

THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP QUARTET SOCIETY



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THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

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Ed Watson

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Lorin May

33 Quartet competitors
Miller Photography

46 Chorus competitors
Miller Photography

54 Collegiate competitors
Miller Photography



Indy Convention issue

On the Cover:
Vocal Spectrum

Quartet photo by Miller Photography
Vocal Spectrum logo and type treatment by Martin Grandahl
Cover design by Lorin May
Photo this page: Indiana War Memorial by Lorin May
Back cover: photos by Miller Photography

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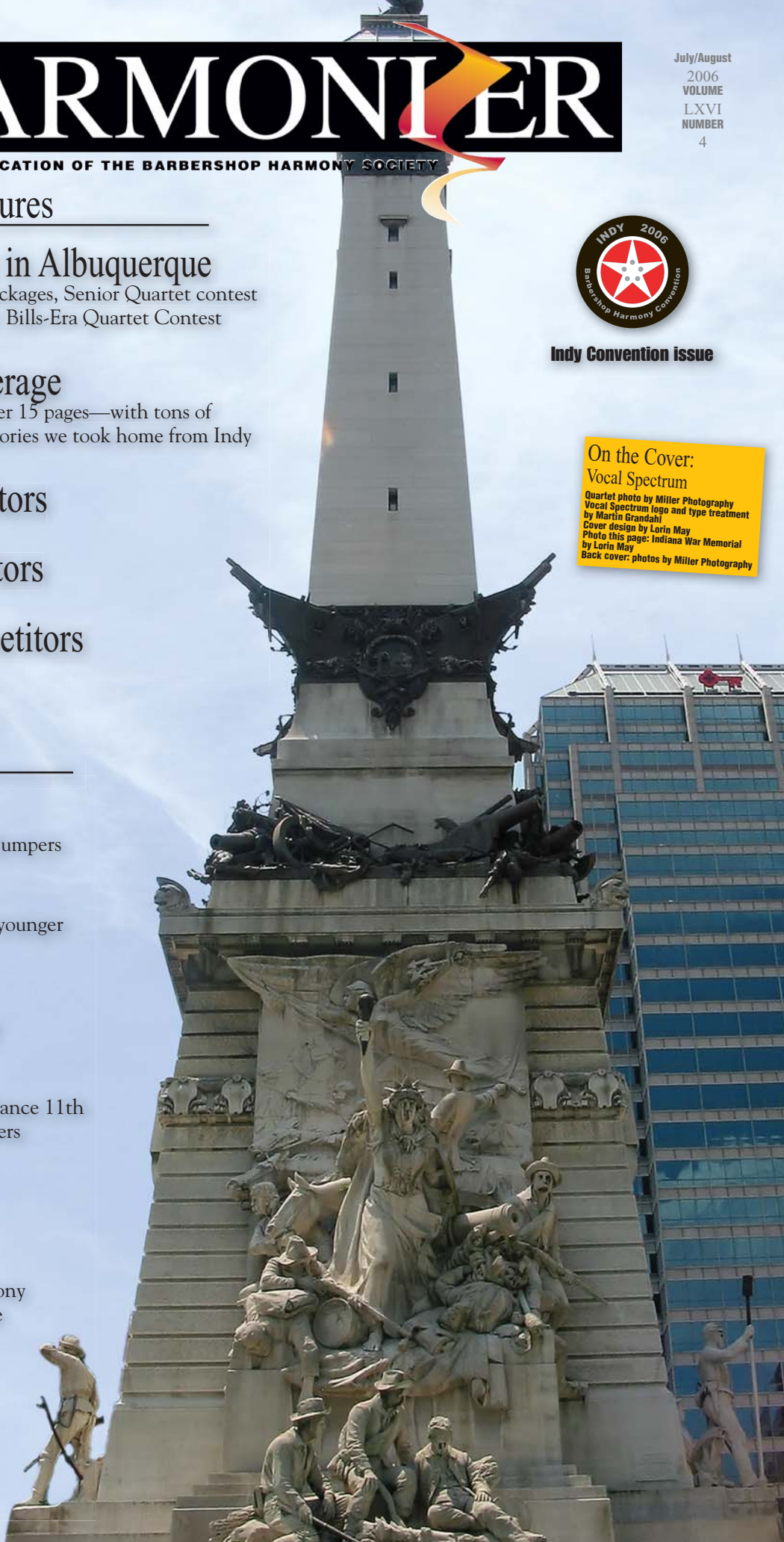
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THE TAG

Two winners, from Peter Benson, Lloyd Steinkamp



Are you having fun? If not, make some

Fun is one of our Society's core values, and you'll agree that without fun it would be very difficult to justify our existence. This is such an elementary truth that we are sometimes inclined to forget it. Though many of us call barbershopping a "way of life," for most it is still a hobby. Webster defines hobby as "an activity or interest pursued outside of one's regular work and engaged in primarily for pleasure."

The great majority of our members attend a weekly chapter meeting, and whether those 800+ gatherings each week are generally satisfying and fun is a critical factor in membership growth and retention. We really need to be enjoying the activity to the fullest, and to ask ourselves if we're taking advantage of every opportunity to do so. Most chapter (and district, and Society) leaders are trying hard to make it fun for everyone, but that has to happen at the chapter level, and the leaders can't do it without your help.

Simply experiencing our special style of singing—blending our voices with others to harmonize familiar melodies in a homophonic way ("ear candy!")—is a kick-start to the fun, and should continue to be the primary contributor. But it mustn't stop there. Allow me to suggest a few more specific questions each of us might ask ourselves:

- Have I shared my thoughts with chapter leaders and other members on increasing the fun at our weekly meetings?
- Have I been willing to consider the thoughts of others?
- Have I volunteered to assist in some special way (an ongoing responsibility that I will enjoy) to enhance the fun of others?
- Have I encouraged, by participation, a variety of chapter activities?
- Have I participated in and supported, to the extent possible, the chapter's community service and convention activities?

Let's not forget that (1) Ours is a participation sport and requires initiative on the part of every member for best results. (2) Fun itself is rarely spoon-fed—it requires some effort on the part of those who seek it. (3) Some work can be fun, but fun is not always work. (4) Variety is the spice of life. (5) Fun is contagious—if you are really having fun, most of those around you are going to climb on the bandwagon!

Now then—Aesop and the brothers Grimm had

nothing on me—I have a fable for you, and hope you like it!

The Gully Jumpers

Once upon a time, many moons ago in a far away land, a friendly group of apes got together and were marveling at the number of ditches that crisscrossed their territory. They agreed that it was great fun to jump gullies and decided to organize a Gully Jumpers Association that would gather periodically to jump gullies, teach others how to do it better, hold gully-jumping contests, and preserve the art of gully jumping for future generations.

This was indeed the most fun some of them had ever had. There was something very special about jumping over a gully that no other experience provided. They were impressed by how high and far some of their friends could jump, the fun and fellowship of doing it together, and how satisfying it was to improve their own gully jumping.

Then one day a chimpanzee from a nearby forest showed them how to swing across a gully on a vine. This new twist on the activity became the rage, and most everyone appreciated the variety it provided. Not long after that, a wandering gorilla showed them a catapult he had devised by bending saplings, which would easily hurl a gully jumper over just about any ditch in the land. Again, many applauded the new interest and variety in their gully-crossing efforts.

Some time later, a couple members of the Gully Jumpers Association were talking, and one said: "Isn't it wonderful how far we've come since we first organized?!" And the other replied: "Well, most of the jumpers are having fun, have certainly improved in many ways, and that's exciting ... but we're vine swinging and catapulting more and more, and jumping less and less. I like the new ways of crossing a gully, and I admire those who swing and catapult well, but it seems to me that a necessary part of our 'special thing' has always been the jumping." And the first ape said: ***"Yeah, we call ourselves jumpers but often spend more time swinging and catapulting than we do jumping. I miss the jumping when it isn't there, and sometimes I worry that we'll forget how to jump, or even worse, that somewhere down the road none of us will jump any more."*** ■



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Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

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After the International Convention in Denver

ALASKA MILLENNIUM MAGIC RETURN CRUISE

July 8 - 15, 2007

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ITINERARY 7-nights 8-days

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Cruise Glacier Bay & visit Juneau,

Sitka, Ketchikan, Alaska,

Victoria, British Columbia

Cruise from

\$1,429

per person, dbl/occ



☆☆☆☆☆☆

The Barbershop Chorus of America
VIP Tour to China

Oct. 18 - Nov. 3, 2007

Chorus Director: Kenny Hatton



17-days, 15-nights with
a 5-night Yangtze River Cruise

\$3,149 per person, dbl/occ All inclu-
sive tour from San Francisco

CARIBBEAN CRUISE

APRIL 15 - 22, 2007

Sailing from Galveston
on the Carnival Conquest

Chorus Director: Jim DeBusman

Cruise from

\$749

per person,
dbl/occ

Western Caribbean

Visit Montego Bay,

Jamaica, Grand Cayman,

Cayman Islands &

Cozumel, Mexico



The Barbershop Chorus of America
**Russian Waterways
Cruise**

May 19 - June 2, 2007

Chorus Directors: Brian & Holly Beck

Moscow

to

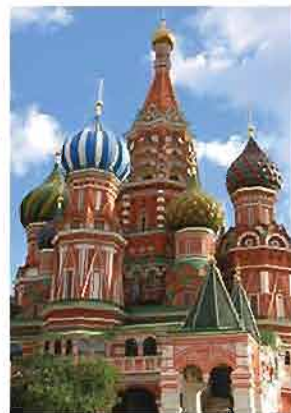
St. Petersburg
Cruise

Explore & expe-
rience Russia
the easy way
by traveling
the waterways

14-night cruise
from

\$2,925

per person,
dbl/occ



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The earlier we're hooked, the better

Intergenerational friendships

At Harmony University this year, I struck up a friendship with a young man who is studying to become a secondary school math teacher. It occurred to me that as he enters the career field I have called my own for 32 years, his life will probably be very different from mine because he has been exposed to our hobby at a young age. He has experienced "The Ring" and the great fellowship that barbershop singing brings before he has the family and job commitments that kept me from being able to attend the chapter meetings I was invited to back in the '70s. I did not get another invitation until a chapter was being formed in Rensselaer in 1997. I attended one meeting and I was hooked. Hearing that harmony envelop me was all it took.

How wonderful it would be if all young men could get "The Ring" before the necessities of family and career so fill their lives that there is time for nothing else. They would find ways to fit all these things together, as opposed to looking at singing as an unnecessary complication to an already hectic schedule. Let us all try to find ways to encourage high school and college students to attend a meeting. And once we get them there we must thrill them with the "Joy of Barbershop." I think if all young men were at least exposed to the hobby at this age we could sow the seeds of an ever growing Society.

BEN GEESA
Fair Oaks, Ind.

Harmonizer praise

I'm certain you hear this from all over, but let me add the observation of a long-time member. Although *The Harmonizer* has evolved over time, and even carried a new overall presentation for a while now, I'm just now getting to the point where I can safely say, "The entire magazine has become superb." The choice of articles is both tremendously positive, yet apropos. The content is magnificently personal, wholesome, apropos, and exciting, without a smidgen of triteness. And, finally, it never dwells repeatedly on one aspect of our hobby, as most issues did years ago (viz, contest, contest, c&j, c&j, rules, rules, blah, blah, blah). Congratulations!

LANCE HEILMANN
Canton, Ohio

Cheers for Orlando

As I gaze through the May-June edition of *The Harmonizer*, I see a nostalgic history former Orlando chapter members and directors. Of the Mid-States Four, two were former Orlando chapter members, Forry Haynes, who is still a member, and Bob Mack. At least two of The Dapper Dans of Disney World of the mid-'80s were also members as were quartet gold medal holders Joe Connelly, Roger Ross and Don Barnick. Joe and Roger are also former Orlando Chapter Orange Blossom Chorus directors. Our chapter is very proud of these prestigious current and former members.

ROGER PAYNE (THE OTHER ONE)
Orlando, Fla.

Amen to Marty Mendro

I so enjoyed this article. The **Mid-States Four** sang on our shows several times. Now I must say—if [the current judging system] is what the young guys want, fine. They just won't enjoy what we old geezers did. When we left the five categories in judging—that was the start of a decline.

BOB PARK
Bloomington, Ill.

The most recent issue was, at least for me, one of the best. The graphic layout was super as was the editorial content. I read and re-read the Marty Mendro interview, and as a 45-year member of the Society, feel pretty much as he does as to the judging system. I think the powers that be are aware of the situation, and seems like Drayton's message was right on the money.

TOM WEST
Pinehurst, N.C.



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Joy: get more out of your hobby

Joy: It means far more than dish washing liquid. That one word is closely identified with a good feeling, an emotional reaction so intense it often spills out as laughter, tears, or both. Joy is associated with little children, because they are so unguarded and naïve; things that please them often overwhelm them, and they succumb to the pleasure of pure joy.

As we grow up, it becomes harder and harder to feel joy, at least for most of us. We hear lectures (like this one) about lost innocence and the good old days. For example, during the holiday season, people often say that we don't feel the joy of the season because it is too commercialized, too much about money and not enough about love. I contend that such a lack of joy is more often an internal issue, not external. How many times have you wished you could skip the holidays because they require so much work? "No lights on the house, no tree, in fact, I'm just gonna stay in bed and pretty soon it'll all be over." Then whatever half-hearted effort you end up giving just doesn't seem to make the grade. Not much joy in that, is there?

But that's just what happens if you start off on a potentially joyful activity with a joyless attitude. Left uncorrected, you could start into a downward spiral that is difficult to escape. Lack of effort leads to lack of joy, which leads to lack of effort which leads to ...

It doesn't have to be like that. Ever. Especially for members of the Barbershop Harmony Society. You see, as members of this special fraternity of men, we have many opportunities to experience joy, when we embark with a joyful attitude. Here are three:



(1) Take four men, assign them each a part, and sing a song. Try matching some vowels and smoothing out the breathing, and then enjoy!

(2) Let your staff and volunteers set up hotels, theaters, convention centers and ballrooms, match all sorts of people with all sorts of desires, then come and listen, participate, and enjoy! This is brilliant because you can still feel the joy, but skip a lot of the work! Many thousands of people did that this year in Indianapolis, and did they ever have a good time. We are still collating the information from the questionnaires distributed, but the convention this year was

by all standards a big hit with attendees. I understand some of you couldn't make it, and I understand some of you are saving up for Denver. Whatever the reason, you missed a joyful time. There were raves about the competition, the schedule, the classes, and every aspect of the great city of Indianapolis. I know that you think I'm just cheerleading, but, for example, when after 29 choruses competed in *one day* (two sessions), and just when we all thought we could barely take any more, up went the curtain on the best and *funniest* contest package I've ever seen, and those who know me know I don't give that away lightly. The **Greendale** chapter did such a wonderful job the entire audience was filled with ... joy!

(3) Come and partake of Harmony University, again a chance for you to let your staff do all the work and just come and enjoy. More than 500 did just that, and I saw joy everywhere I looked as people enjoyed a week of fun, harmony, and the search for greater knowledge of singing, directing, and quartetting. All week long, people stopped me to say how much fun they were having. Ask someone who went, it was joy, joy, joy.

So, if life is what *you* make it, then why not make it a joy? Don't let yourself withdraw from life and become the old crank you never wanted to be. I encourage you to come, partake, enjoy your hobby. It'll bring you a laugh and a tear, and such joy!

