmony, friendship, and really outstanding singing! And by the end of Saturday's program, after almost 12 straight hours of quartet and chorus competition and other highlights, I found myself joining in the singing of "One More Song," and really meaning the lyrics!

But, I'm getting ahead of myself. I'll start from the beginning.

When we arrived, we headed for the registration area, got our badges and our "First Timer" ribbons, our schedules of events, and the day's convention newsletter. Someone had mentioned that the Harmony Marketplace at international is huge, so I decided that would be my first stop. I grabbed a shopping

basket and started filling it with convention souvenirs.

When my husband, Bill, got tired of shopping, he sat down to wait for me and to listen to the group that was performing, the Banana Blenders chorus from Australia. When I got through the checkout stand, I found Bill and we continued to enjoy those wonderful guys from Down Under. They were obviously having a lot of fun, and we did too.

The next activity was the group sing at noon, where about 2,000 Barbershoppers gathered in front of the Marriott Hotel. That evening, we boarded the shuttle bus to Arrowhead Pond and that day's contest, the quartet semifinals, a marathon of terrific singing.

Friday night, we headed to the Convention Center for the AIC Show. It was truly entertaining, and quite a treat to enjoy an evening of singing by former Society champions.

Saturday was the big day; the contest finals for choruses and quartets. We again boarded the shuttles—big, new buses—for the short trip to Arrowhead Pond. There was impromptu singing

everywhere—in line for the buses, on the buses, in the Pond lobby.

The chorus contest was amazing—one great chorus after another, and a variety of unique presentations. The most memorable were the Australian chorus acting out "Waltzing Matilda," the Stockholm chorus (mostly 30-something, blonde, young men) doing a very hip show-biz type number, the Big Chicken Chorus making fun of other finalists' production numbers, and the New Tradition chorus singing two songs from *Les Miserables*—literally bringing tears to the



The 1998 champion Alexandria Harmonizers performed in five different venues during convention week, including the World Harmony Jamboree.

by PHYLLIS COHEN.
Excerpted with permission
from the Valleyaires
Vocalizer, bulletin of the
San Fernando Valley
Chapter, July 1999

50-year members were recognized in on-stage ceremonies.



audience's eyes with their stirring interpretation of "Bring Him Home."

Another highlight of Saturday's program was the presentation of an Honorary Life Membership to Dick Van Dyke, who did a great job singing bass in a quartet, in front of thousands of experienced Barber-shoppers. He was a delight, and a real good sport, joking and waving and generally having fun at a variety of the convention activities.



When the quartet scores came out, I noticed that I'd been on target in my evaluations, and had chosen nine out of the 10 finalists. By now, Bill and I were both FRED fans. We'd spent the past couple of days unsuccessfully trying to get one of their semi-finals stickers, "I'm a Nincompooie FRED Groopie," and we weren't going to be seen on Saturday night without their finals badge: "It's FRED Time!" Much to our delight, and the delight of the whole auditorium, FRED was chosen as the 1999 quartet champion, even after doing one song which made fun of the contest judges!

On Sunday morning, it was time to collect the last of the score sheets and newsletters and listen to a few last impromptu quartets singing in the hotel lobby. It made me think again of the lyrics to the song that Joe Liles had told about writing—"One more song, let's sing one more song! Let the memories linger on and on 'til we meet, 'til we meet and sing one more song, one more song!"

The *Wizard of Oz* shtick on the AIC Show by 1977 champion Most Happy Fellows never loses its appeal.



1974 champion Regents celebrated its 25th anniversary while appearing on the AIC Show.

Stranger to the rescue

Just prior to this convention, my 16-year-old daughter dislocated her knee, so we were faced with either leaving her home or accommodating her disability. She refused to miss the event because I would be singing with the **Harmony Heritage** chorus, and she's a member of Team Slamka.

We checked in and found that wheelchairs were available but could not be taken out of the hotel. Luckily, the convention hosts had planned for this possibility. At the marketplace, we met Mark Travis. This guy went way beyond the call of duty. He fronted the deposit, picked up and delivered a wheelchair directly to our hotel. We really wanted to thank him but were unable to find him Saturday night. Alas, my daughter's hug went unused. This guy really deserves a medal (in addition to the one he got).

The yellow bus was a godsend! We never would have been able to attend the functions without it, as my daughter just couldn't climb the bus stairs. Makes me want to cry just thinking about it. The folks that ran the bus were wonderful! We tipped them.

Great job, people, great planning. See you in Kansas City.

ROBERT J. SMITH JR.

10,000 friends

At the convention in Anaheim, I lost a pearl pin that my husband bought for me in Singapore. I had no idea where I had lost it; restaurant, hotel lobby, on the shuttle or at the Pond. With heavy heart, I checked at the desk at the Marriott just in case it had been turned in.

To my surprise and delight, a lady had. She didn't leave her name, so I was not able to thank her personally. So, thank you, whoever you are, for renewing my faith in human nature and proving, once again, how great Barber-shoppers are.

LORRAINE TWEED



CHORUSES

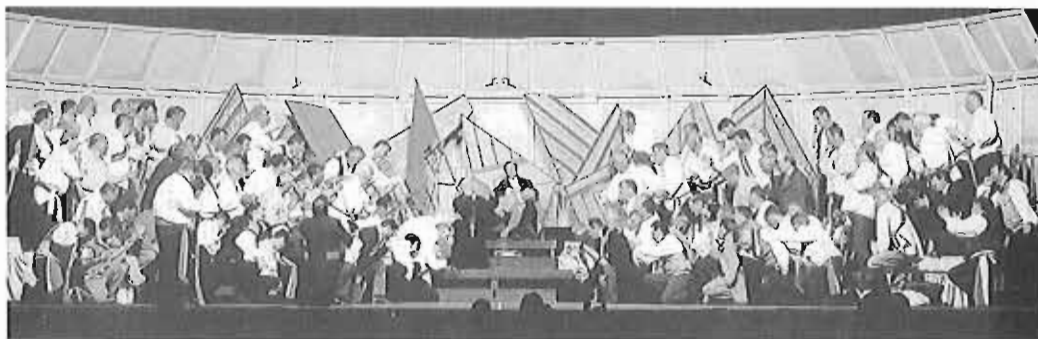
MASTERS OF HARMONY

Santa Fe Springs, Calif.
Jeff Oxley, Director



NEW TRADITION

Northbrook, Ill.
Jay Giallombardo, Director



BIG CHICKEN CHORUS

Marietta, Ga.
Clay Hine, Director



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CHORUS OF THE GENESEE

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Maggie Swift, Director



THAMES VALLEY CHORUS

Reading, England
Steve Hall, Director



RACING CITY CHORUS

Saratoga Springs, N. Y.
Ken Abbott, Director



BANANA BLENDERS

Queensland, Australia
Bob Walker, Director

CHAMPS

F-R-E-D, E-R-D-F, D-F-E-R

No matter how you spell it, it still comes out G-O-L-D

"Who'll Take Fourth Place?" is now just a song that FRED used to sing, even though it did help them take first place in Anaheim.

Fans wore "I'm a Nincompoopie FRED Groopie" and "It's FRED Time" stickers and cheered the zany Georgia foursome to victory. It was apparent from their performance in each contest session that FRED takes two things very seriously—great comedy and great singing.