• • •

Post script: Those who watched me emcee the Saturday night contest in Indianapolis saw me make a very large boo-boo, one that I feel I must rectify. During the awarding of medals, I introduced the fourth-place medal presenters as **Four Voices**. While they undoubtedly have four great voices, the guys who were there were actually the **Interstate Rivals**, our 1987 quartet champions. After I read their names, I turned and saw Kipp Buckner doing what I now realize was trying to help me correct the mistake; but, as they say, my lights were on but no one was home! My mistake went uncorrected on stage. So, to the Interstate Rivals, thank you for being presenters, and I'm sorry I got it wrong. I hope people know you're still available for shows. If they didn't before, they do now.

Fire keeps “Bones” home, still wins 11th

Chorus members pitch in to save the landscaping and his 31-year win streak

Long-time **Vocal Majority** member Mickey Bonesio (aka “Bones”) and wife, Shell, were on their way to the airport bound for Indy on July 4th and received a call that their house was on fire. His mother and friend were in the house and heard the “explosion” and were able to escape unharmed. The fire department was there in five minutes but the fire spread through the attic too fast and the house was a total loss. They don’t know the cause but suspect lightening. Mickey had hoped to make it to Indy anyway to compete for his 11th gold medal, but it just wasn’t possible.

Yet his chorus won, and during the VM Victory Party on July 28 a special presentation was made. Bones was presented his gold medal for Indy along with a standing ovation. The presentation was significant. There are only seven men with 11 gold medals. Mickey continues his string—’75, ’79, ’82, ’85, ’88, ’91, ’94, ’97, ’00, ’03 and now ’06. The others 7/11 men are: David Barrow, Brian Belcher, Jim Martin, Quinn Hunter, Greg Clancy and Jim Clancy.

Several VM members had gathered the night before to relocate his landscaping before the house was leveled. In typical barbershop fashion, the event turned into a party with beer and brats accompanying the hard labor. The house? You couldn’t miss it—it was the one with the open air floor plan. The Address? Oh yes, that would be number 7 Fireside Drive.

— Grady Kerr



Mickey keeps his spirits up at the shell of his former home.

Get legal downloads of Indy performances on iTunes

Listen to the full historic battle between **Vocal Spectrum** and **Max Q** as often as you want. Purchase any of 216 tracks from Indy at iTunes. Naked Voice Records, headed by members of 1994 champion **Jokers Wild**, has put the previous three conventions on iTunes as well, with others coming. In the future, the collections will also be available for purchase via Napster, MusicMatch, Sony, BurnLounge and many other sites. Go to *iTunes.com* and type “barbershop contest” in the search function of the music store to purchase tracks for 99 cents each. They can be played on your computer with free iTunes software or on Apple iPod portable music players only.



Be sure to fill out your convention survey. Attendees considered July’s international convention in Indy a great success, and the Society wants to make future conventions even better. Two surveys, one specific to Indy attendees and another for all others, record

preferences for convention activities, the perceived value of each activity and the overall convention experience. Please go to www.barbershop.org/surveys to participate. Responses so far for the following question: How would you rate the value for money spent for

the International Convention in Indianapolis?

Not applicable	1%
Poor, unacceptable	2%
Somewhat acceptable	5%
Acceptable	28%
Very acceptable	36%
Outstanding	28%

Society headquarters welcomes new staff membership leaders

Charlie Davenport and Drew Ellis will lead the membership and member services department as director and assistant director, respectively. They will work with staff and volunteers to develop effective member recruiting methods; to execute annual membership drives and workshops; to foster better chapter and district communications; and to guide chapters through chartering and incorporation. Charlie began his duties Sept. 1. Drew will join him in January 2007.

Charlie has more than 25 years of experience in professional recruiting, including three years as head of his own recruiting firm and 18 years in systems administration. He currently chairs the BHS members services committee and played



Charlie Davenport



Drew Ellis

and a teacher. He is currently a member of the Nashville, Tenn., chapter. He is working towards a master of arts degree in Christian ministry from Harding University Graduate School of Religion and holds a bachelor of arts in speech communications and business from Stephen F. Austin State University.

an integral role in one of its most successful membership campaigns. He also serves as an instructor in the organization's chapter operations education program, specializing in member services. Charlie earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Juniata College.

Drew has been a marketing and personnel specialist

Society News Briefs

New Society officers for 2007.

The following officers were elected to the Barbershop Harmony Society Board of Directors at its meeting July 4, in Indianapolis. All terms of office begin January 1, 2007.

- Society President (1 year)—Noah Funderburg
- Society Executive Vice President (1 year)—Bill Biffle
- Society Treasurer (re-elected)—Robert Guiggey

Board members

- At Large (3 years) - Alan Lamson
- CAR/JAD (3 years) - Edward "Skipp" Kropp
- LOL/PIO (3 years) - Jim Lee
- EVG/FWD (3 years) - Lou Benedict
- Harmony Foundation Trustees (4 years) - Robert Brutsmann, Susan Sauls

Purchase your Denver registration now. The price goes up in January, so don't delay. Early registrants get the best seats and the chance at the best hotels as well. View maps of Denver's Pepsi Center at www.barbershop.org/ID_061316, then buy

your tickets at www.barbershop.org/denver.

Pre-order 2006 Chorus and Quartet CDs and DVDs now. Production is underway on the 2006 contest recordings, with delivery expected in time for Christmas. Place your pre-order now online at www.harmonymarketplace.com. Track list is still to be determined, but expect a few bonuses.

Share in planning the new Society headquarters. Planning is underway for a public exhibition area in the Society's new Nashville headquarters. Preliminary plans call for visitors to be able to experience the thrill of ringing a four-part harmony chord, view recorded performances of championship quartets and choruses, and make contact with chapter representatives near their homes. The Society has hired veteran museum planners LaPaglia & Associates of Murfreesboro, Tenn. to help with the effort. Working title for the project is the Nashville Harmony Experience.

Got an idea that you'd like

the planners to consider? Send an email to NHEIdeas@barbershop.org. The message will reach LaPaglia & Associates and members of the Society Board's Public Facilities Subcommittee (Peter Feeney, Dick Girvin, Bob Morrissey, Roger Ross, and Rick Spencer).

Hi-Fidelity gets called back again. Comedian Carson Daly came back for a third helping of **Hi-Fidelity** as they lent a hand on NBC's "Last Call with Carson Daly." According to baritone Gregg Bernhard, the quartet is getting a larger and larger comedy role on the show with each taping.

PROBE bulletin editors of the year

1. *Chordsmen Chronicle*, R.F. "Bob" Miller, Mansfield, Ohio
2. *Tumble-Words*, Owen Herndon, Colby, Ks.
3. *Harmonotes*, Todd Anderson, Kansas City, Mo.
4. *Suburban By Lines*, John Conrad, St. Louis Suburban
5. *Off the Risers*, Ted McAlpine, Barrie, Ont.

—more news on page 9

CONVENTIONS

2007

DENVER

July 1-8

barbershop.org/denver

2008

NASHVILLE

June 29-July 6

2009

ANAHEIM

June 28-July 5

2010

PHILADELPHIA

June 28-July 5

2011

KANSAS CITY

July 3-10

2012

PORTLAND

July 1-8

2013

TORONTO

June 30-July 7

2014

MINNEAPOLIS

June 29-July 6

2016

NASHVILLE

July 3-10

MIDWINTER

www.barbershop.org/midwinter

2007

ALBUQUERQUE

Jan. 21-28



Barbershoppers are helping Men in Black in a battle of the bands

Thanks in part to votes from fellow Barbershoppers, **Men in Black** quartet made it through the first phase of competition for NBC's *StarTomorrow* talent contest, and there should be more chances for barber-shop fans to vote.

Men in Black, 2005

MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest winner and 2006 international semifinalist, is competing against mostly rock bands and soloists for a recording deal with Grammy-winning producer and song writer David Foster and his recording company.

As of press time, the next phase of competition was scheduled to start in the first part of September. Watch www.barbershop.org for more news on how the quartet is doing or go to the competition web site at www.startomorrow.com.

NBC's first full online national series features 20 different band performances each week for the first



part of the 16-week series, taped in Los Angeles. Like a sports playoff format, bands are paired against each other in single elimination rounds. The competition has not only showcased the quartet's singing ability, but tenor Tony Nasto's arranging skills.

"We were supposed to sing two original/public domain songs and two songs off of their cover list," said Tony. "We did 'Cross The Mason Dixon Line' and 'Sugarcane Jubilee' for our two 'originals' and 'My Girl' and 'Daydream Believer.' Because we had all of seven days to choose, arrange, learn, and perfect two brand new songs, I had to arrange them," Tony said.

Finalists will compete in the second half of the series. The format will include covers of pop favorites and original material, but as the series goes deeper into the competition, the focus will shift more to original songs.

Four summer interns gave Society headquarters a younger, fresher face

So much work, so little time. Little jobs pile up at Harmony Hall; who better to undertake the responsibility than young adults looking to hone their job and business skills?

Hired to help with the Indy convention, Caki Watson inputted surveys, inventoried the Marketplace, updated news on barbershop.org and copied music. Whew, what a job!

"I like knowing that I accomplished something of use."

Caki confesses that keeping up with membership needs was by far her most difficult task; however, the amiable attitudes and occasional member story counteracted any qualms.

Brother to Caki, Randy Watson resided in a central cubicle entering handwritten arrangements as Finale scores.

"It took me about two hours to enter an arrangement as well as fix



From left, clockwise: Corrie Watson, Sean McMaster, Randy Watson, and Caki Watson.

capitalization and punctuation of lyrics. I did have one medley that was 23 pages long, and it took me a whole week to compile."

Randy understands the Society's goal for a younger face and regularly

partakes in quartet singing in college.

Working on the Indy webcast, Corrie Watson teamed with her brother Randy. Corrie specialized in designing segment-separating titles and the lower-thirds (the name labels on the bottom of the screen).

"Getting things under my belt to begin with caused difficulty, but working behind the scenes was worth it."

Additionally dealing with the web, Sean McMaster archived past issues of *The Harmonizer* onto barbershop.org by creating PDFs, entering meta-data to increase searchability, and sticky-noting issues to understand topic hierarchy. Sean's goal was to research the user-friendliness of the search engines, website and Harmony Marketplace.

Students by year, interns by summer, these four maintained their productivity through the heat and cold.

Society News Briefs

Lou Perry Harmony University scholarship winners.

Two arrangers earned a free trip to Harmony University. Bill Eberius, of Bel Air, Md., for a medley of "Row, Row, Row" and "Paddlin' Madeline Home." Paul Ludwig, of Tucson, Ariz., for "Lullaby Land." Dennis Driscoll (chair), Mel Knight, and Burt Szabo judged them the winners based on song selection (Does the song lend itself to arranging in the barbershop style?) and the caliber of the arrangements.

Show America your talent.

American Barbershoppers have been abuzz about "America's Got Talent," a popular televised NBC talent contest from the producers of "American Idol." AGT is accepting video submissions for next season's shows. Interested quartets should visit www.nbc.com/Americas_Got_Talent/apply/index.shtml. Also check the site for auditions in cities near you. If your quartet au-

ditions, please contact Society Media Relations Manager Julie Siepler at prmedia@barbershop.org.

Making it easier for the public. The Southwestern District has made it easier for out-of-district Barbershoppers and non-Society members to register for conventions and other district activities through the "Friends of the SWD" designation. "Friends" do not enjoy all the privileges of district membership, but the program removes blockades to attendance at district events. The registration aspect also makes it easy for the district to maintain contact with out-of-district Barbershoppers and non-member patrons. The program will initially be free for the first year. To determine whether your chapter or district may want to set up a similar model, check out www.swd.org/showArticle.aspx?AID=106 or contact Philip Maxfield at pmx@sport.rr.com.

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2007 INTERNATIONAL MIDWINTER CONVENTION



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International Gold Medalist



Max Q,
Silver Medalist



OC Times, Third-Place
Bronze Medalist

2007 INTERNATIONAL MIDWINTER CONVENTION

JANUARY 21 - 28, 2007

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: HYATT REGENCY

VENUE: KIVA AUDITORIUM

2007 promises to be a banner year for the Barbershop Harmony Society and you can help launch it in true four-part harmony style. At this year's Midwinter Convention, history and harmony go hand-in-hand. You'll experience the best from the past, plus encounter some new things to broaden your barbershop horizons. We'll look back at what has made barbershop music so popular and we'll look ahead to see where Barbershoppers are taking the music in the future. Here's what's in store for you.

BUFFALO BILLS-ERA QUARTET CONTEST



Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest. Sing the old songs the way they did fifty years ago.

Throughout 2007, we'll be celebrating the longevity of barbershop music as evidenced by the 50th Anniversary of *The Music Man*. As a tribute to this endearing showcase for barbershop music, the Society will host the

Experience the five-category judging system, and see how your quartet might have done against our most famous champs! All details regarding the contest, entry form and rules are listed on www.barbershop.org/musicman. Not only will first, second and third place winners get bragging rights, but they'll get their share of \$6,000 in prize money.

PERFORMANCES BY BARBERSHOP'S BEST

The 2006 international medal-winning quartets raised the bar at the summer convention. You'll get to hear these masters of four-part harmony, plus other top-notch Barbershoppers, perform at their best before their peers. The AISQC Show and the Show of Champions feature an array of medal-winning Barbershoppers along with the newly crowned Seniors Quartet champion and the Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest winners.

TIME FOR TAGS

Plenty of time will be set aside between workshops, seminars, shows and speakers for getting together with fellow singers. Impromptu tag singing, woodshedding and storytelling will help you get the most out of your time with Barbershoppers from around the world.



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Bronze Medalist**



**Flipside, International
Bronze Medalist**

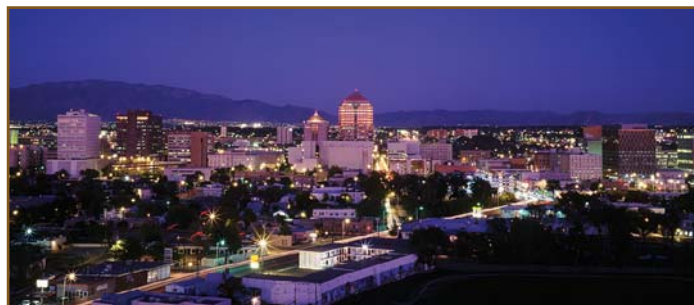


**Antique Gold, Seniors
Quartet Champion**

2007 MIDWINTER CONVENTION SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Time	Event
Sunday, January 21	Registration
Monday through Thursday	Workshops, Seminars, Speakers, Classes
Friday, January 26—1:00 p.m.	Seniors Quartet Contest The Seniors Quartet Competition will feature quartets composed of singers at least 55 years old with a cumulative total of at least 240 years. Experience combined with energy gives these senior quartets an appealing edge and makes for great listening. Past winners like Antique Gold , Downstate Express , The Barons , Chicago Shuffle and Harmony have shown how the skilled blending of voices in four-part harmony can create a Gold Medal winner.
Friday, January 26—7:30 p.m.	AISQC Show Featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AISQC Chorus performing a <i>Music Man</i> medley • Flipside, 2006 International Bronze Medalists • Antique Gold, 2006 Seniors Quartet Champion • 2007 Seniors Quartet Champion • Metropolis, 2006 International Bronze Medalists • “You Raise Me Up” performed by AISQC Chorus with Antique Gold, Vocal Spectrum and soloist Tim Waurwick.
Saturday, January 27—1:00 p.m.	Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest Finals
Saturday, January 27—7:30 p.m.	Show of Champions featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winners of the Buffalo Bills-Era Contest • The Medalist Chorus • OC Times, 2006 International Bronze Medalist Quartet • Duke City Chorus from Albuquerque • Max Q, 2006 International Silver Medalist Quartet • Vocal Spectrum, 2006 International Gold Medalist Quartet

FINDING HARMONY IN HISTORIC ALBUQUERQUE



Albuquerque is a wonderful place to blend our voices. As one of the most culturally diverse and historically significant cities in the United States, it has blending down to an art. The city is influenced by cultures from around the world. This has created an eclectic array of restaurants, art galleries, museums, festivals and attractions.