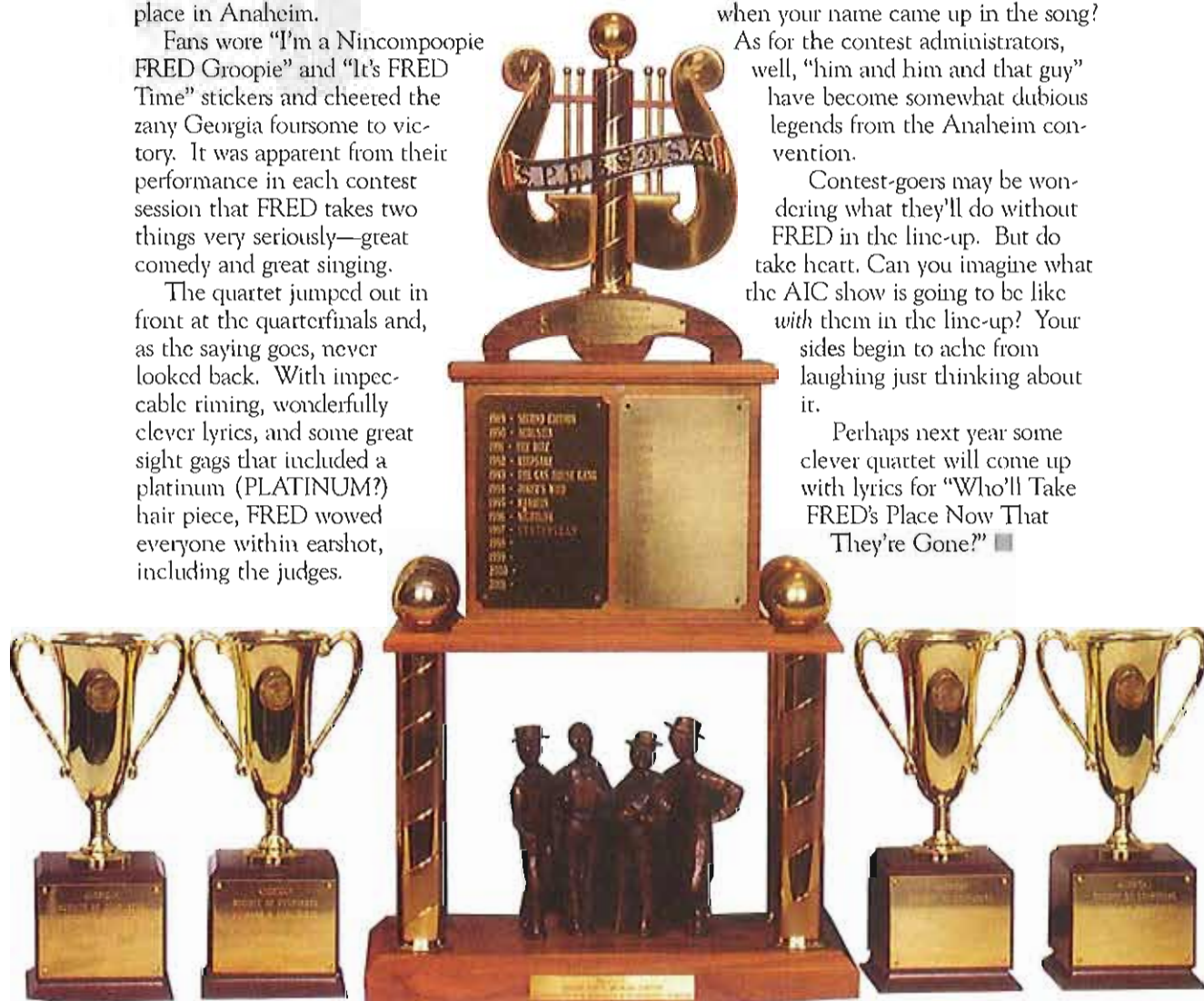
The quartet jumped out in front at the quarterfinals and, as the saying goes, never looked back. With impeccable riming, wonderfully clever lyrics, and some great sight gags that included a platinum (PLATINUM?) hair piece, FRED wowed everyone within earshot, including the judges.

And what about the judges? Can you imagine sitting there waiting to hear what FRED was going to say about you when your name came up in the song?

As for the contest administrators, well, "him and him and that guy" have become somewhat dubious legends from the Anaheim convention.

Contest-goers may be wondering what they'll do without FRED in the line-up. But do take heart. Can you imagine what the AIC show is going to be like with them in the line-up? Your sides begin to ache from laughing just thinking about it.

Perhaps next year some clever quartet will come up with lyrics for "Who'll Take FRED's Place Now That They're Gone?" ■



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4th

BSQ

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Joe Conne
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Mark Hal-
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Drew Kirl

BSQ

Richard T
410/626-8
Rob Seay

BANK STREET

Tony Spa
505/822-7
Tom Mul

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 604/520-4326 (B);
 mlovick@infoserve.net
 Marty Lovick ①
 Mark Metzger ①
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21— SWING CITY

Keith Houts, 501 VZ CR
4902, Ben Wheeler, TX
75754,
903/963-7995 (H);
903/963-5377 (B);
thouts@iamerica.net
Keith Houts ☐
Art Swanson, Jr. ☐
Brian Beck ☐
Graham Smith ☐



22— SHARPER IMAGE

Jeff Lathom, 12124
Cooney Dr., Woodstock,
IL 60098,
815/334-1527 (H);
847/523-5691 (B);
jlathom@aol.com
Opie Lancaster ☐
Jeff Lathom ☐
Kirk Wood ☐
Tom Kentish ☐



24— BAY RUM RUNNERS, THE

Barry Galloway, 8864
Eagle Rock Ln.,
Springfield, VA
22153-1723,
703/912-5751 (H);
703/569-1381 (B);
bayrum4@aol.com
Ed Cazenias ☐
Lynn Conaway ☐
Barry Galloway ☐
Stephen White ☐



25— COUNTDOWN

Jerry Lovell,
8860 Corbin Ave. #111,
Northridge, CA 91324,
818/776-1929 (H);
818/701-1490 (B);
itisunknown@earthlink.net
Tom Moore ☐
Kelly Shepard ☐
Jerry Lovell ☐
James Hawkins ☐



27— 12TH STREET RAG

Mark Fortino,
14231 W. 121st St.,
Olathe, KS 66062,
913/780-3872 (H);
816/221-6300 (B);
markfortino@juno.com
Micali Jeppesen ☐
Mark Fortino ☐
John Fortino ☐
Barry Moore ☐



28— STARDUST

Eudell Bossard,
331 E. Long Acres Dr.,
Henderson, NV
89015-8117,
702/564-6773 (H);
702/564-1888 (B);
buzzbari@aol.com
James Halvorson ☐
Larry Halvorson ☐
Buzz Bossard ☐
Scot Cinnamon ☐



30— STUDIO ONE

Rieh Hasty, PO Box 5955,
Bellingham, WA 98264-
9633,
360/398-8710 (H);
360/398-8710 (B);
Rieh@studiosound.net



31— REUNION

Robert Swanson,
2526 NE 131st Ave.,
Portland, OR 97230-1716,
503/253-1143 (H);
503/225-1190 (B);
rswanson@comcast.net



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 Q; thine83039@aol.com
 : LaRosa @, Clay Hine @, Joe Clay @
 keville Dr., Tampa, FL 33618-1101,
 3/968-4737 (B); ajconnelly@aol.com
 nnelly @, Tony De Rosa @, Kevin Miles @
 outh #2, Clarksville, IN 47129,
 2-288-6665 (B); mhale@iglou.com
 rk Hale @, Joel Wilson @, Greg Hollander @
 itar Pine Dr., Annapolis, MD 21401-5427,
 7/268-2222 (B); rtaylor188@aol.com
 ng @, Rick Taylor @, Alan Mazzoni @
 eec Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-3638,
 i/284-4291 (B); ykrap@suno.com
 Balsley @, Tony Sparks @, Farris Collins @



First Place—\$4,000 STATION 59 University of Florida
Reggie Mobley^(T), Chris Coffee^(L), Scott Norman^(B), Michael O'Neill^(S)

This year's MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest made the dean's list for excellence and quality. Twenty-two of the finest foursomes from the United States, Canada and New Zealand vied for the championship in front of an enthusiastic audience of more than 1,600.

This year's audience was witness to outstanding singing talent and youthful charm. When the 88 competitors formed a chorus to be put through its paces by Kirk Young and Bill Rashleigh, 1,600 people rose to their feet as one following each song, in appreciation of the musical thrill they had just been given.

The MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest has quickly become a definite must-see event at the international convention.



MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest



Second Place—\$1,500 ON THE ROCKS
Bowling Green State University, Ohio
Michael Nesler^(T), J.R. Muth^(L), Rory Toth^(B),
Chris Carducci^(S)



Third Place—\$1,200 MILLENNIUM
Northwest Missouri State University
Jim Clark^(T), Soren Wohlers^(L), Kalin Tapp^(B),
Sydney Libsack^(S)



Fourth Place—\$1,000 SOUTHERN HARMONY
Rongotai College, New Zealand
Tu Kevin Malagama'alli^(T), Desmond Avia Uili^(L),
Derek Faaea Samuela-Gibbons^(B), Ben Komiti^(S)



Fifth Place—\$800 TERMINAL BARBERSHOP
University of Toronto, Ontario
Kern Lewin^(T), Kevin Harris^(L), Dion Lew^(B),
Bryan Kelth^(S)

Pursue success with a chapter coach

The Chapter Support & Leadership Training team's main objective is to serve the individual member by helping his chapter succeed. With more than 200 trained chapter coaches in the field and a significant ongoing investment in chapter coach leadership training, it's surprising to learn that there are some Society members who know little about CSLT, the chapter coach program, or what a chapter coach does. As a member of SPEBSQSA, you and your chapter are entitled to a variety of Society resources, including the services of a chapter coach.

Case No. 1

SITUATION: Struggling Midwest chapter lacks focus as it tries to merely maintain the status quo.

APPROACH: Define chapter objectives.

TOOL: Work with chapter coach to develop a mission statement as a blueprint for success.

RESULTS: Chapter has a renewed, positive outlook and morale is at an all-time high. Members are again having fun.

Case No. 2

STRENGTH: Capable music director, strong music team.

APPROACH: Focus on musical skills, using music team for variety of activities.

TOOLS: Well-planned warm-up sessions, tag-singing, "quartet practice for all," sight-reading sessions, up-to-date music books

ACTIVITIES: Singing Valentines, quartet outreach to high schools, boys' chorus on annual show.

RESULTS: Membership doubled.

Case No. 3

SITUATION: Small, older chapter in Ontario needs assistance to locate a new director.

APPROACH: Provide name of qualified director and bring her and the chapter chorus together.

RESULTS: Chapter which had previously gone through a director search on its own was very pleased with the chapter coach's assistance and the new director who was hired.

THANKS: Chapter Coach Sam Sloane receives a letter from the chapter president thanking him for his assistance and praising the chapter coach program. The letter read, in part: "Just a note of thanks for your assistance in locating a director. We have been through this before and it is the first time we ever got any positive assistance. If you are an example of how the new chapter coaching system will work, it is off to a great start and I'm sure it will prove invaluable to other chapters such as ours."

Case No. 4

SITUATION: A talented Sweet Adeline, initially brought to a New York state chapter to teach vocal technique, is asked to become the chorus director. A few members questioned the ability of a female director to fit in with male barbershop directors and expressed concern that some chapter members might not accept her.

APPROACH: Chapter Coach Larry Robinson is asked to mediate at a special chapter meeting to allow members to discuss the issue and arrive at a mutually agreeable solution. It was quite a challenge, as the problem involved a sensitive issue.

TOOLS: At the meeting, Larry helped maintain a friendly atmosphere by reminding those present that they had been friends for years and to listen to the others as a friend, not as an adversary; to realize that others are speaking from the heart; and that everyone should be able to voice his opinion without fear of ridicule or retribution.

RESULTS: Both sides made concessions and a motion was passed to enable the music team to act as a search committee. A second motion named the Sweet Adeline to continue as interim director. Eventually, she was appointed music director and everyone remained friends. ■

Buzz's barbershop blessings

I remember so many things and happenings. It would be impossible to relate them all here; however, I'll try to give you a few reasons I've enjoyed our hobby for so long.

In my early days as a fledgling Barbershopper, I met many luminaries who were not only friendly, they inspired and *encouraged* me; guys like the incredible Frank Thorne, Owen C. Cash, Maurice "Molly" Reagan and Phil Embury, to name a few.

I've found that the more you put into a hobby, the more you get out of it. Sounds like a trite cliché, doesn't it? It works, man!

I'm blessed with so many good friends all over the Society. When I think about them, I ask myself, "How lucky can a guy get?" They'd go way out of their way to help me if I needed it, and I'd do the same for them.

I was a certified judge (and a category specialist) for 22 years. It's a thankless job, but I felt I had to give something back to our Society for all of the enjoyment it gave me.

I've had the privilege of hearing many of the arrangements I've created sung by quartets and choruses all over the Society and our affiliates. When they "buy" an arrangement of mine, I have them give the money to the Harmony Foundation General Fund. I don't keep the money, nor do I take credit for the donation. We have an opportunity to help young people Sing . . . *for life* through our Service Projects.

I think the most important reason (after all this) I love the Society is reason number three above, and the fact that I've always loved harmony—especially the a cappella kind, and in particular, the barbershop sound.

If I've *encouraged* you a little by this, I'll consider the effort more than worthwhile. Sing a few for me!



WARREN "BUZZ" HAEGER, tenor of the 1965 champion *Four Renegades*, has been a member of the Society for 54 years. He recently sent this brief reflection on those years to *The Harmonizer*. It's a life of friendship and giving.

Pekin Chorus wows audience at Peoria convention

They came from California, Florida and Texas to join their friends in Illinois to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the legendary Pekin Chorus' first international championship. The chorus won the title in 1959, 1963 and 1968. (The chorus also placed second twice and fourth once.)

The chorus never sang with more than 48 men on stage, held no tryouts or auditions and learned most of its music by rote. "These guys amazed me many times over the years," said director Jim Moses.

Among the 40 men on hand for the reunion were four charter members, Don Hannah, Stan Sharpe, Tom Powell and Harold Strickfaden. The men gathered at the Illinois District spring convention in Peoria for the reunion and presented shortened renditions of the three Pekin hallmark songs, "Hard Hearted Hannah," "All Alone" and "On The



Bill "Buzz" Busby (l), Handed the trophy to Jim Moses in 1959. Inset, the 1999 chorus.

Lone Prairie." "We're going to do three songs, but we've cut them in half because the guys get all out of breath," Moses joked.

The chorus sang while the judges tallied their scores at the Saturday night quartet contest finals. Moses' wit kept the audience laughing. After stopping the chorus because of a shaky start on the first song, he turned to the audience and said, "I'm going to have a word with my opponents."

Pekin won its first international championship in Chicago and has had custody of the Illinois flag displayed at that convention. The flag was presented to Illinois District President Bob Squires at the 1999 Peoria reunion.

JIM STAHL is Illinois District VP for Marketing & Public Relations.

Mason City plans tribute to the *real* Music Man

Many of today's Barbershoppers got their introduction to this American music form from Meredith Willson's musical *The Music Man*. On June 3, 2000, Barbershoppers will participate in the dedication of The Music Man Square in Willson's hometown of Mason City, Iowa.

Two years in construction

The Mason City Foundation is building the \$10-million cultural center adjacent to Willson's home, now a visitor's attraction. Rosemary Willson, his widow, took part in the ground-breaking ceremony during the 1998 band festival, and has pledged \$5 million in matching funds plus an additional \$2 million endowment for The Music Man Square facility. She also attended this year's festival.

The center will contain a community theater, museum, music and performing arts learning center, River City indoor street scene (circa 1910), music conservatory, and reunion hall. Etched into the exterior finish of the main building will be the phrase "Lida Rose I'm home again Rose without a sweetheart to my name" on one side and "Seventy six trombones led the big parade" on the other.