The headquarters hotel for the Midwinter Convention is the Hyatt Regency in the heart of downtown and adjacent to the convention center where the KIVA Auditorium is located. The Hyatt is the only four diamond hotel among Albuquerque's hotels. The recently renovated second floor will provide state-of-the art meeting rooms for all classes.

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2007 Midwinter Convention - Albuquerque

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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. Your registration packet may be picked up at the convention registration area. Registrations may be transferred to another person, but they are NOT refundable. No phone orders, please. ☐ Check here if any physical needs require special accommodation for you to fully participate in the convention; our staff will contact you to make arrangements.

Quantity	Type	Rate	Total
	Ticket Price	\$79.75	
	(includes handling \$4.75 each)		
	(includes all contests and shows)		
	Total (US Funds)		



Choose the right ensemble clothing

Your audiences' ears take cues from their eyes. The way you look greatly affects audience reactions, your effectiveness and, yes, even the perceived sound of your group. Your look must complement your sound and your story. Our songs tend to convey very personal and singular messages: "I want a girl," "Let **me** call you sweetheart," etc. When there is unity, a listener will forget that four or 120 men are singing. Attire is a vital aspect of this unity. Here are some key principles:

Performance psychology. Attire can affect the performer as much as it affects the audience. As a performer changes from his street clothes to his uniform or costume, he also changes from Bill Smith, insurance salesman, to a performer in the **Hometown Harmonizers**. If Bill knows he looks good, he will perform better. If uncomfortable with the group's look, it will likewise affect his performance.

Dress for personality. Consider how attire will help you establish personality, such as classy, mischievous, sassy, rural, laughable, modern or dapper. A quartet that sings primarily old, standard barbershop songs, for example, can enhance the presentation by wearing turn-of-the-century period costumes. A chorus theme package (e.g. circus, Irish, Western) would certainly want to enhance the effect with appropriate costumes. Care must be taken that attire does not lock the unit into certain songs or create confusion. Imagine a chorus dressed as clowns, who open with three circus songs and then sing "Broadway Rose." Don't laugh, I have seen it happen!

To tux or not to tux.

Barbershop songs typically speak of simple, unsophisticated messages and are a throw-back to days of old. To many audience members, this type of music may seem incongruous with the "high society" image that tuxedos conjure, while tuxedos are perfectly harmonious to other viewers. The personality "fit" may be the deciding factor. While every barbershop quartet does not have to wear red-striped vests and straw hats, neither do they have to don tuxedos to be "right."

Don't be common. Does your attire make you look like performers or just like four (or 40) guys

off the street? To the audience's eyes, business suits or slacks and golf shirts are common street clothes. If you are trying for a "just off the street" effect that is directly tied to your repertoire, such a common look might be okay. Otherwise, casual clothing can distract from captivating the listener or "looking like you mean business."

Cost. Spend no more than you can afford. Comparatively inexpensive outfits can look terrific. Conversely, I have seen forgettable or even gaudy uniforms that cost the group their next three years' show profits. New or struggling choruses may wish to purchase used uniforms from another chapter or from a formal rental store.

Flatter the individual. Use attire to take advantage of the group's physical attributes or play down less flattering characteristics. Consider all the members of the unit, not just one handsome guy who looks good in anything. Make sure the clothes fit. Sleeves that are too short, a vest straining at the buttons, high-water or drooping pant legs can become an overwhelming distraction.

Match your accessories. Ties, hats, arm garters, cuff links, stick-pins, lapel flowers, etc. can add a crowning touch to a uniform or costume. But they must match the rest of the attire through color, style, fit and period. I have seen slacks and vest from a three-piece business suit (no coat) worn with arm garters—a distracting period mismatch. Wearing a tuxedo without the jacket—particularly with a backless vest—will look "wrong" to many audience members because formal wear is designed to be just that: formal, not casual. Wear the jacket. Shoes should completely

match the attire (wing tips with tuxedos are a distraction) and be polished or cleaned. Take off any watches or jewelry that are not a planned part of the uniform or costume. Simple wedding bands or medical alert bracelets are the only exception.

Add variety. Can a hat be added for a number? Can a coat be removed to show off a stagy vest underneath? Can a vest be reversed between numbers to give a completely different look? Use your imagination on how different pieces can be layered or subtracted to offer different, complementary looks. Other add-ons can include accessories, a second



Songs & Stuff (1978). John Rambo (T), Gary Stamm (Ba), Jeff Dolan (L) Joe Palmquist (Bs)

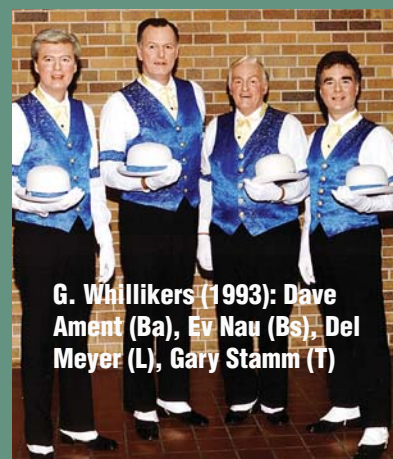


Gary Stamm
Presentation judge,
Harmony University faculty
gmstamm@yahoo.com



The infamous red and white stripe jacket that became pink. Good Measures (1972): Chuck Bieger (Bs), Ed Douglass (Ba), Ron Davis (L), Gary Stamm (T)

Costumes with Good Measures (1975): Gary Stamm (Ba), Ron Davis (L), Gary Nohren (T), Chuck Bieger (Bs)



G. Whillikers (1993): Dave Ament (Ba), Ev Nau (Bs), Del Meyer (L), Gary Stamm (T)

shirt of a different color or even a second pair of slacks with a different color or pattern.

Fabric considerations

- Pick a fabric for all seasons and all conditions if possible. Wools and some double knits can be too warm in the summer or under stage lighting.
- Watch how colors and patterns work together. A uniform can become “busy” before you know it. Do not trust only one pair of eyes. Have several people with different tastes look at the ensemble before a commitment is made.
- Think stage lighting and distance. Will a stripe or pattern that looks great 10 feet away look the same 100 feet away? A red and white, narrow-striped sport coat may look like a pink sport coat for 90% of the audience. Colored stage lights might make some colors appear off or muddy. And many a group has nearly sequined an audience to death.

Uniform Maintenance. Here are some “housekeeping” tips to consider:

- (chorus) Clothiers usually do not carry the same styles for a long period of time. Buy more than you need right now to account for growth, wear and attrition. Buy extra fabric for custom attire, as it may become unavailable in the future. Also, insist on material from the same dye lot, because colors between lots can vary slightly.
- (chorus or quartet) Get all the uniforms to age alike. Have them cleaned at the same time, the same number of times, by the same cleaner. Cleaning processes may alter fabrics or colors slightly.
- (chorus or quartet) Use garment bags to protect uniforms or costumes. Even the thin plastic bags from the cleaner are better than nothing.
- (chorus) Consider having someone store and transport all the uniforms and accessories for the performers. This assures that everything arrives at the performance site and makes it easier to gather the uniforms for a mass cleaning or inspection. On the down side, storage and transportation will be a lot of work for someone.
- (chorus and quartet) If everyone brings his own uniform to the performance, provide a standard checklist that includes all accessories and some helpful reminders (such as “shine your shoes”).
- (quartet) Buy an extra shirt for each guy. They are the first item to be soiled, smudged with make-up and laden with perspiration. It’s a real bonus for back-to-back performances.
- (chorus and quartet) Be sure ensemble members know that the uniform is for performing only, and not an extra pair of pants or a nice sports coat to wear out to dinner. They should never eat or drink (except for water) in their costume or uniform.

Final wisdom. Performers should only be seen in their attire on stage or perhaps in the lobby *after* the show. It diminishes your role as a performer if you mingle with the audience during intermission (unless it is a planned extension of the performance) or sit in the audience in order to see the other performers.

Consider purchasing casual *non-performance* travel clothing (e.g. knit shirts and washable slacks). Such clothing is inexpensive and comfortable but still gives the group an ensemble look and enhances the pride of belonging to a team. It is also a good public relations tool.

Always perform in your “Class A” outfits. Many groups supplement their performance outfit with a more casual outfit (it might even be the above travel clothing) that they affectionately call the “Class B” outfit. As they discuss an upcoming unpaid performance at the nursing home or PTA, someone suggests, “Let’s wear the Class Bs. It’s just for the nursing home.” (Or “It’s a freebie,” or some other brilliant reasoning).

Well, let me tell you something, folks. Every time I perform, I want to have “performer” written all over me and let the audience know I mean business. What are you saving the “Class A’s” for? If you have to buy a new uniform every three years instead of every four, so what? Your black, full dress tuxedo may be inappropriate on the dusty fairgrounds in 105 degree heat, but except for such extreme situations, let’s look and feel our best when we go out to perform. ■

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First Music Man event of 2007 kicks off with a Buffalo Bills-



"May I have your attention please? Attention please! I can deal with this trouble friends with the wave of my hand, this very hand. Please observe me if you will, I'm Professor Harold Hill, and I'm here to organize a River City Boy's Band."

I remember those words from Meredith Willson's play *The Music Man* whenever I want to catch someone's attention. In this case, that someone is you. Now listen up, friend; I want to sell you some elixir, that is, I want to provide you with a panacea for the doldrums of the dark and dreary midwinter. Come to Albuquerque, where the nights are clear and bright, where the days are warm and sweet, and where the chords will ring off the saguaro and adobe more clearly than a button hook in the well water.

One price buys it all this year. Why for just one low price, you get the Senior Quartet Contest, the Association of International Senior Quartet Champions show (AISQC), the Buffalo Bills-Era Contest, and the Show of Champions. That's a fact, one ticket for all events! Why, Great Honk! That's a load of entertainment.

Now, I know you're familiar with the Seniors Quartet Contest,

where the Society's finest "experienced" singers compete head to head under the current Society rules for a gold medal. And of course, on the Friday and Saturday shows you will see the TOP FIVE quartets in the WORLD, no I'm not kiddin' ya, THE finest quartets

all kinds of fuss and ringin' chords like nobody can.

Buffalo Bills-Era Contest

So, what's this Buffalo Bills-Era Contest, then? What's that about? Well, get ready, friends, for a new way to have an old blast. Your Society has left no stone unturned to assemble a double panel of judges from the past, judges in the five categories of Harmony Accuracy, Balance and Blend, Voice Expression, Arrangement, and Stage Presence. In addition, there will be two timers and a Panel Secretary. We will equip each and every one of these judges with a genuine number two pencil and they will set about to determine, from a field of ten finalist quartets, the finest performers of songs and styles from the 1940s and 1950s. It will take you back to a different day, a different time, and a different way. Come one, come all, to the greatest show on earth!

You may be wondering about the contest rules and how your quartet may enter this momentous event. You need not be a registered quartet to enter, but each contestant must be a member of the Society in good standing and have a registration to Midwinter. A mere \$20.00 will

Rough schedule, Midwinter convention

January 21-28, 2007, Albuquerque

- Tours, Monday - Thursday
 - Wednesday - Golf outing
- Friday morning: Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest preliminaries
- Friday afternoon: Seniors Quartet Contest
- Friday night: Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions show, including two of top 5 quartets from Indy
- Saturday afternoon: Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest
- Saturday night: Show of Champions. Three of top five quartets from Indy
- Shows in the KIVA Auditorium of the Albuquerque Convention Center, across the street from the headquarters Hyatt Regency Hotel
- Order tickets online at www.barbershop.org/ID_061551



Ed Watson
Society
executive
director



cover cost of mailing the competitors a CD of potential songs and list of worthy arrangements for this contest, as well as other information that could help you win! To start the process, just go to the Barbershop Harmony Society website and look for the Buffalo Bills-Era entry button. If you don't see it, use the search function and search under

Buffalo Bills-Era Contest. There you will find the contest entry form and instructions to send it in with the low, low fee of \$20.00. The contest will be held Saturday afternoon, 27th of January, so it's not too soon to get started!

It's all about fun, excitement and singing that YOU can do. The Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association,

(www.bqpa.com) a recently recognized subsidiary of the Barbershop Harmony Society, will be sponsoring this contest and rumor has it that they have set the top prizes at \$3,000.00 for 1st, \$2,000.00 for 2nd, and \$1,000.00 for 3rd. So come to Midwinter to sing, to perform, to compete, or just to listen. It's the land of enchantment!

Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest

- Get the entry form at www.barbershop.org/musicman
- \$20 per quartet entry fee into this contest; \$3,000 goes to first place quartet, \$2,000 to second place quartet, and \$1,000 to third place quartet
- Quartets do not need to be registered with the Society, but all members must be Society members with full Midwinter Convention registrations
- All registered quartets are also welcome, including current international competitors and past champions at international, seniors and collegiate levels
- Quartets will be judged on five categories: Harmony/

Accuracy, Balance and Blend, Voice Expression, Arrangement and Stage Presence. Contemporary songs and performance styles will score poorly under these standards.

- Quartets will sing two different, *legal* songs in each session (four total for finalists). Total singing must be no shorter than four minutes and no longer than six minutes, or penalties will result.
- Quartets may enter as late as the date of the contest, but earlier entrants will receive an advance CD of possible music and other information to help them succeed.

Basic differences in approach and judging

Barbershop sounds and styles between 1948 and 1965 were very different from today. Quartets of that era had very diverse trademark styles and were known for creating, often by ear, clever variations of standard songs and arrangements. To get creative juices flowing, competing quartets will receive two CDs that contain a diverse cross-section of great songs of that era as performed by the **Buffalo Bills**, **Mid-States Four**, the **Orphans**, **Nighthawks**, **Pittsburghers**, the **Four Teens**, **Confederates**, the **Four Chorders**, **The Pitchikers**, the **Clef Dwellers**, the **Suntones**, and the **Four Renegades**.

For an analysis of major differences between modern barbershop and that of prior decades, see www.bqpa.com.

or read Val Hicks' March, 2003 *Harmonizer* article at www.barbershop.org/id_071070.

All performances will be judged on the following five categories, each worth 100 points per judge per song:

Harmony Accuracy – How often is the quartet “on” or “off” the chord?

Balance and Blend – Includes vowel matching and correct chord balance. Vowel production varied widely in this era, but all approaches differed significantly from today's norms. Listen to the demos for guidance and emulate a sound you like.

Voice expression – Judges look for artful “shading and phrasing” and frown upon excessive technique. Songs were delivered in a generally straightforward manner without undue embellishment, rhythmic alterations, or over-emotion. (Many modern arrangements would fail this standard for straying too far from the composer's original intent.)

Arrangement – Was the song written for barbershop harmony (early 20th Century style melodies that suggest “woodshedable” ear harmonies), or was the song “shoe-horned” into the style? As performed, do chord voicings make sense? Is the arrangement within the quartet's ability? Jack Baird has compiled 965 old songs appropriate for barbershop, with audio, at <http://jackbaird.spebsqsa.org>. (Some of these songs are politically inappropriate, however.) Try your hand at woodshedding or arranging your own versions.