Festive activities planned

The foundation and the Mason City Chapter of SPEBSQSA are planning a festive dedication ceremony Saturday, June 3, 2000. It is hoped that harmonizers, male and female, from across the



Rosemary Willson and Shirley Jones enjoy a song by Surround Sound.

country will come to River City and form a 1,000-member chorus. During the day, quartets and VLQs will stroll throughout the city serenading visitors.

Highlighting The Music Man Square ribbon-cutting ceremony will be a massed sing of "Lida Rose," "76 Trombones" and other Meredith Willson favorites. Organizers expect this to be a large media event. It will also be a part of SPEBSQSA's Music Man celebration, which culminates at the Kansas City international convention. One of the special events at the 2000 convention will be the tribute to the Buffalo Bills honoring the 50th anniversary of their championship.

Contact info

Local arrangements for the 1000-member barbershop chorus will be coordinated by the **River City Chorus**. If you would like information, contact Jack Wilcox, 1421 North 23rd Street, Clear Lake, IA 50428; send email to wilcoxj@mach3ww.com. For more information about The Music Man Square, contact The Mason City Foundation, P.O. Box 518, Mason City, IA 50402-0518; musicman@mach3ww.com.

Who was Meredith Willson?

Willson was never an official singing member of SPEBSQSA, but he was presented an honorary membership by the Society in 1959.

Willson left Mason City in 1919 to attend what is now the Julliard School of Music in New York, but took with him many of his boyhood memories that became the setting for "River City" on Broadway in 1957 and again for the film production in 1962. The show's barbershop quartet, in the characterization of the school board, played by the SPEBSQSA 1950 international champion Buffalo Bills, was patterned after a 1920s local foursome, the Rusty Hinge Quartet.

Willson, who died in 1984, returned to "River City" several times, including his 1962 trip for the film's world premiere during the annual North Iowa Band Festival. Along with Willson were stars Shirley Jones, Robert Preston, Ron Howard, the Buffalo Bills and the Rusty Hinge Quartet. Jones returned this past May to be the band festival parade's grand marshal and to present an evening concert to a full house at the historic Surf Ballroom in nearby Clear Lake. □

The Rusty Hinge Quartet and the Buffalo Bills, circa 1962.



MASON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY HISTORICAL COLLECTION



Joe
Andrews (T)



Todd
Crosby (L)



Gene
Jackson (B)



Bob
Jones (B)

Runaway Bride's runaway hit quartet

Richard Gere is driving along, listening to a song in the key of G on the radio. Coming to the outskirts of the town of Hale, Maryland, he sees a welcoming sign, which also announces Hale's famous championship quartet, the Hale Town Four. As he gets into town, there on the lawn in front of the quaint old Atlantic Hotel is the quartet itself, giving a preview to promote its weekend gig at the hotel. He rolls down the window, and they are also singing in G (the magic of movies)!

That's one of the scenes that was shot for the Paramount film, *Runaway Bride*, starring Gere and Julia Roberts, which premiered at the end of July. Fictional Hale, Md., is actually Berlin, Md., located on the eastern shore not far from Ocean City. Many of its downtown businesses were renamed for the movie.

Call for a quartet

Who is the Hale Town Four? Lead Todd Crosby works weekends as a singing waiter at the Atlantic Hotel, a wonderful restored Victorian centerpiece. When the movie company came to town in November 1998, Director Gary Marshall heard Todd and said, "A barbershop quartet would be perfect for this movie, go get three other guys".

Todd called on Gene Jackson, associate director of the Peninsulaires chorus of the Salisbury, Md., Chapter. Gene

"A barbershop quartet would be perfect for this movie, go get three other guys."



The Hale Town Four in a scene shot for the opening sequence of *Runaway Bride*, a Paramount picture.

took the bari spot and recruited Joe Andrews for tenor and Bob Jones for bass. They auditioned for the director, who liked the sound, and they were an instant hit with the company. Then the quartet was deluged by requests for material, such as, "Be ready in ten minutes to sing 'The Hawaiian Love Song.'" Needless to say, the new quartet was going to be doing some scrambling.

Kenosha to the rescue

The phone lines between Berlin, Md., and Kenosha, Wis., heated up as the group sought help with material and got the new quartet registered in record time so that the Society could be included in the credits. Barbershop arrangements of Hawaiian music were found for a luau scene. Dr. Greg Lyne arranged a song literally overnight and faxed it back.

Requests from the movie makers continued, and arrangements were arriving like blizzards. Meantime, the director assigned a member of the company to make sure that the songs were sung in the key required (to match the car radio, for example) and that they had international (not just U.S.) clearance. Is that arrangement cleared in Indonesia? More scrambling.

As the group headed for the first full day of rehearsal and trial shooting, they learned that modern movie making is composed of long periods of waiting punctuated by frantic activity. They received about six requests for new songs in one day. "Shoot on the lawn, ten minutes. How about 'Love Zombie' in D?" "Love Zombie?"

What's in a wardrobe?

Hollywood has its own idea of what a barbershop quartet should look like. The costumes were put together by the Paramount costuming department. The guys found out they had to work some long days, sometimes up to 19 hours, much of it standing outside in the cold. But, hey, they actually got *paid* for this.

The Hale Town Four does a great job, despite having to pick up some songs on a moment's notice. The members also went to Baltimore for a few days, where most of the indoor scenes were shot in a big barn. The quartet appears briefly in four scenes during the movie. ■

—byline—

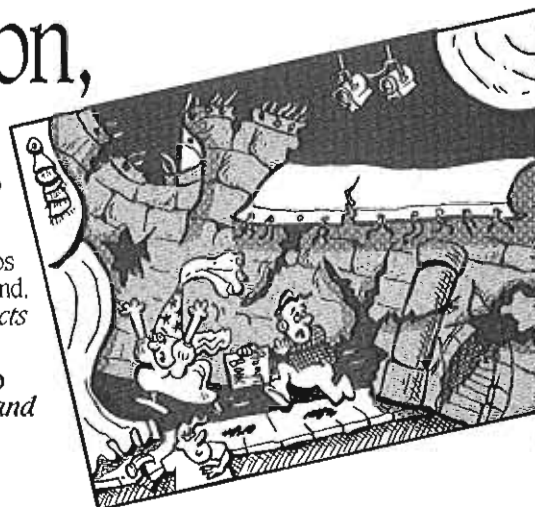
LARRY MATTHEWS
President
Salisbury, Md., Chapter



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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.

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.

All show and tour tickets may be picked up in the convention registration area at the Holiday Inn City Center Hotel in Tucson after 1 p.m., Tuesday, January 25, 2000.

Make checks payable to SPEBSQSA. When you receive confirmation, please keep it as your receipt.

Registrations may be transferred to another person, but they are NOT refundable.

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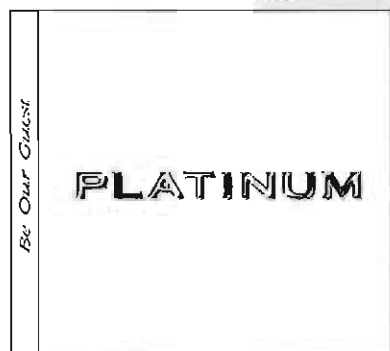
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The many ways we Sing . . . for life

Harmony Foundation awards 1999 grants

At its July 1999 Trustees Meeting, Harmony Foundation made grants to nine dynamic projects. Each one takes a unique approach to getting people—especially young people—singing or keeping them singing. The money for these grants comes from your donations to the Harmony Foundation General Fund and SingAmerica, SingCanada.

Get the Ozarks Singing . . . Again

The Greater Ozarks Chapter will distribute approximately 1,750 *Get America Singing ... Again* song books to 60 or more schools in Benton County and Washington County, Ark., impacting 23,000 children and their parents. Presentation of the books will be accompanied by a ceremony and media attention. A follow up with the teachers, a show involving the students and other details are part of a long range plan.

Audubon Elementary Choir

A choir will be formed in Audubon, Ky., to promote a love of music, build self-esteem and to teach the Kentucky Core Content in Music. Seventy fourth-and fifth-grade students will be encouraged to try out for the choir. It is anticipated that 50 percent of these students will eventually become part of the choir.