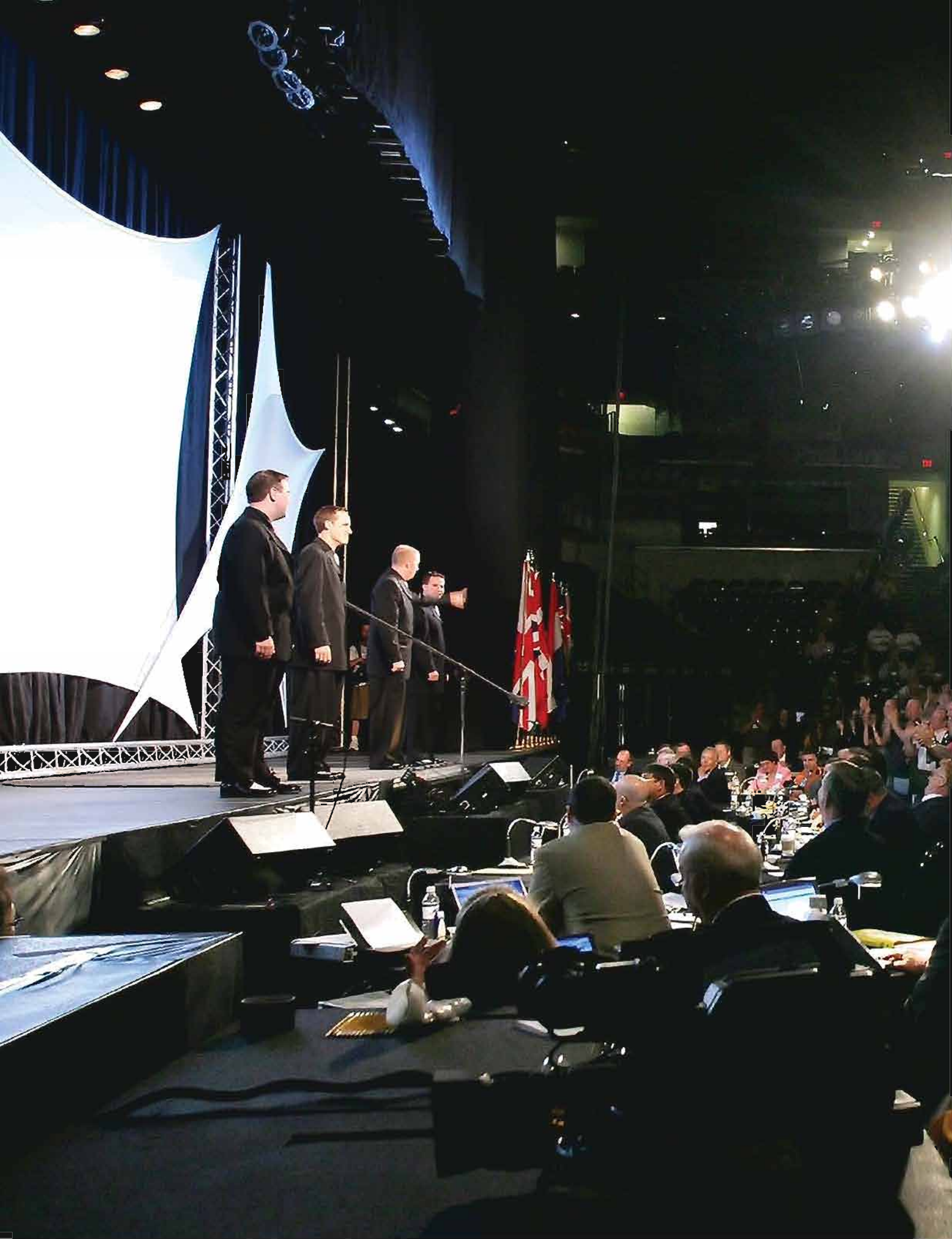
Stage Presence – Good entrances, good bows, and good exits. It is neither required nor encouraged to act out each word or phrase, but gestures should be well executed. Uniforms should be sharp and appropriate. As much as possible, recreate the look of 50 years ago; suits, ties, and sport coats or theme costumes were standard at the time. Avoid more modern dress in an effort to recreate the era.



The Confederates



The Pittsburghers



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**Text and layout by Lorin May,
Editor of *The Harmonizer***

Photos on pages 20-32 by Lorin May (LM) and
Miller Photography (MP) except where noted

Photos this page:

Vocal Spectrum and audience by Lorin May

Vocal Majority and Max Q by Miller Photography

Westminster Chorus by Robert Davidson, Natural Image Photography



Awww... Alessandra Peterson couldn't be in Indy to see her daddy perform with the **Saltaires**, so she and mom caught the closest available facsimile at home. The webcast is as close as you can get to being at the convention without being there, but in the end it's something like watching a video of someone else's vacation. You're watching many of the same sights and sounds for sure, but you're not having nearly as fun as the people who experienced it first hand.

For those who weren't with us, this Indy recap will be something like reading a Disneyland brochure. A lot of the best convention memories occur far away from a stage, and neither camera nor words can capture them, like holding your first child, the buzz of locking a seventh chord, or the electricity generated when you place thousands of die-hard fans together with some of the best performers in the world.

If you were there, please enjoy your partial scrapbook of some highlights. If you weren't there, how come?

Song of the contest —three times

"SOUTH RAMPART STREET PARADE"

A couple of other songs saw more play, but none got the crowd as pumped as these performances by **Vocal Spectrum**, the **Westminster Chorus**, and **Hot Air Buffoons** ("South Rampart Street Buffet.") The goose bump-inducing Westminster version gets the nod for the longest of the three fierce standing Os. Even Burt Szabo was seen on his feet after that performance, which, to understate the issue, probably doesn't happen every time Burt hears this David Wright uptune in a contest setting.



Least likely dance craze

METROPOLIS

They debuted some new dance steps that will not soon be seen in a club near you. It's a good thing these perennial medalists are awesome singers and comedians, because in a dancing contest, their convoluted choreography would've sent judges reaching for their pitchforks.



Best kept secret

TUESDAY NIGHTS

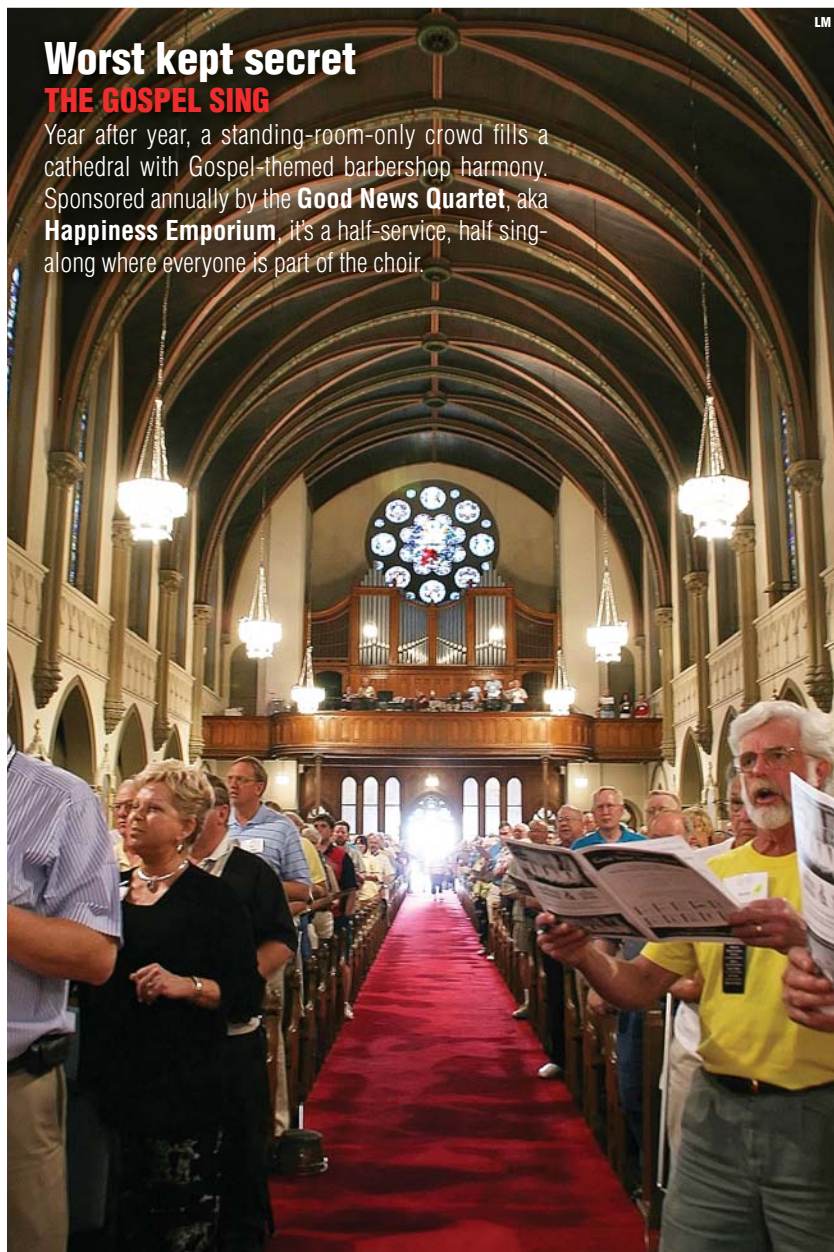
Barbershoppers who book Wednesday morning flights miss more than the first quartet quarterfinals session. They're also missing the awesome "Harmony Foundation Presents ..." show (above, with the incredible **Alley Cats**) and the Larry Ager fundraiser, sponsored by the Salem Senate-aires (here **Realtime** gets a huge O). The former: world-class Barbershoppers share the stage with world-class a cappella acts. The latter: the world's longest and best afterglow, where one top group after another puts its A-list non-contest material up for view. Get the word out that we've been saving some of the best for *first*.



Worst kept secret

THE GOSPEL SING

Year after year, a standing-room-only crowd fills a cathedral with Gospel-themed barbershop harmony. Sponsored annually by the **Good News Quartet**, aka **Happiness Emporium**, it's a half-service, half sing-along where everyone is part of the choir.



LM

Best quote

BILL GAITHER

The gospel music legend, upon becoming an honorary lifetime member: "God loves all kinds of music, but he ain't tone deaf ... I know that the Bible talks about trumpets announcing the second coming. But just in case they don't, I wouldn't be surprised to hear it announced by a four-part male quartet. And if it's barbershop, it will be in tune!"



LM

Best future

JORDAN LITZ

Close your eyes when **Late Show** performs and at times you'd swear the great voice at lead was Joe Connelly. Nope, it's Jordan Litz (in red), featured in the September 2002 issue of *The Harmonizer* (page 28, if you've got it) for an amazing Sing with the Champs tenor performance alongside his idol ... Joe Connelly. Now 18 and just out of high school, his international debut landed him in the semifinals. Joe reportedly declared that Jordan was "ow-some!"



MP

Non-champion of the decade

NORTHERN LIGHTS CHORUS

They're still making magic in Toronto, and you could tell it with your eyes closed. Still the Society's cleanest- and biggest-sounding chorus per capita, The Northern Lights Chorus



ROBERT DAVIDSON,
NATURAL IMAGE PHOTO

mixed professional grade hocus pocus with humor for another high-concept set on the heels of last year's mime set. Despite posting some of their highest scores ever, a third place finish ended their international silver streak at five.



Biggest trendsetters

OC TIMES

They may have a look, style and sound all their own, but OC Times can seemingly stay no more than a year ahead of the pack in terms of repertoire. Two of their 2005 debut charts, "Love Me" and "Good Luck Charm," were among the most repeated songs on stage this year. Some of the third place medalist's infectious Indy charts had enough sticking power to inspire more of the sincerest form of flattery in 2007.



Best Sing with the Champs performance

TAYLOR WILSON & ACOUSTIX

Not just the singing, but the sentiment. For most performers, this event is a rare chance to sing with one's musical heroes. But Taylor already has built-in opportunities to sing with Acoustix, for whom his dad, Todd (left), sings tenor. The crowd gave Taylor an oversize ovation for his performance, but it wasn't because they now expect him to win gold like his father and grandfather (Harlan Wilson, **Suntones**), although that's not out of the question. Imagine being a teen in a hobby where the family spotlight sets expectations so high so soon. To choose this group as his heroes was a public embrace of the hobby and the family legacy that must have made dad and grandpa proud.



Best sportsmanship

WESTMINSTER CHORUS & THE VOCAL MAJORITY

The VM guys were seen giving the younger guys unconditional encouragement throughout the week, without regard for the ever-present threat to their dynasty. The younger guys appreciated the VM legacy and were genuinely thrilled with their silver medals, without a sign of entitlement or sour grapes. It was a living lesson in brotherhood and perspective from 197 guys who would never boo a winner. (ahem)



Best comeback

MAX Q

They may have received another silver, but this year ended nothing like the previous two years for Max Q, even if the week started out on a familiar note. Their opening set in Indy, like most of their sets in '04 and '05, received a standard sitting O; when these mega-pedigree singers perform, this audience literally won't stand for a merely great performance—they'll settle for nothing less than to be blown away. In the second two rounds, the quartet obliged. Their four new songs featured riotous self-deprecating humor and a pathos and tooth-rattling intensity that brought the crowd screaming to its feet. Both the songs and applause had the smell of "champion," and indeed Max Q outscored everyone else after the first round. They posted a score that would have easily won any of the previous five contests, but ended up on the short side of a virtual tie. Yet, they finally won the full measure of what had previously been in short supply—the audience's hearts.



INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE UMBRELLA AWARDS. My Three Sons

looked, sounded and acted the part of old-time Barbershoppers in a great set that was the week's most squarely "under the umbrella" performance. On the other hand, some say you needed a good set of binoculars to see the umbrella from where **3 Men & A Melody**



were singing the Jackson Five Motown classic "A B C" during the quarterfinals. Considering the score it yielded, that song may not make it back to Denver.

Best peek into the future

THE MBNA AMERICA COLLEGIATE BARBERSHOP QUARTET CONTEST

Not only do you see a lot of up-and-comers (two international champions so far) but plenty of "already theres." Six of this year's competitors posted scores big enough for the big show, and two intact 2005 quartets—**Men in Black** and **Men-So Forte**—sang on the big stage in 2006. The international contest now more collegiate alumni than **Hot Air Buffoons** has Krispy Kreme coupons; suffice it to say that five of the top 10 and each of the top three quartets featured former collegiate contest singers.



Best chorus debut

ATLANTA VOCAL PROJECT

You won't pick up any stray yellow feathers if you follow around Clay Hine's new chorus, a smaller, tightly voiced ensemble after the mold of **The Northern Lights** or **The Alliance**. The high energy, incredibly clean-sounding chorus made an auspicious 10th place debut in an unusually top-heavy chorus contest.

Most ubiquitous groups

WESTMINSTER CHORUS, THE BUZZ, JAPANESE BARBERSHOPPERS

You couldn't go far without running into a performance by the **Westminster Chorus**, here performing at the Harmony Foundation's President's Council reception. If you heard them, you know why they were everywhere.

Also, we just checked our notes, and Sweet Adelines champs **The Buzz** did *not* compete in the quartet contest in Indy. It's about the only stage where they weren't headliners. They more than lived up to their name.



But some real credit goes to members of various chapters in the Society of Barbershop Quartet Singing in Japan, who filled performance gigs all over Indy, including a media gig. Beyond that, it seemed like wherever you turned, there were individual Japanese Barbershoppers fearlessly nailing difficult ditties with the quartets that made them famous. It wasn't always the same Japanese guys, either. That's one country where they've been running down the batteries on their iPods.