Sacramento Young Men In Harmony Vocal Music Workshop

Conducted by the Sacramento California Chapter, this will be a one-day barbershop workshop for male high school and college students. The participants will work on five songs and will be invited to perform on the NorCal Barbershop Spectacular that evening.

Music and Movement for Preschoolers

This project conducted by the First Christian Church Child Development Center in Tulsa, Okla., will encourage a love of music as well as enhance academic skills. The project will include singing, playing instruments, and moving to music on a daily basis. The children will participate in structured group, learning experiences such as rhythm patterns to promote future reading skills, learning new songs, and moving to music.

Barbershop Scholarships

The Research Triangle Park, N.C., Chapter will provide Year 2000 scholarships to Harmony College and the Sweet Adelines International Education Symposium, respectively, for the winning male and female quartets of its annual high school quartet contest.

A Cappella Radio International

A grant to this popular radio program, produced by the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America and Barbershopper Phil DeBar, which features all types of a cappella music, including barber-shop harmony, will al-

NOTEWORTHY

Chapter Eternal

Cardinal

Linn, Donald
Frank Thome

Central States

Doesken, Wilfrid
Wichita, KS
Hendershot, Robert
Davenport, IA
Jaeger, Charles
Sedalia, MO
Stavig, Gordon
Milbank, SD
Wilson, Perry
St Louis No 1, MO

Dixie

Fussell, Willis
Rostwell, GA

Evergreen

Chapple, Bill
Spruce Grove, AB

Far Western

Coonrod, Curtis
Inland Cities, CA
Hansen, Magnus
South Bay, CA
Johnson, Russell
Chico, CA
Lakin, Eugene
Sierra Vista, AZ
Madlison, William
Westminster, CA
O'Connor, Don
Whittier, CA
Richards, Roland
Pomona Valley, CA

Illinois

Edwards, A. E.
Peoria, IL
McEachran, Russell
Rockford, IL
Roach, William
Oak Lawn, IL

Schemmel, Philip
Lombard, IL

Johnny Appleseed

Blakely, William
Columbus, OH
Dubbe, Everett
Clarksburg-Fairmont, WV
Fischer, Richard
Cincinnati, OH
Holbrook, Earl
Elyria, OH
Lynch, John
Pittsburgh South Hills, PA
Shepherd, Stanley
Logansport, OH

Land O' Lakes

Carlin, John
Green Bay, WI
Gengler, Paul
Worthington, MN
Kiroff, Richard
Clara City, MN
(Continued on page 27)

NOTEWORTHY

Chapter Eternal

(Continued from page 26)

Missling, Roger
Windom, MN

Mid-Atlantic

Amaru, Salvatore
Rahway Valley, NJ
DeHaven, Thomas
Alexandria, VA
Griffiths, David
Chester County, PA
Howell, John
Salisbury, MD
Michael, Nelson
Carlisle, PA

Pinkerton, William
Baltimore, MD
Rodenhiser, George
Wilmington, DE
Selway, John
Anne Arundel, MD
Shellington, William
Bryn Mawr, PA
Stouch, William
Harrisburg, PA

Northeastern

Bigelow, George
Cape Cod, MA
Cassidy, John
Brockton, MA

Chiasson, George
Brockton, MA
Jones, Earle
Concord, MA
Kilborne, George
Cape Cod, MA
Monturo, Thomas
Poughkeepsie, NY
Roughan, Joseph
Worcester, MA
Smail, Lloyd
Hartford, CT
Wholley, James
Canton, MA

Ontario

Eakins, Robert
Port Hope, ON
MacLachlan, Clare
Woodstock, ON
Myke, Clarence
Stoney Creek, ON
Spink, Gary
Markham, ON
Thompson, Lloyd
Kingston, ON
Ward, Ronald
Scarborough, ON
Weir, Gary
Peterborough, ON

(Continued on page 28)



"TURK" EVANS,
tenor of the 1960
international
champion Evans Quartet,
passed away last February
in Bountiful, Utah, of
complications from
pneumonia. He was 81.



**LARRY
HEDGEPEETH**,
tenor of the
1959
champion
Four
Pitchhikers,
suffered a
heart attack while on
vacation in Hawaii in
March. He was 63.



DON PITTS,
tenor of the 1957
international
quartet champion
Lads of
Enchantment,
died of ALS (Lou
Gehrig's Disease)
at his Albuquerque home
in June. He was 71.

low it to expand its audience from the current 40 radio stations on five continents.

"Tear it Up!" Children's Music Ministry

This program, conducted by the United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis, Tenn., will encourage the development of fundamental musical knowledge, develop true musical talent, enhance verbal communication skills and encourage positive parent/child interactions.

Youth Outreach High School Quartet Contest

Conducted by the Arlington Heights, Ill., Chapter, The Arlingtones will expand the program this year to include an ensemble contest. Prize money will be provided to the winning schools.

This Is My Story, This Is My Song

A project conducted at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C., is an evolving work that has already had several workshop performances. Students will participate in both the development and performance of the piece. As the students research various periods of American history from slavery to present day, they will also research the representative African American music of each period.

Chapter, quartet and individual contributions to the Harmony Foundation General Fund will insure that even more grants such as these can be offered to worthy projects. General Fund contributions also help support Heartspring and The Heritage Hall Museum. Individuals making a \$25 or higher contribution receive a 1999 Harmony Foundation pin with the receipt of their gift. Remember our vision, "... leading the cause of en-

couraging vocal music in our schools and communities." Won't it be a wonderful day when we once again become a singing culture? Won't you feel proud when you know that you and the Barbershop Harmony Society were the leaders in this importance cause? ■

Grant deadline looms

The next application deadline for Harmony Foundation grants is November 1. Download an information packet and application from the Foundation website at www.harmonyfoundation.org or contact the Foundation office at (800) 876-SING, extension 8446, for an information packet or to talk the project over with a staff member. ■

Sounds of liberty reach Cuba

The world-renowned Philadelphia Boy's Choir and Men's Chorale, celebrating its 30th year, was invited to perform concerts in several cities in Cuba this summer. This group has appeared on national TV and has performed at the Vatican, as well as for the royal families of England, Sweden, Denmark and Thailand.

Rehearsals complete, bags packed, a last-minute addition to the tour found the choir \$10,000 short of funds to complete the trip. One of the first respondents to an urgent media appeal was the Philadelphia Chapter, with a \$2,000 donation. Other assistance soon arrived and the choir was on its way. Appropriately enough, the Chapter chorus is named the Sounds of Liberty. ■

More singing . . . for life

Community service cited



The combined ensemble from the 1998 NCEON benefit concert posed for a curtain call

For the past eight years, the Anne Arundel County, Md., Chapter has sponsored a benefit concert for the North County Emergency Outreach Network (NCEON), a local emergency foodbank. In addition to the Society and Sweet Adelines choruses and quartets, local high school performing groups are included on the program. Admission is by contribution of non-perishable food items or other specified supplies, or a cash donation. Corporate sponsors underwrite the production costs.

In recognition of the chapter's continuing service to the community, citations from the governor of Maryland, the Maryland House of Delegates, the Maryland Senate and the Anne Arundel County Council were presented to the chapter on its 50th anniversary this year. In addition, NCEON presented a plaque expressing gratitude to the Sons of the Severn chorus for its continuing support and commitment. ■

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NOTEWORTHY

Chapter Eternal

(Continued from page 27)

Wilkinson, Jack
Stoney Creek, ON

Pioneer

Barney, Claude
Holland, MI
Lotspeich, Edgar
Petoskey, MI
Mikulec, Joseph
Milford, MI
Schlenker, Martin
Huron Valley, MI
Slamka, John
Macomb County, MI

Rocky Mountain

Lane, Frank
Denver, CO

Seneca Land

Calkins, William
Warsaw, NY
Deasey, James
Rochester, NY

Southwestern

Bing, Harold
Greater Little Rock, AR
Forbes, Charles
Kerrville, TX
Gryting, Harold
Chordsmen, TX
Ray, Harold
Liberal, OK

Sunshine

Foris, Alex
Frank Thorne
Schwarz, James
Sarasota, FL



BETTY ANN CASH OATHOUT, daughter of O.C. Cash, succumbed to cancer at her home in Tulsa in August. She was 67.

New MexiChords help fight hunger

The Albuquerque Chapter donated a portion of proceeds from its spring show to the Roadrunner Food Bank, a network of 225 agencies throughout the state of New Mexico. The contribution will provide 15,000 meals for the hungry. ■



A small chapter with a big heart

The Edenton, N.C., Chapter has but 18 members, yet during six months last year it contributed a total of \$1,650 to local school music programs, including a \$500 scholarship to be awarded annually to a high school senior planning to major in vocal music. Chapter quartets raised \$750 through Singing Valentines, which was donated to the county's choral music program. Another donation of \$400 was made to a school choral group to help fund its participation in a regional contest. ■



Kathy Hawkins
and
Jim Miller

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JIM HENRY - Here's a guy who puts more of his personality in the music he creates than any other barbershop bass I know. I respect his commitment to a quality sound all up and down the scale. Jim gives enough of his ego away to complement his quartet with just enough sound to blend and match to perfection. Yet his dominant bass color is always evident when The Gas House Gang (1993 champion) sings. I sing bass with him by tape every day.



DON BARNICK - Really not a bass singer, by his own admission, but probably the very best at making the vocal apparatus work for the job; he was a gold medal tenor with Grandma's Boys in 1979. However, using all of his resonators, Don was able to command the rich, quality, up-front ping in the bass sound all up and down the scale with the 1992 international champion Keepsake. You will not find a finer example of one using what the good Lord gave him to work in his favor. I sing bass with him by tape every day.



RICK STAAB - One of the all-time greats. Here's a guy who was born with a golden bass voice. He'll be the first to tell you, "It was a gift from above." I think he sang a bad note once in 1977. Not sure which note it was, but at least one. Always, always, with quality and richness, always resonant, always accurate. Just the kind of bass singer most leads pray for. His voice was made to order for the legendary 1978 champion Bluegrass Student Union. Ah, I remember them well! I sing bass with him by tape every day.

BILL MYERS teaches "How To Be A Great Bass" at Harmony College.

Bill's 10

tips for better
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note with a
quality sound
- 2
Sing with full
face vowels
- 3
Sing every day
- 4
Vertical "Ahh"
on the inside
of every vowel
- 5
Every five
seconds,
energize
- 6
Get a coach
- 7
Step into the
picture the
lyric creates
- 8
Sing on top of
the air
- 9
Resonant,
warm spin in
the sound
- 10
Always be
working on a
new song



Toppers take Finland by storm

Magic happened on this trip. It was a Barbershopper's dream come true, to perform in Finland, where barbershop music is a novelty. The Mt. Baker, Wash., Toppers performed 40 times in two weeks, in open market places, park band shells, on radio and, in old folks' homes, in concert halls and churches, at the Presidential Palace, the U. S. Embassy, and was the first barbershop chorus to compete at the famous Tampere Choral Festival.

Topper Markku Kanervikkoaho started making arrangements more than nine months earlier to line up the events and to plan the travel and housing arrangements.

"This trip is like being enrolled in an advanced choral class," said Jim Bailey, Toppers director. During the tour, the chorus shared performances with brass bands, symphony orchestras, male and mixed choirs, providing the full program on other occasions.

Performing for other barbershoppers is always rewarding. The Toppers met and serenaded Finland's only Sweet Adeline chorus, in Porvoo, a historic city along Finland's southern coast. The "Lady Shaves," as they are called, gave a walking tour and served a delicious lunch. ■

ALAN WILHITE is PR officer for the Mt. Baker Chapter



Impromptu chorus lights up ballpark

When Cincinnati Barbershopper and General Electric employee Tom Emmert heard that GE personnel had been invited to sing the national anthem at a pair of Reds vs Brewers games, he organized a barbershop group consisting of employees who are members of the Southern Gateway Chorus, the Delta Kings and the Cincinnati May Festival Chorus. Tom directed. ■

Anchors aweigh!

San Diego's Sun Harbor Chorus was invited to go to sea aboard the U.S.S. John C. Stennis (CVN-74) for the ship's Dependents Day cruise. In addition to watching flight operations, the chorus performed for more than 2,000 guests and crew in Hangar Bay No. 2, presenting "God Bless The USA" and "America, The Beautiful." ■



Money in the bank

Members of the Virginia Peninsula Chapter participated in the Volunteer Program at Busch Gardens to raise money for the chapter coffers. Three labored in the pizza parlor for \$5.60 an hour. Ten persons, including wives, earned almost \$1,700 for the chapter. As an added incentive, a free pass to Busch Gardens was issued for each 20 hours worked. Not bad for a small chapter that submitted its application for charter only this June. □





Youth Harmony Camps again a big hit in FWD

"My guys had a terrific time, and are eager to form a quartet next fall."

More than 110 young men and a half-dozen music educators attended the fourth-annual Youth Harmony Camps in Far Western District this year. The weekend camps were held at Felton (NorCal) and Idyllwild (SoCal), California.

In response, one music educator wrote, "My guys had a terrific time,

and are eager to form a quartet next fall. Thanks so much to all the Barbershoppers for what you are doing to promote choral music education."

The camps are made possible by the generosity of FWD Barbershoppers and friends through the Far Western District Youth Education Fund. ■

Gary Bolles led the 76-singer chorus at FWD NorCal Youth Harmony Camp in June.

Why do Barbershoppers carry water bottles?

While making the 30-mile drive to the Hastings, Neb., Chapter meeting, two members of the Chorus of the Plains came upon a pickup truck with a fire under the hood. Without hesitation, or a second thought about protecting their vocal folds, Rich Reichert and Todd Berry grabbed their water bottles and put out the fire. It's said they're now searching for a barbershop arrangement of "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes." ■



Mark Lamback (T) Stuart Ambrose (L) Willie Mays (R) and Eddy Sattah (R).

Can't stop raising money

Great reports keep coming in about successful membership drives and the PBS showing of *Can't Stop*

Singing. The Kansas City contingency helped raise \$6,595 during the airing of the show. We were told that the results were

Prime Cut reaches out

While appearing on the Hilton Head Island, S.C., Chapter show in May, 1998 College Quartet Champion Prime Cut paid a visit to the local high school to introduce barbershop to students as part of the chapter's youth outreach program. ■

"higher than expected." Great job and a great show promoting this wonderful hobby! ■

Award of Harmony to Carnegie librarian

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter presented its 1999 Award of Harmony to Kathryn Logan, head of the Music / Art Department at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, during ceremonies at the chapter's annual show in Carnegie Music Hall. Ms. Logan was chosen in recognition of her dedication and support of the barbershop information project established at the library in 1987.

Librarian Kathryn Logan receives the Award of Harmony from Bob Brandl.





Hemet aids youth choral funds



The Hemet, Calif., Chapter organized a joint concert featuring choral groups from six high schools and middle schools in May. Proceeds were given to the choral director of each group. The chapter has also awarded individual scholarships to four high school music seniors. ■

A great idea (@spebsqsa.org)

Sven Alrenius of SNOBS suggests: Present a CD as a gift to every new member. In our case, we purchased the VM's *The Music Never Ends* and gave a copy to each new member for inspiration and enjoyment. It had a very good effect—the guys asked for more CDs and immediately wanted to be as good as the VM. Which was good for the performance team of our chapter, because we had to work harder and get better, too! ■



FYI

For bargain hunters who wish to pursue this idea, Barbershop Harmony Favorites Volume II is a cassette of barbershop standards by great quartets and choruses, including *Acoustix*, *Second Edition* and the *West Towns Chorus*. The *Harmony Marketplace* catalog list price is \$7.95 but in lots of 25 units, are discounted to just \$4 each (stock no. 30167) or 50 units at just \$3 each (stock no. 30168).