Most wooden performance

TOM WILKIE / SATURDAY EVENING POST

We mean that as a compliment. Saturday Evening Post appeared ready to hit the skids without Brian Beck, but they scrounged up a great bass in Tom Wilkie of 1977 champion **Most Happy Fellows** (wearing the crown). Moving little more than his lips for the round, he added new dimension to the term "comedic straight man" as the quartet once again laid the entertainment on thick in their sixth straight trip to the finals. They must have found one heckuva tailor to fit Tom into "Yoda's" old outfits for the later rounds.



Best revived tradition, part 2

TAGGING LATE INTO THE NIGHT

Indy marked the sudden return of a wonderful large-scale cacophony filling lobbies throughout the downtown area. Friday and Saturday nights, you almost had to elbow your way through lobbies at 3 and 4 in the morning. A Friday evening chorus competition had put everyone in a singing mood that night, and with no early Saturday wakeup calls, the additional chorus competitors likely provided the critical mass to keep the party going.



Best non-barbershop debut

VOCA

VoCA, or Voices of California, is mostly composed of gold medal Barbershoppers. They sound every bit the part as they breeze through some incredible jazz pieces, many arranged by Barbershoppers.



Best use of street corners

JUST ABOUT EVERYONE

... and sidewalks, and malls. So it wasn't just after hours where we heard more impromptu singing. The trend could be observed during all hours, indoors and out. Here **Voices Only** draws a crowd at the mall. Interesting side note: James Estes and Rick Spencer (right side) joined Mike O'Neill of **Vantage Point** as Society music staffers appearing on the international quartet stage.



Most indelible performance

MIDWEST VOCAL EXPRESS

Yeah, we're giving them their own page—they earned it. Thirty years from now, Barbershoppers will probably remember 2006 simply as “the year with the fish.” Watch the DVD, if you must, to catch the sights and lyrics of this insanely imaginative set. But there's no way it will begin to convey the electricity that was shared by thousands of Barbershoppers who were caught off guard at the end of the second chorus contest. More than 20 minutes of belly laughs began with an enormous pre-singing standing O and ended long after the curtain came down and trapped two perplexed turtles outside the “aquarium,” where their slow-mo comedy continued backstage and into the arena via an improvised “turtle cam.” An hour after the competition ended, people were still standing in line to have their pictures taken with the fish.

Other choruses should start praying now that the MVE draws last again in Denver. Mike Lietke (Turtle #1) and the rest of his performance team are rumored to be considering an even wilder set for Denver, as if such a thing were possible. (Chorus member Harry Hanson should hope it involves less foam work.) At least until then, we have seen the high water mark for creativity on the international stage.





Most refreshing dip

FLIPSIDE

They finally heard their name in the medal callouts, years after they'd first expected it. During the '02 contest in Portland, they'd made an off-hand promise among friends to jump in the fountain if they won a medal. After several years in the finals but not the medals, they got wet in Indy.



Best individual debut

NICK AIUTO

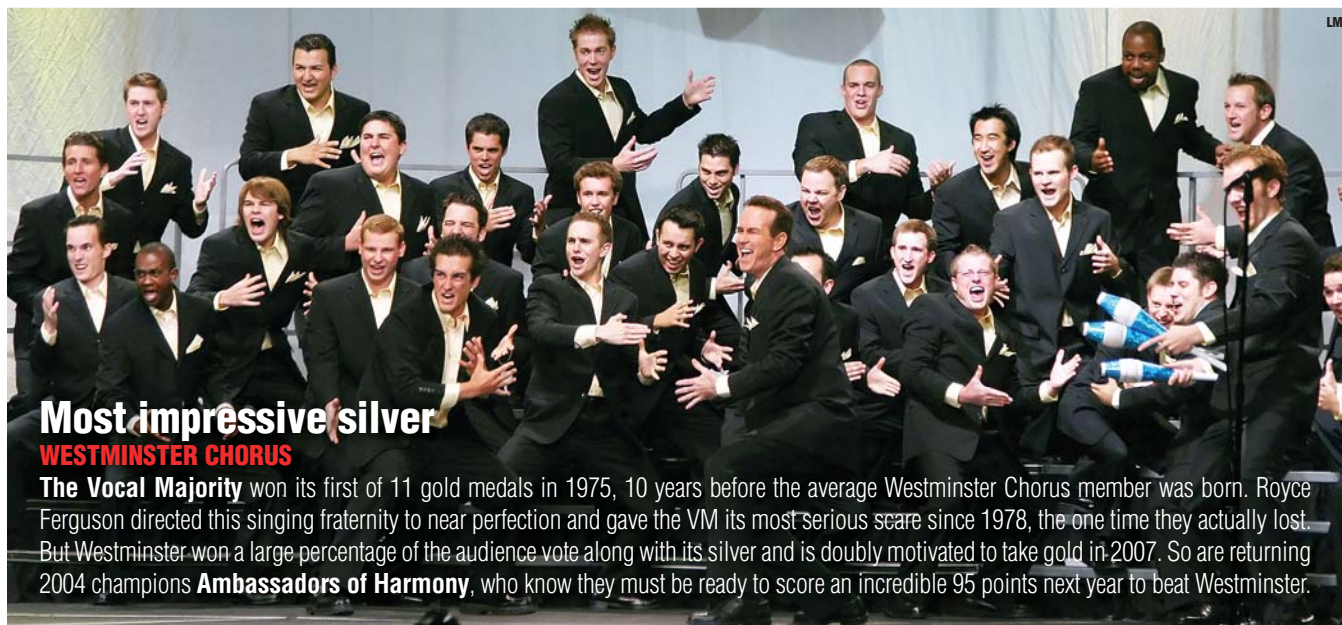
Four Aces finished the quarterfinals tied for 19th place, then lapped the field to finish at 12th. It happened largely on the shoulders of lead Nick (second from right), who's beautiful, passionate singing lifted the quartet to the sixth highest score of the semifinals and lifted the audience to its feet. You'd have never known it was his first time on the international stage.



Best miss

IGNITION

They barely missed making the semifinals—lucky for them. As **Freestyle** drove home the point in years past, there are no point penalties during the mic test. Ignition displayed its comedic chops during and between two songs in a mini show set that should result in a few chapter show invitations.



Most impressive silver

WESTMINSTER CHORUS

The Vocal Majority won its first of 11 gold medals in 1975, 10 years before the average Westminster Chorus member was born. Royce Ferguson directed this singing fraternity to near perfection and gave the VM its most serious scare since 1978, the one time they actually lost. But Westminster won a large percentage of the audience vote along with its silver and is doubly motivated to take gold in 2007. So are returning 2004 champions **Ambassadors of Harmony**, who know they must be ready to score an incredible 95 points next year to beat Westminster.



Worst corporate advertising

HOTSHOTS

They voiced old men who are forced to work as greeters to pay for their medications, and the whole audience appeared to love it. Then again, we probably weren't sitting near any Wal-Mart managers or HMO executives.

Best revived tradition, part 1

PURDY'S CORRAL

Hal Purdy is no longer with us, but his late, *late* night top-flight afterglow returned this year, with Hal's daughter Mary Jo as the hostess and the AIC footing the bill. The return was spearheaded by **Gotcha!** bass Jim Kline, and the AIC plans to continue Purdy's in Denver.



BEST THEME. Both **The New Tradition Chorus** and **Voices of America** had very different, entertaining takes on the musical *Oklahoma*. Here to the hope that we see this kind of creativity at next year's The Music Man-themed convention.



Best coattails

DAVID CALLAND

No disrespect to the other three, who did well in prior collegiate contests, but that Dave Calland (second from right) sure knows what to do with a melody. The former **Uptown Sound** lead is the "geezer" of **The Allies**, formed in March as no more than a basic chapter quartet for **The Alliance** chorus. They competed in international prelims for "stage experience" and then—please don't hate them for this—they qualified for Indy just after their fifth quartet rehearsal. They finished 13th-place in what was an international debut for all but David.



BEST "HEAD JEWELRY." For the first time ever, dozens of Sweet Adeline and Harmony, Inc. champions appeared with their male counterparts on the AIC's stage. Directed by Clay Hine and the legendary Renee Craig assembly of gold voices produced an entirely different category of overtones and allowed for tags that were almost as high as **Vocal Spectrum's**.



Yummiest performances

HOT AIR BUFFOONS

Offer a punch line about their waistlines and they'll shoot back a baker's dozen that are funnier than yours. The Buffoons are the competitive kings of comedy and are anything but size sensitive. Off-stage, they wear "I See Small People ..." T-shirts. They stroll into Steak 'N' Shake wearing the company's uniforms from that evening's set and then they order what they want and don't care if you look. And in Indy they reveled—nay, wallowed—in the notion that fat guys are jolly overeaters. If you counted one laugh for every pound carried on stage, you still might not reach the laugh total for their "South Rampart Street Buffet" parody alone. ("Do you see the beef? / Do you smell the meat?") To pull off that many jokes, each guy wrote his own full parody, then they packed all the best lines into perhaps the highest ever joke density within a single parody. Just what you'd expect from guys who love punch lines about "packing it in" and "density."



Toughest guy to sing with

JARED "POOKIE" CARLSON

You never know when the bald guy will go on an unscripted comedic tear—and neither, apparently, do the other guys in **FRED**. Not that anyone at the AIC show minded, but have you ever tried to sing and laugh at the same time? Score some extra points for the Pratfall Prince during this "Viva Fred Vegas" set.



Best preparation

VOCAL SPECTRUM

The second collegiate champion to win the big prize, Vocal Spectrum is also the least experienced champion in decades—but only if you're counting total experience on the international stage. These former college roommates at Lindenwood University may have crammed the quartet equivalent of decades into their three years together. When a song in the shower is often joined by three parts just outside the door, your challenge isn't finding rehearsal time, it's finding time to sleep after you've sung "just one more tag" for the umpteenth time night after night.

The results were self-evident: Six songs, six huge standing Os, and new benchmarks for "in tune" and "precision." And any quartet that can sing "I Wanna Be Like You" like they did—a week and a half after first picking up the music, no less—just doesn't seem to be in the same category as we mere mortals.



Longest pause

THE ALLIANCE

The time between the last note by the Union soldiers of The Alliance and the first sound of audience applause. Cheering and clapping were the last things on anyone's mind after this deeply moving depiction of the last moments of a wounded soldier's life. When the applause finally came, it was among the most emotional of the contest. The audience was similarly affected by the **Metropolitans'** modern, poignant "What More Can A Soldier Give." (A future article will recount the chapter's emotional off-stage back story behind the number.)



Best freebies, part 1

CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

The challenge hasn't been getting people to attend the enhanced schedule of seminars and workshops, it's been finding ball-rooms big enough. In addition to the master classes with **Realtime** and **Masters of Harmony**, there was a lot of tag singing with Jim "The Encyclopedia" Bagby, singing lessons with Jim "Guru" DeBusman, stage fright tips with Gary "Professor" Plaag, estate planning tips with Harmony Foundation, trivia with "Awesome" Joe Connelly and Patrick "The Brain" McAlexander, just to name a few.



Strangest misunderstanding

THE CONVENTION AUDIENCE

The Vocal Majority's spectacular uptune, "I'm Marching Along With Time," was choreographed to be an unmistakable message from director Jim Clancy. Perhaps due to some staged one-upmanship with between the father and son director and assistant, some audience members thought the number meant that Jim was turning over the baton to Greg. It was a strange misunderstanding, considering that both the blocking and lyrics repeatedly mocked the notion that Jim would hang 'em up anytime soon: "There'll be a change in music / A change in rhythm / A change in dancing / But I'll be right with 'em / Watch me and you will find / That I just won't be left behind."



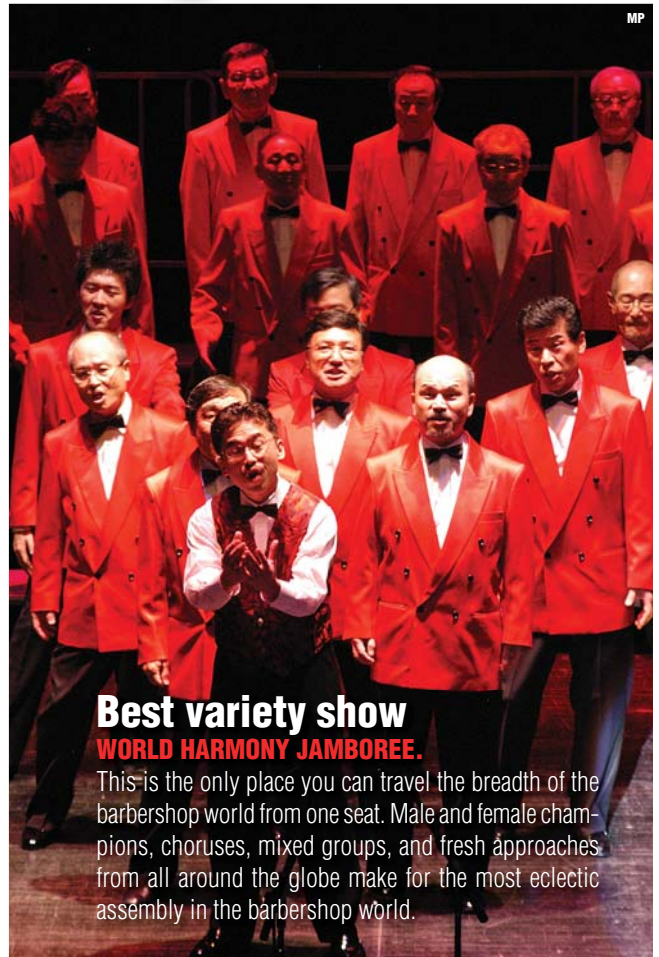


ROBERT DAVIDSON,
NATURAL IMAGE PHOTO

Biggest performance thrill

GRANDFATHER/FATHER/SON CHORUS

Sunshine District hall of famer Fred Breedon speaks for many others in this quote: "I have sung in four international competitions and attended more than 20 others. None of these things, or even all of them combined, comes close to the thrill and emotional peak I experienced singing in the Grandfather/Father/Son Chorus with my four sons, a grandson and a great-grandson—four generations! I was truly wasted emotionally by the time we finished singing. It was my all-time greatest barbershop thrill."



MP

Best variety show

WORLD HARMONY JAMBOREE.

This is the only place you can travel the breadth of the barbershop world from one seat. Male and female champions, choruses, mixed groups, and fresh approaches from all around the globe make for the most eclectic assembly in the barbershop world.



LM

Most anticipated movie

A BARBERSHOP DOCUMENTARY

Aengus James' crews seemed to always be off in the margins, with intimate access to top groups as they lived through emotional highs and lows never before caught on camera. Here, they capture the announcement of the six point margin (out of a possible 9,000!) between first and second place. Hopefully soon, the general public will get candid glimpse of our hobby in theaters across North America. Crews were in Indy and Salt Lake City and various points in between, capturing hundreds of hours of high energy scenes and quiet interviews with top groups and rank-and-file Barbershoppers. See future issues of *The Harmonizer* as information develops and as the presently untitled documentary is edited down to its final cut. Catch a sneak preview with a working title at americanharmonythemovie.com.

Most memorable moment in hindsight

THE BIG APPLE CHORUS AND ROGER PAYNE

Their Vegas number was hilarious, irreverent and packed with great visuals and witty parody—a sublimely fitting send-off for beloved arranger, judge and comedic tour de force Roger Payne. Only this time, Roger had not been at the comedic helm, as he battled an advanced brain tumor. (Director Joe Hunter wrote the comedy, Rick LaRosa of **FRED** coached it, and a former Rockette choreographed it.) In a characteristic display of heart earlier in the week, Roger had willed his way onto the stage to enjoy a few last laughs with Reveille during the quartet quarterfinals. For the chorus, he managed only a speaking cameo at the end of the set, which had been inserted only that morning at Joe Hunter's insistence. Only Roger's closest friends—or in other words, probably many hundreds in attendance—comprehended that they were likely seeing Roger's final moments on the international stage. For them, the occasion was equally *funny* and *poignant*, words that also happen to sum up Roger. Ironically, his final words on stage were, "What happens in Indy stays in Indy." Not so, in this case. A few week's later, Roger's last appearance loomed much larger in the collective barbershop memory. He passed away on August 29.



Best freebies, part 2

UNSCHEDULED HOURS

Walk down one hall, stand agape at a **Vocal Majority** rehearsal. Stop by the exhibitor area and run into a long-lost friend—and leave giddy with a stack of CDs you'll have to explain to your wife later. Down another hall, nearly every living quartet champion is chatting en masse before an AIC chorus rehearsal. An impulse stop by the AHSOW and Harmony Brigade rooms means you end up going to dinner much later, but you don't care because you left with contact info for those great songs you just sang. Chat with friends tagging outside a restaurant. Run into Jim Bagby at 2 a.m. in a crowded lobby and spend a half hour singing .00001 percent of his internal tag catalog with two passers-by, nevermore to be strangers. (Photo: Author, Jim Bagby, Chuck May, Ron Rich.)



If scheduled events are the bricks of the convention, this is the mortar. Guess which types of experiences stick with you longer?

Coollest déjà vu

DENTON FAMILY LEGACY

Christopher Denton, age 13, stood next to his father, Chuck (left), an airline pilot, as he won his first gold medal singing for Jim Clancy and the VM in Indy. Thirty-one years earlier, his father Chuck stood next to his own father, Jim, an airline pilot, as they won their first gold medal singing for Jim Clancy and the VM in Indy. Christopher is the first third-generation gold medalist member of the VM. Any guess what Christopher and any future sons might be doing 30 years from now?





Strangest coincidence

**MUSICAL ISLAND BOYS (MIB),
MEN IN BLACK (MIB)**

Who can say why the last two winners of the MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest have the same initials? Facing the strongest collegiate field ever (five others scored more than 76.5) The **Musical Island Boys** of New Zealand scored 80.8 to win it. Not a last-to-first place fairy tale quartet like 2005 champion Men In Black, this MIB has always been a contender. After third place finishes in the prior two contests, their mature and exciting sound made them the first off-shore group to win an international Society competition.

Best swan song

MASTERS OF HARMONY

It's hard to forget **Realtime** and "Loch Lomond," but for sheer force of effort, the nod goes to the Masters. Arranger David Wright outdid himself again with this epic "Go Down Moses" arrangement, and the Masters delivered sounds, sights, drama and stage lighting that would make a Broadway producer stand and cheer. Unforgettable.



Best Sunday secret

DITCHFIELD FAMILY SINGERS

Maybe they have slightly less name recognition than last year's Mormon Tabernacle Choir, but the Ditchfield Family Singers do know how to put on a rousing Sunday morning service. Indy saw why they draw huge Sunday morning crowds at Sunshine District conventions.

Best question

"IS THIS A FAMILY REUNION?"

That's what a night shift cleaning lady on break asked the author while both stood in line at the Steak and Shake at 2:15 a.m., Saturday morning. She was making a valid assumption. In one area, **Westminster Chorus** members and their entourage were whooping it up after nearly winning the biggest show of their lives. Men from other generations were quietly woodshedding at their tables in another area, while other older and younger guys mixed frequently, shaking hands and sharing praise. Throughout the restaurant, there was an easy, effortless intimacy that you don't see often, our events being an exception.

So to answer the question, ma'am: Yes, this is a family reunion, and we hold one just like it every July. We also get to see some shows together, but we keep coming back because we share an important bond with friends scattered throughout the world. We relate to Buzz Haeger, who said, "I have way more friends than I deserve, and I have barbershop harmony to thank for that."

The next family reunion will be in Denver. Bring your Music Man gear and we'll see you in July. ■



1. Vocal Spectrum (CSD)

Timothy Waurick (T), Eric Dalbey (L), Chris Hallam (Bs), Jonny Moroni (Ba)
 Contact Jonny: jmoroni@vocalspectrum.com; h: (636) 386-2244;
 w: (314) 749-3753; www.vocalspectrum.com

All portraits by Miller Photography



2. Max Q (SWD)

Greg Clancy (T), Tony De Rosa (L), Jeff Oxley (Bs), Gary Lewis (Ba)
 Contact Greg: clancygreg@aol.com; h: (972) 874-8282; w: (972) 241-9993; www.maxquartet.com



3. OC Times (FWD)

Shawn York (T), Sean Devine (L), Cory Hunt (Bs), Pat Claypool (Ba)
 Contact Sean: octimesquartet@aol.com; h: (714) 271-4506; w: (714) 271-4506; www.octimesquartet.com



4. Metropolis (FWD)

James Sabina (T), Brian Philbin (Bs), Bob Hartley (L), Kelly Shepard (Ba)
 Contact Brian: Metropolis@harmonize.com; h: (310) 376-7524; w: (310) 376-7524; www.harmonize.com/metropolis



5. Flipside (EVG)

Paul Krenz (T), Kevin Stinson (Bs), Mike McCormic (L), Tim McCormic (Ba)
 Contact Kevin: kstin@onemain.com; h: (503) 658-5173
 w: (503) 702-2580; www.flipsideqet.com



6. Wheelhouse (MAD)

Brandon Brooks (T), Rich Gray, Jr. (L), Dan Van Wetering (Bs), Jeffrey Gray (Ba)

Contact Jeffrey: jeffgray@comcast.net; h: (302) 661-0562
www.wheelhousequartet.com



7. Saturday Evening Post (SWD)

Allen Gasper (L), Scott Delude (T), Tom Wilkie (Bs), Bobby Gray, Jr. (Ba)

Contact Bobby: sep@sepquartet.com; h/w: (719) 896-0084
www.sepquartet.com



8. State Line Grocery (DIX)

Mark Lamback (Ba), Drew McMillan (Bs), Tim Brooks (L), Dylan Oxford (T)

Contact Tim: Tbrooks@TJBSales.com; h: (770) 982-5392;
w: (770) 449-0999; www.statelinegrocery.com



9. Matrix (JAD)

Dale Fetick (T), Brian O'Dell (Bs), Jeff Wallace (L), Paul Gilman (Ba)

Contact Paul: pgilman@cinci.rr.com; h: (513) 923-9457; w: (513) 977-3908

www.harmonize.com/matrix



10. Storm Front (RMD)

Darin Drown (Ba), Sydney Libsack (Bs), James Clark (L), David Ellis (T)

Contact Sydney: Syd@stormfrontquartet.com; h: (720) 685-7874;
w: (720) 201-5193
www.stormfrontquartet.com



11. 12th Street Rag (CSD)

Mark Fortino (L), John Fortino (Ba), Barry Moore (Bs), Micah Jeppesen (T)

Contact Mark: markfortino@aol.com; h: (913) 780-3872;
w: (913) 234-2345
www.12thstreetrag.com



12. Four Aces (MAD)

Richard Lewellen (Ba), Scott Risley (Bs), Nick Aiuto (L), Ed Cazenias (T)
Contact Nick: Nick@aiu.to; h: (703) 421-1962
www.fouracesquartet.com



13. The Allies (JAD)

Casey Parsons (Ba), Jared Wolf (Bs), David Calland (L), Puck Ross (T)
Contact David: dcalland@fcsg.com; h: (614) 543-0379;
w: (614) 314-9101
www.thealliesquartet.com



14. 3 Men & A Melody (CSD)

Chris Droegemueller (T), Eric Derks (L), Brian Bellof (Bs), Brad Stephens (Ba)
Contact Brian: brian@3menandamelody.com; h: (816) 734-1884;
w: (816) 741-8665; www.3menandamelody.com



15. Sterling (SWD)

Bryan Pulver (Ba), Ross Larrison (Bs), Todd Reavis (L), Randy Fly (T)
Contact Randy: sterlingquartet@Satx.rr.com; h: (210) 488-7348
www.sterlingquartet.com



16. Hot Air Buffoons (JAD)

Randy Baughman (Bs), Harold Haffett (Ba), Mark Lang (L), Dennis Price (T)
Contact Mark: hotairbuffoons@aol.com; h: (330) 638-5183
www.hotairbuffoons.com



17. Men In Black (NED)

Ray Johnson (Ba), Oliver Merrill (L), Tony Nasto (T), Karl Hudson (Bs)
Contact Tony: Tony_Nasto@yahoo.com; h: (860) 869-6786; w: (860) 869-6786; www.meninblackquartet.com



18. Rhythmix (JAD)

Michael Hull (Ba), Chad St. John (L), Paul Hesson (Bs), Mike Nesler (T)
Contact Mike: Rhythmix4@hotmail.com; h: (614) 922-0753
www.harmonize.com/rhythmix



19. Quest (LOL)

Mike Laurel (L), Brent Graham (Ba), Jay Althof (T), Tim Millbrandt (Bs)
Contact Tim: tkjm@earthlink.net; h: (507) 356-2993;
w: (507) 990-2605; www.questquartet.com



20. Late Show (FWD)

Raymond Davis (T), Jordan Litz (L), Mike Stewart (Bs), Gabe Caretto (Ba)
Contact Gabe: gcaretto@singbarbershop.org; h: (209) 740-8525;
w: (916) 927-8229
www.lateshowquartet.com



21. Ignition! (RMD)

James Taylor (Ba), Curtis Terry (L), Dennis Malone (Bs), Dan Testa (T)
Contact Curtis: curlymt@comcast.net; h: (720) 364-5800
w: (720) 364-5800; www.ignitionquartet.com



22. Stardust (FWD)

John Mininger (T), Larry Halvorson (L), Buzz Bossard (Bs), James Halvorson (Ba)
Contact John: jondonsing@aol.com; h: (702) 798-2041
www.stardustquartet.com



23. The Fixx (ONT)

Scott McCarthy (T), Dave Campbell (L), Chris Arnold (Bs), Rob VanBuskirk (Ba)
Contact Dave: d_lcampbell@ezlink.ca; h: (519) 527-0521;
w: (519) 527-0680; www.thefixxquartet.com



24. The Great Nashville Singout (DIX)

Ed Holt (Ba), Jim Barr (Bs), Ryan Killeen (L), Daniel Rushing (T)
Contact Ed: ydlead@yahoo.com; h: (254) 722-1499



25. Vantage Point (SWD)

Eric Bell (L), Steve DeCrow (T), Chip Davis (Bs), Michael O'Neill (Ba)
Contact Michael: moneill@barbershop.org; w: (262) 653-8561
www.vantagepointquartet.com



26. VocalEase (FWD)

Scott Kidder (Ba), Rich Brunner (L), Joe D'Amore (Bs), Todd Kidder (T)
Contact Joe: jpdamore@verizon.net; h: (626) 963-8604;
w: (909) 941-9410; www.vocaleasequartet.com



27. NeXus (RMD)

George Davidson (T), Ryan Wilson (L), Mark Zenk (Bs), Mike Davidson (Ba)
Contact Mike: mike@nexusqt.com; h/w: (303) 912-0461
www.nexusqt.com



27. Hi-Fidelity (FWD)

Craig Ewing (T), Tom Moore (L), Martin Fredstrom (Bs), Gregg Bernhard (Ba)
Contact Gregg: HiFiBari@aol.com; h: (951) 808-1988; w: (714) 904-7184; www.hifidelityquartet.com



29. Premiere (MAD)

Paul Grimes (Ba), Fred Womer (L), Bill A Clark (Bs), Rick Savage Jr (T)
Contact Paul: premiereqtet@aol.com; h: (703) 794-9825;
w: (703) 731-8814; www.harmonize.com/premiere



30. Flashpoint (EVG)

Wes Yoder (T), Jim Wright (Bs), Tim Marron (L), Ira Allen (Ba)
Contact Jim: jim712@comcast.net; h: (253) 863-1616; w: (253) 583-5470



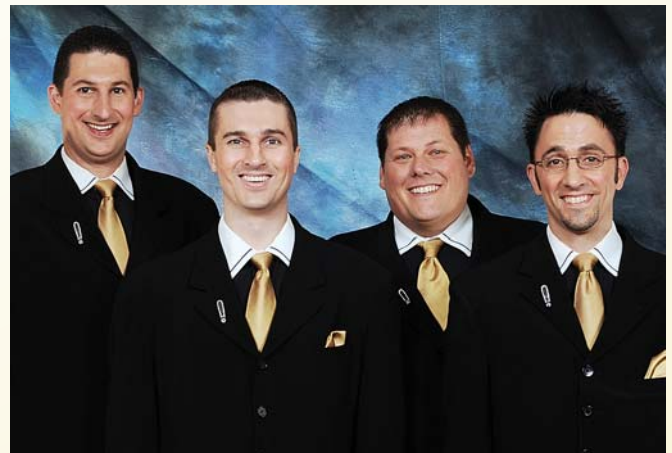
31. Odds On (JAD)

Daniel Trakas (T), Jason Cash (Bs), Michael Harrison (L), Kerry Conrad (Ba)
Contact Daniel: oddsonquartet@aol.com; h: (440) 934-5262;
w: (216) 319-2839; www.harmonize.com/OddsOn



32. club.406 (NED)

Matt Mercier (T), Toby Balsley (L), Kirk Young (Bs), Joseph Cerutti (Ba)
Contact Toby: toby.balsley@gmail.com; h: (505) 453-8629;
w: (617) 509-1803; www.club406.com



33. You Bet! (JAD)

Jeff Legters (Ba), Jason Remley (L), Paul Coleman (Bs), Carl J. Cash, III (T)
Contact Jeff: jeff@legters.com; h: (513) 755-0075
www.youbetquartet.com



34. My Three Sons (SUN)

Nathanael Ditchfield (Ba), Stephen Ditchfield (Bs), Michael Ditchfield (L), David Ditchfield (T)
Contact Stephen: theditchfields@comcast.net; h: (941) 923-2013;
w: (941) 400-2044



35. Impulse (JAD)

Chad Wulf (Ba), Richard Brooks (Bs), Mike Byrley (L), Jason Wulf (T)
Contact Jason: jtwulf@yahoo.com; h: (614) 851-9067
www.impulsequartet.com



35. Harmonix (SLD)

Chaz Zelows (T), Don Drake (L), Jeff Mahan (Bs), Rob Hopkins (Ba)
Contact Jeff: bassmahan@hotmail.com; h: (607) 431-1019
www.harmonize.com/harmonix



37. Last Call (SUN)

Byron Poore (T), Jerry Johnson (Bs), Mark Schlinkert (L), Bill Billings (Ba)
Contact Mark: mschlinkert@cfl.rr.com; h: (407) 855-7733;
w: (407) 370-5562



38. Alchemy (ILL)

Richard Anthony (T), Ken Gillie (L), George Sotos (Bs), Mark Keever (Ba)
Contact Ken: Alchemyquartet@comcast.net; h: (630) 782-5153;
w: (847) 538-5160; www.alchemyquartet.com