Gentlemen, sound your pitch pipes

The Pride of Indy Chorus, Greater Indianapolis Chapter, and the Indianapolis Children's Choir (ICC) linked up recently to provide a youth outreach mega-event at Butler University's Clowes Memorial Hall.

Hour-long concerts were scheduled for May 4, 1999 at 10 a.m. and noon. The ICC performed repertoire songs, the Pride of Indy introduced barbershop harmony and did a show package, and the groups joined forces to perform "Let There Be Music, Let There Be Love," "Teach The Children To Sing," "Play A Simple Melody" and "Fun In Just One Lifetime." There was more fun when the audience was invited to sing a tag with the two groups.

This linkage was the result of reaching out to a youth organization in the community, developing and nurturing a friendship step by step. It blossomed into something beautiful and will continue to provide rewards for many years to come.

The two groups have crossed paths for several years at the city's Christmas tree lighting ceremony and other civic functions. Friendships developed and led to two invitational performances by the ICC at the Society's 1997 international convention.

The Indianapolis Children's Choir is an organization that has grown to some 1,000 members in a feeder system from middle school through high school, with several choirs combining

into a touring choir that performs around the world. Membership is encouraged by the ICC at annual student concerts featuring the ICC and a guest artist. The Pride of Indy chorus appeared as the guest artist and introduced barbershop harmony to a sold-out concert audience of 3,500 middle school choir students from Indianapolis and surrounding communities.

Take a bold step—reach out and link up with the youth in your community. Make something beautiful happen and "Keep The Whole World Singing." ■

DICK NYIKOS is VP Marketing & PR for the Greater Indianapolis Chapter

Ensemble of the Indianapolis Children's Choir and Pride of Indy chorus



Excerpts from the State Of The Society Report - July 1999

These highlights from the 1999 *State of the Society* report summarize the progress made toward achieving Society goals in support of our mission and vision.

Our Mission

The Society's mission is to: preserve the old American tradition of the barbershop quartet; promote the education of its members and the public in music appreciation; hold quartet and chorus contests; promote public appreciation of barbershop singing, and; promote and participate in charitable projects and establish and maintain music scholarships.

In the area of singing and performing, we are blessed by the increasing availability to the public of CDs of our top quartets in live (contest) performances. However, more than half of our chapters have yet to demonstrate, via the contest setting, that their choruses can sing at the mid-"C" (average) or above level. In the area of charities and scholarships, the Society's "new" Harmony Foundation increased by 15 per cent over the previous year the amount of moneys raised to support its various programs.

Our Vision

The Society is to be an ever-growing fraternity of barbershop-style singers, leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities.

Membership growth continues to fall short of our one percent per year goal. We have increased the exposure of our style to music educators and students through an increasing number of district- and Society-sponsored music clinics.

Our Goals

The Musical Experience: *Ensure that every current and prospective member has the opportunity for a satisfying barbershop musical experience in quartets or choruses, or both.*

- Our competing quartets continue to get better. All but four of our districts are conducting, or have planned, Top Gun quartet schools. However, more than half of our members still do not attend any division, district or international conventions, denying themselves exposure to quality performances and enjoyment of the camaraderie that these events provide
- The "show package" concept continues to receive mixed reviews, and more trials will be held this fall
- A new *Harmony Classics* program of six songs, patterned after the *Barber Pole Cat* program, will be available this fall.

- The *Standing Ovation* program is beginning to take hold in half of our districts
- Three-quarters of our districts have held or are planning high school and Youth Outreach festivals and camps this year
- A new *Young Men In Harmony Resource Guide* has been published
- A new chorus director manual, *Directing a Barbershop Chorus*, was released to all current Society chorus directors in March, and sales of the new *Building A Better Chorus* video have been brisk.

Membership and Support Services: *Be a Society whose membership grows at one percent per year, and provides singing, performing and fraternal opportunities that attract and retain a diverse and vitally active membership.*

- Society membership stood at 33,764 at the end of 1998, down from a high of 38,188 in 1983 but at the same level it was in 1972 and 1994. Turnover in membership continues to be rather low, averaging about 12 percent each year
- We continue to be an aging Society with an average member age of 58 years. On a positive note, the average age of new members in 1998 was 47
- Current membership recruitment is only 75 percent of the rate targeted for the year, while our retention rate is about the same as it was last year. Clearly, member recruitment has become our number one area of concern
- By the end of March, the Chapter Support and Leadership Training Committee had exceeded its original goal of one Chapter Coach for every four chapters
- The revised COTS program successfully underwent its first year of a two-year field-testing period, and the new program received favorable reviews from attendees.

Image: *Be known as an organization of singers whose members enjoy singing a cappella music, good fun and fellowship, while supporting their communities with the gift of quality music and charitable and educational activities.*

- The PBS documentary filmed at our Atlanta convention, called *Can't Stop Singing*, has been completed and will be available for airing on PBS stations in August
- Last year our members contributed \$425,549 to the Harmony Foundation General Fund, and an additional \$455,383 was donated by chapters to local and other charitable causes
- The *Chapter Service Chair Manual* was sent to every chapter, and is also available on the Society's web page.

Events: *Achieve well-attended festivals, conventions and other events that meet the musical, social and fraternal needs of a wide range of Barbershoppers and enrich their experiences.*

- The Rocky Mountain district held a successful Aspen Barbershop Celebration over Memorial Day weekend, and Dixie district's North Carolina Harmony Brigade weekend and Sunshine's Labor Day Jamboree continue to be fine musical and social events. Unfortunately, more than half of our districts have yet to begin holding non-convention festivals in support of the above goal.

Finance and Administration: *Provide effective and efficient administrative and fiscal processes that meet the Society's organizational, unit and member needs.*

- Our operating budget for 1999 assumes an income of \$5,667,863, and costs of \$2,166,083 for wages and benefits for our 48 employees plus operating expenses of \$3,517,164, yielding a direct operating loss of \$15,384. Over eighty percent of our income is derived from three main sources: Member dues (30 percent); Conventions and Schools (24 percent); and Merchandise and Music (27 percent)
- A further increase in annual member dues from \$59 to at least \$65 will be required next year if we are to maintain a contingency fund large enough to fund five months of operations, as required.

Revenue Enhancement: *Provide additional revenue sources that result in improved members' services, benefits and pride, and an affordable hobby.*

- We should exceed our goal of generating \$1,400,000 of non-dues income this year (\$850,000 from merchandise, \$200,000 from rental, credit cards and other income, and \$350,000 from investments).

Governance and Operational Management: *Be an efficient and effective governance structure that achieves the Society's vision through empowerment and accountability of leadership and management at all levels.*

- We realized another year of improvement in communications between chapter, district, staff and Society leadership. The new COTS structure, a revamped Leadership Forum, greater use of e-mail and internet technology and an improved district, committee and staff reporting process have all contributed to better communications.

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All registrations received prior to June 1, 2000 will be mailed. Those received after that date may be picked up at the convention registration area beginning Monday, July 3, 2000. Mailings will be made during the month of May 2000.

Full registrations purchased during the convention week are \$110 for adults and \$55 for juniors (under age 12).

Make checks payable to SPEBSQSA. When you receive confirmation, please keep it as your receipt.

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CHORUS DIRECTOR—SPEBSQSA

Hawaii Calls! The Aloha Chapter is accepting applications for an experienced, knowledgeable, energetic director to lead our 80-man Sounds of Aloha Chorus. If you inspire others with enthusiasm for barbershop singing, consider joining us in Honolulu for wonderful sunshine, beaches, surf, and natural beauty every day of the year. We have a skilled music team with a certified singing judge, several registered quartets, and an annual program loaded with high-quality events. We have placed as high as 5th in Far Western district competition and are especially excited to have appeared in the 1999 World Harmony Jamboree, SPEBSQSA International Convention in Anaheim, Calif. If you believe you are the person we are looking for, contact Steven Hokanson, The Sounds of Aloha Chorus, P.O. Box 1723, Aiea, HI 96701, voice: (808) 591-1300, fax: (808) 521-4647, email: Shokanson@CompuServe.com.