39. Voices Only (LOL)

Josh Umhoefer (Ba), Jake Umhoefer (Bs), James Estes (L), Rick Spencer (T)
Contact Josh: Josh@voicesonlyquartet.com; h: (414) 881-7456;
w: (262) 796-9815; www.voicesonlyquartet.com



39. Fermata Nowhere (PIO)

Steve Pauling (Ba), Tom Conner (L), Pete Burns (Bs), Jeff Gougeon (T)
Contact Pete: peteandsally@wowway.com; h: (248) 689-0026;
w: (248) 765-3135



41. Men-So Forte (FWD)

Matthew Gray (T), Ryan Mosse (L), Paul Tabone (Bs), Colin Yamaoka (Ba)
Contact Matthew: mrgray4@mac.com; h: (805) 704-2394
www.harmonize.com/mensoforte



42. Revelle (MAD)

John Ward (L), Joseph Hunter Jr (Ba), Mark Paul (Bs), Roger Payne (T)
Contact Joseph: jhunna1@aol.com; h: (516) 939-2798
[http://www.harmonize.com/madaqc/bio/\(2002\)%20Reveille-bio.htm](http://www.harmonize.com/madaqc/bio/(2002)%20Reveille-bio.htm)



43. HotShots (SUN)

"Vern" - James Kastler (T), "Elmer" - Andrew Borts (L),
"Myron" - Paul Agnew (Bs), "Frankie" - Mitch Greenberg (Ba)
Contact Mitch: mitchcg@bellsouth.net; h: (561) 963-2188;
w: (561) 926-0020; www.4hotshots.com



44. Dazzle! (FWD)

John Fynmore (T), Rick Wells (Bs), Jeff Dolan (L), Fraser Brown (Ba)
Contact Jeff: yodelingvicar@cox.net; h: (623) 328-7070;
w: (310) 462-4604



45. Keep 'Em Guessin' (CAR)

Kurt Vogel (T), Bryan Hughes (L), Terry Wence (Bs), Aaron Hughes (Ba)
Contact Cindy Vogel: kegbshop@hotmail.com; h: (765) 349-8956
www.kegquartet.com



46. THE WORKS (BABS)

Mike Warner (T), Brian Schofield (L), Martin Ford (Bs), Stuart Sides (Ba)
Contact Brian: bjsqtet@aol.com



47. QuartersTones (SNOBS)

Johannes Bergman (Ba), Joakim Ringner (Bs), Kenneth Nillson (L),
Henrik Rosenberg (T)
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YA GOTTA KNOW THE TERRITORY

**BARBERSHOP HARMONY
SOCIETY CONVENTION**
FIRST TIME EVER IN DENVER!

JULY 1 - 8, 2007

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: ADAM'S MARK
VENUE: PEPSI CENTER

To Barbershoppers in the know, the annual Barbershop Harmony Society International convention is THE place to sharpen your barbershop harmony skills. With contests, classes, concerts and chances to sing, this annual event provides dozens of ways to enjoy and enliven your barbershop life.

COME TO COMPETE



Every year, top choruses and quartets from around the world vie for gold, silver and bronze medals at the convention. We hope you are in one of the exceptional groups who have earned a place on the international competitive stage. But if you are not, the next best thing is to hear these men whose talent and training have brought them to the pinnacle of the barbershop world. Join your friends and barbershop colleagues for these contests:

- 👉 **International Quartet Championship** showcasing 50 of the best barbershop quartets
- 👉 **International Chorus Championship** with 30 of the world's top choruses
- 👉 **MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest** featuring the top young men's quartets.



WE'LL SHOW YOU

It's always showtime at the annual convention. This year, four entertaining shows have been assembled for convention participants. Three favorites are back, along with a new benefit concert that will wow you.

- 👉 **The Harmony Foundation Presents**, a benefit for the charitable arm of the Barbershop Harmony Society which raises funds to further music education in the close harmony style.
- 👉 **The Association of International Champions Show** featuring outstanding quartets from across North America.
- 👉 **The World Harmony Jamboree** showcasing the best men's and women's medalists from throughout the world.
- 👉 **The Larry Ajer Tuesday Night Concert** benefits the Harmony Foundation and is hosted by the Salem Senate-Aires, perennial International Chorus rep from the Evergreen District.

KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING

The Society's motto is nowhere better practiced than at the annual convention. We've created several venues for you to join in the singing. And, you'll find plenty of serendipitous opportunities to unite voices with others. No hotel lobby, restaurant waiting area, or street corner is safe from four-part harmony when Barbershoppers come to town. Here are just a few samples of where your voice is needed:

- 👉 **The Gospel Sing**, an open invitation for everyone to sing.
- 👉 **Sing with The Champs**, offering the chance to listen to and sing with champion quartets.
- 👉 **Mixed Harmony Showcase** with men and women blending their voices in concert.
- 👉 **Tag singing** until the wee small hours of the morning.
- 👉 **The Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders** (AHSOW) was formed in 1977 with its purpose to preserve the skill of woodshedding as an art form within the Barbershop Harmony Society. AHSOW maintains a room where you can try your hand at singing.

LIVE AND LEARN

Members have the chance to attend Masters Classes and educational seminars throughout the week. Some of the Society's best coaches, top chorus and quartet members and leading instructors will share their insight, tips, experiences and guidance in a variety of subjects.

Throughout 2007, we'll be celebrating the longevity of barbershop music as evidenced by the 50th Anniversary of *The Music Man*.

IT'S A WOMAN'S WORLD

Barbershop spouses have a host of activities specially designed to make their time in Denver entertaining and rewarding. They can choose from a variety of custom-designed tours and/or join other women in the Ladies Hospitality Room or at the Ladies Breakfast. The Harmony Marketplace will be open throughout the convention week with an array of barbershop-themed merchandise.

REST EASY



Your very full days and evenings at the convention will be followed by restful nights at the lovely Adam's Mark hotel in downtown Denver. The newly renovated guest rooms provide the latest in amenities such as free high speed Internet access and on-command movies. The hotel features complimentary health club with sauna and fitness equipment, heated outdoor pool, coin-operated laundry and dry cleaning service, underground parking, 24-hour room service and many more client conveniences.

REGISTER NOW!

With the traditional opening ceremony spectacle and an elaborate Independence Day celebration, the convention packs an assortment of surprises. Register today according to the instructions in this story. Then keep reading *The Harmonizer* and visiting www.barbershop.org/denver for detailed updates.

✦ DOWNTOWN DENVER WILL DELIGHT YOU ✦



Denver has more than doubled in population since 1960. And the very things that have drawn so many people to the Mile High City are the things that will make your stay a delight. Denver is a

clean, young and green city with over 200 parks and dozens of tree-lined boulevards.

Lower Downtown (called “LoDo” by the locals), is on the northern edge of downtown Denver and offers one of the nation’s greatest concentrations of Victorian buildings and warehouses, many of which have been refurbished to house restaurants, art galleries, offices and shops.

This is the center of the city’s famed brew pubs, with six large brew pubs and micro breweries, each brewing six to eight exclusive beers, all within easy walking distance of each other.



Anchoring the thriving LoDo entertainment district is the 4.6 acre Pepsi Center, our convention performance venue. This spectacular five-level facility is a premier sports and entertainment destination. Home of the NBA’s

Denver Nuggets, NHL’s Colorado Avalanche, AFL’s Colorado Crush and NLL’s Colorado Mammoth, Pepsi Center seats up to 20,000

SIDE TRIPS MERIT AN EXTENDED STAY

Located at the base of the Rockies, Denver has always made an excellent base from which to tour the beautiful and historic Front Range of the mountains.

Central City and Black Hawk located 34 miles from Denver are two historic old mining towns from the 1870s that have come alive with limited stakes casino gambling. Once called the “Richest Square Mile on Earth,” Central City and Black Hawk are known as having some of the best preserved Victorian architecture in the West. There are mine tours, mining museums and several places that still offer instruction in the fine art of gold panning in a stream where a half billion dollars of it was found.

Pikes Peak Country is located 60 miles south of Denver and features more than 40 attractions centered around 14,000-foot high Pikes Peak. Things to see include the Air Force Academy, one of three United States military colleges; the famous Broadmoor Resort with its lake and three golf courses; the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame with its exhibits on this exciting professional sport; and Garden of the Gods which has gigantic 500-foot high red sandstone rock monuments at the base of Pikes Peak.

Georgetown located 42 miles west of Denver, is a delightful Victorian village with 200 restored buildings from the 1870’s, set in a spectacular mountain valley. The main street has shops and restaurants and many of the old homes have been turned into antique stores. The Georgetown Loop Railroad operates narrow gauge steam locomotives curling down a mountain ledge at one point crossing over a 90-foot high trestle.

Mount Evans has the highest paved auto road in North America snaking its way to the 14,260 foot (4,346 m) summit. The free road is open only from June through Labor Day and frequently has snow on it, even in August. The view from the top takes in the entire Front Range. The summit is 60 miles from downtown Denver.

Rocky Mountain National Park is located 71 miles northwest of Denver and features 400 square miles of scenic beauty, including Trail Ridge Road, the highest continuous highway in the world crossing the Continental Divide at over two miles above sea level. The park has two information centers, hundreds of miles of hiking trails, tranquil lakes, waterfalls, wildlife and horseback riding. Estes Park is a resort town on the edge of the park with restaurants and shops.

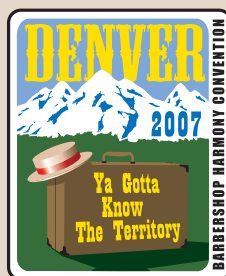
guests for concerts and sporting events. Features of Pepsi Center include a cutting-edge sound and lighting system and a four-sided Sony LED JumboTron.

Six Flags Elitch Gardens in downtown Denver is a 100-year-old, year-round amusement park similar to Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens offering 48 thrill rides, formal gardens, restaurants and shops. Another large attraction in this area is the Downtown Aquarium, a large aquarium that features salt and fresh water animal life. The Mile High Trail is a series of six walking tours throughout the downtown area. Guides can be obtained from the Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau Information Center in the Tabor Center, located on the 16th Street Mall.

DENVER DINING

Denver has over 2,000 restaurants serving all varieties of cuisine. Area specialties include Rocky Mountain Trout, fresh Colorado beef, and lamb. Restaurants serving buffalo are the historic Buckhorn Exchange, the oldest saloon and restaurant in the city with a unique dining room covered with 500 stuffed animal heads and The Fort, which is housed in a reproduction of Bent's Old Fort, a fur trapper's post on the Santa Fe Trail.

REGISTER ONLINE!
WWW.BARBERSHOP.ORG/DENVER



2007 International Convention Registration & Events Form July 1-8, 2007 • Order online to choose your own seat! • www.barbershop.org/denver

date	membership number, if applicable	chapter name, if applicable
name		
address		city : state/province : zip/postal code
business phone	home phone	email
circle payment method: check : money order : Visa : Mastercard		
credit card #		expiration date

Convention & Special Events Registration

Convention package includes opening ceremonies, quartet quarter finals one & two, quartet semi-finals, chorus contest session one & two and the quartet finals.

Type	Rate	Quantity	Total
Adult	\$134.75*		
Junior (under 12)	\$69.75*		

* Registration fee includes handling \$4.75 each

* This includes the early bird special through January 6, 2007.

SubTotal

Event	Rate	Quantity	Total
MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest	\$17.00*		

* Event fee includes handling \$2.00 each

☐ Check here if any physical needs require special accommodation. Convention staff will contact you to make arrangements.

SubTotal

Grand Total

(Convention and Special Events)

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1. The Vocal Majority • Dallas Metro, Texas (SWD) • Jim Clancy, director



2. The Westminster Chorus • Westminster, Calif. (FWD) • Royce Ferguson, director



3. The Northern Lights • Toronto, Ont. (ONT) • Steve Armstrong, director



4. New Tradition • Northbrook Ill. (ILL) • Joseph Giallombardo, director



5. Midwest Vocal Express • Greendale, Wis. (LOL) • Christopher Peterson, director



6. Sound of the Rockies • Denver Mile High, Colo. (RMD) • Darin Drown, director



7. The Alliance • Greater Central Ohio (JAD) • David Calland, director



8. Great Northern Union • Hilltop, Minn. (LOL) • Peter Benson, director



9. Alexandria Harmonizers • Alexandria, Va. (MAD) • Richard Lewellan, director



10. Atlanta Vocal Project • Atlanta Metro, Ga. (DIX) • Clay Hine, director



11. Singing Buckeyes • Buckeye-Columbus, Ohio (JAD) • Doug Smeltz, director



12. Southern Gateway • Western Hills (Cincinnati), Ohio (JAD) • Paul Gilman, director



13. Heart of Texas Chorus • Central Texas Corridor, Texas (SWD) • Ron Black, director



14. The Big Apple Chorus • Manhattan, N.Y. (MAD) • Joseph Hunter, Jr., director



15. MegaCity Chorus • Greater Toronto, Ont. (ONT) • Chris Arnold, director



16. Heart of America • Kansas City, Mo. (CSD) • Jim Bagby, director



17. Metropolitans • First Coast Metro, Fla. (SUN) • Mike McGee, director



18. West Towns Chorus • Chicagoland West Suburban, Ill. (ILL) • Joe Krones, director



19. Pacific Coast Harmony • LaJolla, Calif. (FWD) • Kim Hulbert, director



20. Northwest Sound • Bellevue, Wis. (EVG) • Denny Stiers, director



21. Granite Statesmen • Nashua, N.H. (NED) • Stephen Tramack, director



22. Pacific Sound • Rincon Beach, Calif. (FWD) • Ken Potter, director



23. Voices of America • St. Joseph, Mo. (CSD) • Byron Myers II, director



24. Brotherhood of Harmony Chorus • Lake County Ill. (ILL) • Todd Wilson, director



25. Saltaires • Wasatch Front, Utah (RMD) • Darrell Berry, director



26. Banks of the Wabash • Terre Haute, Ind. (CAR) • Jeremy Conover, director



27. Guardians of Harmony • Macomb County, Mich. (PIO) • Jack Slamka, director



28. The Vocal Agenda • Batavia, N.Y. (SLD) • Ronald Mason, director



**29. The Cottontown Chorus • Bolton Barbershop
Harmony Club, UK (BABS) • Michael Dargan, director**



**30. Helsingborg Barberboys • Helsingborg Sweden (SNOBS)
• Niclas Klåse and Lars Holström, directors**

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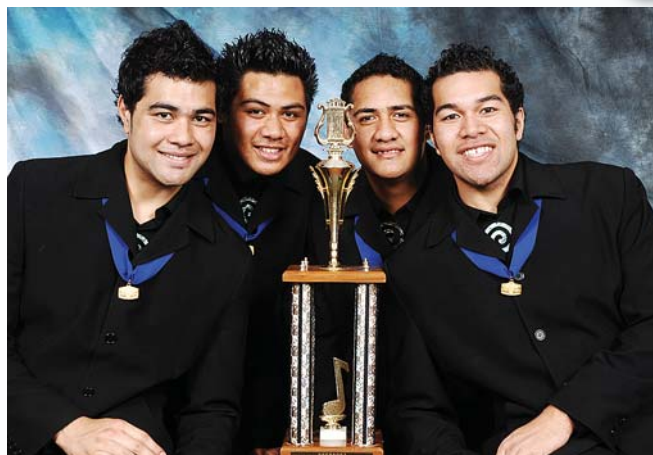
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1. Musical Island Boys (NZABS)

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Contact Jeffrey: nzjeff@gmail.com; h: (644) 232-5062

www.musicalislandboys.co.nz/

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2. New Release (MAD)

Shawn Thomas (L), Ryan Griffith (T), Joe Eckert (Bs), Noah Morrison (Ba)

Contact Ryan: i@newreleasequartet.com; h: (410) 227-1100

www.newreleasequartet.com



3. Ebbets Field (SUN)

Matt Feld (T), Paul Saca (L), Amos Velez (Bs), Alex Rubin (Ba)

Contact Amos: h: (561) 255-1144; w: (305) 299-2061

www.ebbetsfieldquartet.com



4. Afternoon Delight (FWD)

Justin Miller (T), Matt Whiffen (L), Drew Harrah (Bs), David Rakita (Ba)

Contact Justin: mille154@chapman.edu; h: (818) 634-6682;

w: (818) 238-9594; www.myspace.com/adquartet



5. Chameleon (ONT)

Erik Deland (Ba), Joel Hilchey (Bs), Dave Baldwin (L), Jordan Travis (T)

Contact Dave: baldwid@mcmaster.ca; h: (519) 284-3242;

w: (519) 284-3242; www.chameleonquartet.ca



6. CHP (California Harmony Project) (FWD)

Matthew Fellows (Ba), Jason James (Bs), Jeremy Jee (L), Graham Pence (T)
Contact Matthew: mfellows@berkeley.edu; h: (619) 444-5888;
w: (510) 207-724; www.chpqartet.com



7. Power House! (SUN)

Chris Mitchell (T), Daniel Cochran (L), Ronny Izquierdo (Bs),
Jamie Breedon (Ba)
Contact Jamie: jamie.breedon@ix.netcom.com; h: (904) 772-8683



8. 4-Way Stop (JAD)

Joe Downey (Ba), Ryan McDivitt (Bs), Robbie Churgovich (L),
Michael Wright (T)
Contact Robbie: rchurg@yahoo.com; h: (330) 723-4775
<http://www.harmonize.com/4waystop>



9. Let It Ride! (FWD)

Jonathan Felix (T), James Eaton (L), Brian Myer (Bs), Nick Pizzo (Ba)
Contact Nick: letitride1@mac.com; h: (702) 236-6728



10. 4th Floor (LOL)

Joel Feld (Ba), Allen Pruitt (Bs), Jacob Hustvet (L), Matt Curtis (T)
Contact Jacob: jhhustvet@viterbo.edu; h: (563) 380-7827;
w: (563) 380-7827



11. Relative Pitch (DIX)

Matthew McNeely (T), Frankie Lancaster (L), Nathan Osborne (Bs),
Harrison Bumgardner (Ba)
Contact Frankie: F54946@appstate.edu; h: (336) 692-2713;
w: (336) 996-2376; www.harmonize.com/relativepitch



12. HIGH FLIGHT (RMD)

BJ Cox (T), Matt Martin (L), Josh Hendryx (Bs), Cy Wood (Ba)
Contact Josh: jshendryx@yahoo.com; h: (214) 415-6876; w: (972) 429-7232



13. Beyond Cadence (LOL)

Patrick Callaghan (Ba), Scott Perau (Bs), Jay Fahl (L), J.J. Mosher (T)
Contact Patrick: h: (260) 459-1721
www.myspace.com/beyondcadencequartet



14. Tesseract (ILL)

Ryan Peterson (T), Clint Dodds (L), Kellen Fant (Bs), Chris Rishel (Ba)
Contact Chris: rishel@gmail.com; h: (217) 971-3968;
w: (217) 390-3825; www.tesseractquartet.com



15. Comin' Clean (CAR)

Tim Martin (T), Paul Martin (L), James Martin (Bs), Pierre Perez (Ba)
Contact Paul: h: (317) 488-0014



16. Downpour (CSD)

Jason Sitzman (T), Allen Gilbert (L), Ben Rickert (Bs), Dave Purdham (Ba)
Contact Dave: dpurdham785@yahoo.com; h: (402) 592-8470;
w: (402) 658-5750; www.downpourquartet.com



17. Insignia (PIO)

Dave Ebersole (T), Jeremy Brandford-Petrous (Bs), Theo Hicks (L), Wayne Pollard (Ba)
Contact Wayne: insignia04@yahoo.com; h: (248) 474-1485
www.myspace.com/insigniaquartet



18. Lights Out (EVG)

Matt J Schoonmaker-Gates (Ba), Matt Witek (Bs), Lane T Aikin (L), Alex Carlson (T)
Contact Lane: aikinlt@whitman.edu; h: (509) 230-5830



19. Four's Complement (SLD)

Jamie Bedford (Ba), John Santino (L), Bryce Cooney (Bs), Michael Ho (T)
Contact John: pantsmackenzie@gmail.com; h: (718) 464-0048; w: (646) 280-0342



20. Sinfonian Four (SWD)

Adam Frame (T), John Bowers (L), Jason Johnston (Bs), Michael Tidwell (Ba)
Contact John: h: (580) 772-2134; w: (580) 774-3208



21. The Penn Fifteen Club (NED)

Scott Lewis (Ba), Larry Bomback (L), Matt Lewis (Bs), Eric Acton (T)
Contact Larry: lbomback@gmail.com; h: (212) 580-0904



Francophiles applaud seventh chords

Barbershop harmony debuts for 90,000 Quebec music lovers

Small chorus, huge stage, but big sound. In one of most prestigious venues imaginable, the **Montreal Island City Chorus** sang for a musically literate audience of 90,000 at Mondail Choral Loto-Québec. Last year, about 300 choruses with some 6,000 performers from across North America and Latin America were invited to the two-week event that is becoming the world's largest choral festival.

Last year's opening ceremonies attracted some 90,000 spectators under a warm Sunday evening sky and they were treated with music that brought them to their feet again and again. There was a sense of magic in the air, the pure sound of barbershop that no other genre can produce. It was also the first time that barbershop harmony was presented to this mostly Francophone audience. It would be no different from a barbershop chorus standing in front of 90,000 in France and performing in English. They stood up with a thunderous applause as if they understood every word that was sung.

This year we were honored to be invited back to Mondail Choral and for an encore performance on June 21st for the opening ceremonies, opening for the world-famous Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Just to be on the same bill as the internationally acclaimed MSO was an honor. The audience this year was just over 40,000 that night being that it was a week night and they came for the music regardless what language it was presented in.

We opened the 8 p.m. concert with a 40-minute set. It seemed as though the same magic was still in the air from last summer, and the audience let us



know in the same manner as they did a year earlier. As we exited the stage to a standing ovation, we were honored again as the MSO applauded the chorus from the bottom of the stairs. We recognize that the applause was not only for our own chorus, but for the barbershop sound, but goose bumps and maybe a tear were the order of the day.

To learn more about the soon to be the worlds largest gathering of choruses check out www.mondialchoral.org.

— Bob Ebers,
Montreal Island City
Chorus

John Elway and about 500 club members and sports bigwigs got to hear the Acappella Fellas sing the national anthem and "God Bless America" at the Hickory, N.C. Sportsman's Club in April. To the legendary Bronco quarterback's right is PGA Tour director Jim Correl and former Duke basketball head coach Neill McGeachy.



This year on Armed Forces Day, May 20, a statue of WWII hero and priest Lt. Thomas Conway was dedicated at the Erie County Naval and Military Park in Buffalo, N.Y. on the shores of Lake Erie. The Friends of Harmony set the mood of the affair with a number of patriotic songs including a medley of the anthems of the various services, "America the Beautiful" (complete with a narration on the real beauty of America) "God Bless America," and finishing up with the "Star-Spangled Banner" and the sailors hymn "Eternal Father." They were touched as many of the military and ex-military people present mouthed the words as they sang. On an unusually cold day, the chorus was invited to warm up inside the U.S.S. Little Rock, docked nearby. This impromptu photo was shot on the way to the performance.



CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between April 1 and June 30, 2006

Cardinal

Don Rogers
Valparaiso, IN

Central States

James Kaut
Kansas City, KS
Charles Krall
Mitchell, SD
Max Underwood
St Charles, MO
David Upp
Overland Park, KS
Kansas City, KS

Dixie

Bob Barrett
Greater Knoxville, TN
Vaughn Rinenhart
Mooreville
Ed Waesche III
Wilmington, NC

Evergreen

Tom Bates
Greater Vancouver, BC
Walter Baxter
Medicine Hat, AB
Walter Baxter
Calgary, AB
Eric Horn
Spokane, WA

Rick Illsley

Langley, BC

Abbotsford, BC

Bill Lloyd

Twin Falls, ID

Bill Massena

Medicine Hat, AB

Calgary, AB

George Meehan

Greater Vancouver, BC

Fred Pattie

Oregon Mid-Coast, OR

Budd Weir

Ellensburg, WA

Far Western

Glen Ackley
Whittier, CA
Jim Cross
Rancho Bernardo, CA
Bob Cutshall
Whittier, CA
Red Elliott
Visalia, CA
Sammy Fellman
Conejo Valley, CA
Munson Hinman
Frank Thorne
Don Holcombe
Central Arizona Quar-
tet, AZ
Dick Jenkins
Bay Area, CA

Jack Theys

Ventura, CA

Earl Weaver

Prescott, AZ

Budd Weir

Tucson, AZ

Slats Wert

Sun Cities, AZ

Frank Thorne

Don Feezor

Illinois

Hilde Hildebrand

Elgin, IL

Bob Hodge

Elgin, IL

Earl Johnson

Elgin, IL

Miles Ward

Bloomington, IL

Johnny

Appleseed

Pete Gute
Ashland, KY

Land O' Lakes

Dave Bayer
Minneapolis, MN
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Manitowoc, WI

Jim Lutz

Hilltop, MN

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George Meyer
Pottsville Area, PA
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Walt Pfizenmaier
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John Riedel
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Keene, NH
Steve Tofel-Grehl
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Pioneer

Gus Reeves
Benton Harbor-St Jo-
seph, MI
Willard Wilson
Gratiot County, MI

Rocky Mountain

Harlan Fletcher
Denver Mile High, CO
Jerome Kiefer
Grand Junction, CO

Charles Peer

Denver Mile High, CO

Doc Thomson

Colorado Springs /

Pikes Peak, CO

Seneca Land

Tim Easton
Oswego Valley, NY
Frederick Schneider
Auburn, NY
Gerry Simon
East Aurora, NY

Sunshine

Charlie Bradham
Frank Thorne
Sebring, FL
Ted Brayman
Palm Beach County, FL
Rick Claar II
Suwannee Valley, FL
Jacksonville Big O, FL
Mike Lawless
St Petersburg, FL
Ken Lawrence
Melbourne, FL
Chuck Miller
Cape Coral, FL
Jerry Neal
Charlotte County, FL
Clayt Seeley
Naples/Fort Myers, FL



No rain on this party with OC and Realtime

The morning rainstorm was like no other, but only once in 50 years has the rain dampened the **An-O-Chords'** weekend of fun, food, frolic and song. Alder fires were stoked in the mist, and Gortex-clad clumps of barbershop families, fans and friends took shelter and sang sunshine songs. But at 11, it broke and Washington Park became a sun-drenched, fresh-scrubbed jewel. The picture perfect Barbershop and Salmon Barbeque to cap the Anacortes, Washington Chapter's 51st Annual Show Weekend. The sun came out and so did the crowds!

OC Times headlined the event, corresponding with the chapter's annual show, where nearly 300 faithful feasted on slabs of the An-O-Chords' famous slow-roasted salmon. It was the "Best of Times" as OC Times judged the novice quartet contest and then gave an awesome performance on the beach. Then, for a grand finale they were followed on the tiny beach stage by no other than the An-O-Chords' good friends to the north, **Realtime**, who sang a set then joined OC Times for one of the most dramatic barbershop moments ever. No one had ever heard an octet like that. What an impromptu chorus this pair of quartets made!

We loved it and so did the crowd. Check out these beautiful shots of the barbeque venue and we think you'll see why this annual event attracts such a devoted following. If you're going to be in the Northwest in July, block out the last full weekend in July for fantastic, unforgettable Barbershop and Salmon Barbeque. And you can leave your umbrellas at home!

— John Parker



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www.aambs.org.au/

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Contact David Birdling: dgbirdling@xtra.co.nz

SNOBS (Society of Nordic Barbershop Singers)

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Contact Henrik Rosenberg: henrik.rosenberg@comhem.se

SPATS (Southern Part of Africa Tonsorial Singers)

Contact Tony Abbott: adabbott@mweb.co.za

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THE TAG

Joe Liles, Tagmaster!!



A great new one from Lloyd Steinkamp

Here's the beautiful third place winner of our recent Society tag writing contest, by the legendary Lloyd Steinkamp. Please try out Peter Benson's wonderful second place winning tag on the back page!

What can you say about Lloyd that hasn't already been said multiple times? A talented arranger, emcee, coach, leader, Lloyd has been a member of the Society for 59 years. He's served as a district president (Far Western District), and an international board member. He served 35 years as a certified



judge in the arrangement/music categories and two years as chairman of the Society's Contest and Judging Committee. Lloyd worked on the Society staff as a field representative from 1966 to 1977, assisting in the creation of many barber-shop chapters during that time. Many of his fine arrangements have been sung in shows and contests throughout the Society. Lloyd, this tag is such a beautiful creation. Thanks for all you have contributed to barbershop happiness and all that you continue to do.

ISN'T THIS A LOVELY TIME OF YEAR

Words and Music by LLOYD STEINKAMP

Arrangement by LLOYD STEINKAMP

Tag

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 Look a - round and you will see what this world was

2

3

4 meant to be, is - n't this a love - ly time of year?

5

6

7 year, year, year,

8 love - ly time, love - ly time, love - ly time of year?

9

10

love - ly time, love - ly time, love - ly time of year?

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THE TAG

Joe Liles, Tagmaster!!



Savor a winning tag by a great musician

The top three winners in our recent tag-writing contest were Nathan Gutschke, Peter Benson and Lloyd Steinkamp ... in that order. In the last issue of *The Harmonizer* you saw, and sang, I hope, Nathan's "This Table Set For Two." If you were at Harmony University this summer you were fortunate to have experienced Nathan teaching it at one of the general sessions! An unforgettable moment.

In this issue, we have the second and third place winning tags. Peter Benson (Pete) was the writer of "The Tears Have Left My Eyes." Pete has his master's degree in choral conducting from Mankato State University. He served as Director of Choral Activities at North Dakota College

of Science in Wahpeton, ND and is currently the Choral Director at Lakeville South High School. A Barbershopper since 1984, he sang bass in two LOL district champion quartets that also competed at international contest, State of the Art and Break-Point. Pete is an active quartet and chorus coach, directed a Sweet Adeline chorus (Fargo, ND) to a regional championship and international competition, and is now director of the Great Northern Union (Hilltop, MN) barbershop chorus that finished in 8th place in international competition in Indianapolis.

Thank you Pete for this outstanding tag! Please see the previous page for Lloyd Steinkamp's third-place beauty! ■



Peter Benson, Great Northern Union

THE TEARS HAVE LEFT MY EYES

Words and Music by PETER BENSON

Arrangement by PETER BENSON

Tag

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 The tears have left my eyes, my

2 eyes, my eyes.

3 eyes. my eyes.

4 eyes. eyes. my eyes.

5 eyes. my eyes.

6 eyes. my eyes.

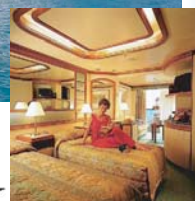
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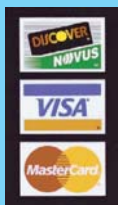
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