The Harmony Kings of greater Seattle, WA, is searching for an exciting, enthusiastic director for an 85-member chorus. We have a great facility, and offer Competitive salary. Reply to: fergie@evg.org

CHORUS DIRECTOR—SWEET ADELINES

Stockport Liberty Belles, Sweet Adelines International 1998 UK chorus champion, seeks a music director. Well-established, dynamic, 65-member (and growing) ladies barbershop harmony chorus seeks an enthusiastic, motivated and positive director; must be able to maintain high standards of performance. We are hard-working and fun-loving! All we need is you and your established music skills to take us to the next award-winning level. Strong music team and administration in place. The faint-hearted need not apply! Contact Sue Hill, phone 0161 427 1385; email murrayah@yahoo.co.uk.

CHORUS DIRECTOR—HARMONY, INC.

Are we looking for you? The Pride of Niagara, from Harmony Inc., is a 50-member women's barbershop chorus, looking for a director. We consistently rank top 10 in our organization. We are a two-time Area 3 medallist, and the 1994/95 international chorus champion. We require an enthusiastic individual to direct us in contest and local performances. Applicants must be musically educated, comfortable facing the audience and participating in the performance. Patience, flexibility and enthusiasm are a definite asset. Previous barbershop experience is preferred. All interested applicants should contact: Linda Cranford, 8 Ventura Drive, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7H5; (905) 641-1577; fax: (905) 641-0003; email: cranvid@netcom.ca.

REUNIONS

The Sons of the Severn of Anne Arundel County, Md., will celebrate our 50th anniversary on November 13, 1999. We will be hosting The Gas House Gang, 1993 international quartet champion, and the Singing Capital Chorus, 1954 international chorus champion. If you are a former member, we would like to have you participate in this important event. Please contact Orville P. Henschel, (410) 761-3715 (H); (800) 586-1818 (B); fax (410) 766-9958.



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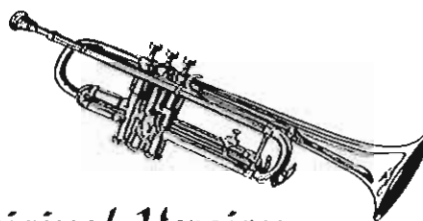
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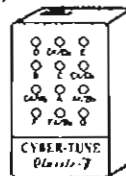
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THE TAG

Joe Liles, Tagmaster

"Gone Are The Memories"—but not this tag

In the summer of 1962, the Four Renegades had just won a third-place medal in Kansas City. I was singing lead at the time, and reflecting on all that led up to receiving the medal, I felt that those specific memories could never be reproduced, regardless of what the future might bring.



Playing by ear, I sat at the piano one day and tried to recapture the feelings and emotions that the quartet felt during convention week. Thus, "Gone Are The Memories" was created. A songless tag, a pure tag, but with specific meaning to us. I taught it to the quartet who in turn "rolled it out" to whomever would listen.

Through the years, some of my more learned barbershop brothers have made changes to the original tag, which was originally sung in E_b. By taking the final chords to a split tonic



in the key of C was a better bet, especially for the tenor, and having the tenor and bari doing a "cross". Try it in its original form, you might like it. A pure tag with a lot of meaning.

JOE SULLIVAN

If you can find a fearless tenor, try pitching the traditional version up to E_b. You might discover even more joy.

JOE LILES



Gone Are The Memories

Joe Sullivan, 1962 original version

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Gone are the mem - 'ries of all those gold - en years that have gone by.

Gone Are The Memories

Joe Sullivan, 1962 traditional version.

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Gone are the mem - 'ries of all those gold-en days that have gone by.

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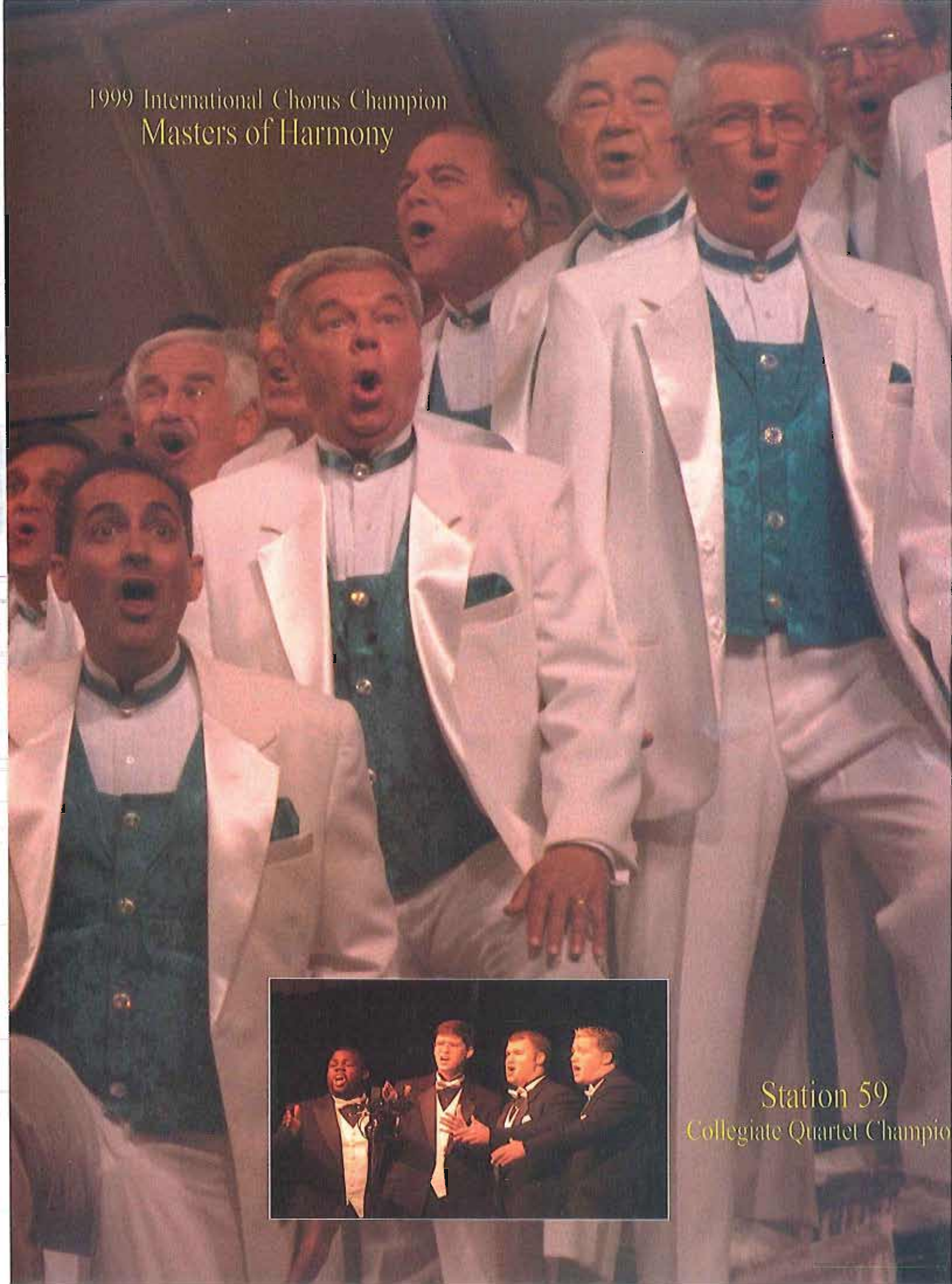
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