

INSIDE: **Best of Midwinter** • **The Hot Seat with Ned and Paul** • **MIB² tour** • **Get the Spirit of Harold Hill**

March/April 2007

THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Finding your best motivation

Whatever carrot your group is after, here's food for thought: The mighty Vocal Majority credit their one loss with steering the chorus toward a higher purpose than winning

INTERNATIONAL
CHORUS CHAMPION



SING BETTER, LEARN FROM THE BEST!

July 29 - August 5, 2007

Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, MO



HIGHLIGHTS

NEW CLASSES FOR 2007



- Professional Show Production for Amateurs
- Elements of Coaching
- Directing for the Non-Director
- Recording Barbershop
- Membership

- Entertainment at a New Level
- Finale for the Computer Illiterate
- Finale for Arrangers
- Arranging for Directors
- Development of the Quartet Personality
- Permanent Performance Committee
- Make Learning CD's like Tim Waurick
- Talk the Top 10
- Warm-ups to Work With
- Ticket Sales—Butts in Seats
- Get Famous
- Make 'Em Laugh
- Website Design

THE HONORS CHORUS



Ever wonder how the **Ambassadors of Harmony** perform at such a high level? Sing for this amazing chorus and experience it first hand. Spend two hours everyday with Jim Henry, international champion quartet singer and chorus director, honing your chorus singing skills in preparation for the Saturday night show.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Jim Henry (Bass of **The Gas House Gang** and Director of the **Ambassadors of Harmony**) will be spending some time with us all at the opening session on Sunday evening.

THE BEST BARBERSHOP FACULTY YOU'LL EVER EXPERIENCE

People like: David Wright, Jim Henry, Ev Nau, Tom Gentry, Farris Collins, Joe Liles, Cindy Hansen, Kirk Young, Royce Ferguson, Russ Young, Nick Papageorge, Bill Myers, Brandon Guyton, Todd Wilson, Charlie Davenport, Mel Knight, and many, many more come from all over the Society to share their talent with you.

DIRECTORS COLLEGE RAISES THE BAR WITH NEW CLASSES AND THE DIRECTOR CHORUS

Participate in the acclaimed "On To The Rehearsal" course, Directors' Seminar, Effective Choral Warm-ups and new class electives highlight some of the new experiences a director can expect. Real first-hand experiences for chorus directors! You will be placed in the appropriate Theory, Sound Management and Directing Techniques classes. We are continuing with the Directors Chorus, under the direction of Kirk Young. This outstanding ensemble will perform on the Saturday Night Show.

AWESOME SATURDAY NIGHT SHOW



The Saturday night show will be held in the 1200 seat Missouri Theater featuring the **Ambassadors of Harmony**, **Next Generation Chorus**, **Directors College Chorus**, **Honors Chorus** (directed by Dr. Jim Henry), and **Vocal Spectrum** 2006 International Quartet Champions.

HARMONY UNIVERSITY 2007

CLASSES

LEARN TO RUN YOUR CHAPTER MORE EFFECTIVELY

Aside from the great music-oriented classes offered each year, Harmony University is also a chance to learn how to become a more effective chapter leader. Better leaders make better chapters.

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE



- **Basic Acting For Barbershoppers**—Learn natural line delivery, stage directions, movement, appropriate reactions to others, plus memorization skills.
- **Music Team Development**—Learn how to develop a solid music team and plan successful meetings.
- **Permanent Performance Committee**—Stop re-inventing of the wheel for every performance and show.

SHOW PRODUCTION

- **The Technical Theater and Crew**—During the course of the week, you will have hands on experience with sets, staging, lighting and other mechanicals. You will also be part of the crew for the Friday and Saturday performances.
- **Ticket Sales-Butts in Seats**—Choosing the right venue for your show, reaching the potential customer, establishing and maintaining a database, where to promote and advertise, to comp or not to comp and other subjects.
- **Professional Show Production for Amateurs**—This class covers all of the points from the proscenium to the back wall. Topics of discussion include: sets, building and designing, lighting, staging, sound, and costumes plus more! Time will be spent on types of shows, selecting themes and using good judgment for YOUR chapter's undertakings. This class also touches makeup and scrip writing.
- **Script Writing**—Learn the basics of writing scripts for barbershop performances. Development of theme, song selection and characterization are among the topics covered.

MUSIC CLEARANCE

Copyright, Not Wrong!—Learn the basic elements of the U.S. Federal Copyright Law as they apply to music publishing, performance and recording.

PLANNING

Creating a Chapter Business Plan—This course will show how a chapter business plan can be an indispensable management tool that provides chapters with the foundation for growth and will assist chapter leaders to develop a chapter business plan. It is designed for people with very little organizational planning experience.

MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS

- **Marketing & Public Relations**—This course covers the basics responsibilities of the marketing and public relations officer, as well as the elements and tools of marketing and public relations.
- **Daily Bulletin**—Join the editorial staff of the official daily bulletin of Harmony University, and get hands-on experience turning out a professional-quality bulletin.
- **Get Famous**—Getting gigs will never be so easy! Learn marketing strategies that ensure your group makes a name for itself both in and out of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

MEMBERSHIP



Membership Matters—Get more members in your chapter. Learn skills to grow your chapter and create a better chapter experience for everyone.

Q&A WITH SOCIETY LEADERSHIP

Talk With Ed & Noah—Here's your chance to learn first hand about current trends and Society Board initiatives and Staff operations. Plus, have a lot of fun getting to know Ed and Noah.

FULL WEEK & WEEKEND SESSIONS AVAILABLE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call us at 800-876-SING (7464) or visit us online at www.barbershop.org/harmonyu

WEEKEND SESSION

AUGUST 2-5, 2007



With almost 80 students at last year's Weekend Session this Thursday through Sunday experience captures the essence of Harmony University for those people who might not be able to make the entire week. This is definitely fly-across-the-county GREAT!

WEEKEND CLASSES

- Fundamentals of Music
- Advanced Directing
- Vocal Techniques
- Ticket Sales-Butts In Seats
- Basic Choreography Moves
- Sight Singing
- Introduction to Finale
- Membership Matters
- Next Generation Chorus Weekend
- Beginning Directing
- Theory of Barbershop Harmony
- Physics of Sound
- Barbershop Boot Camp
- Quartet Surgery
- Finale For Arrangers
- African Roots of Barbershop
- Warm-Ups to Work With
- Get Famous

SCHOLARSHIPS

QUARTET COLLEGE

- **Bring Your Baritone For Free!** The first 20 quartets who register will receive a full-tuition scholarship for one of their members.
- **Larry Ajer Scholarship**, www.barbershop.org/ID_044978

HARMONY COLLEGE

- **Earl Moon Scholarship** general studies scholarship, www.barbershop.org/ID_047358
- **Lou Perry Scholarship** for aspiring arrangers, www.barbershop.org/ID_042565



ORDER EARLY AND SAVE!

TUITION

FULL WEEK HARMONY UNIVERSITY

Tuition prices for 2007	March 16 to June 15	After June 16
Member	☐ \$575	☐ \$675
Directors of Society Choruses		
Affiliates & Music Educators		
Non-Members	☐ \$700	☐ \$800
Commuter	☐ \$450	☐ \$550
Non-Member Commuter	☐ \$575	☐ \$675
Next Generation	☐ \$375	☐ \$475

WEEKEND HARMONY UNIVERSITY

Tuition prices for 2007	March 16 to July 15	After July 16
Member	☐ \$195	☐ \$245
Directors of Society Choruses		
Affiliates & Music Educators		
Non-Members	☐ \$245	☐ \$295
Commuter	☐ \$150	☐ \$200
Non-Member Commuter	☐ \$200	☐ \$250
Next Generation	☐ \$195	☐ \$245



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What motivates you?
Photo composite by Lorin May
Photos by Lorin May and from
photos.com

Chapters are FUNdamental!

Often I wonder what O.C. Cash and Rupert Hall might think about the legacy created by their initial invitation to the rooftop of the Tulsa Club in 1938. Do you think they envisioned a *society* of men spanning not only the United States, but also Canada and even beyond to several other continents? Maybe. Irrespective of whether they originally foresaw an international Society, they quickly realized that many men wanted to preserve the wonderful harmonies produced by four-part a cappella singing. And what better way to propagate such a preservation than through the creation of local singing groups—you know, the things we call *chapters*.



If it weren't for chapters, there would be no Barbershop Harmony Society. Yes, there might be other ways to draw men together to sing in foursomes. None I can think of would be as effective, however. We perhaps could have followed the path of *American Idol* and created some national contest for a cappella singing, but four-part harmony needs more than just individuals performing for a panel of judges. If nothing else, there needs to be a place where like-minded men desiring to sing in a quartet can meet. And, what about men who love four-part harmony, but prefer to sing as part of a chorus? Hopefully you, too, recognize that chapters are necessary to the growth and health of our Society and this art form. It is therefore important that we find more ways to make the chapter experience fun and enjoyable for each member each and every week.

Be clear on your chapter's objectives

How about this question: What makes your chapter special? Do you feel your chapter has a clear idea of the objectives it hopes to accomplish? If not, there is no better time than now for the chapter to map a course. You wouldn't want to be like the character Hotspur in *Henry IV* who said, "A plague upon it! I have forgot the map." Without the map, he and other rebels were frustrated in dividing up the kingdom between them. Let's not be frustrated about anything over which we have control. We can make the map of our future, and through it we can maximize the experience for everyone in the chapter.

I suggest that you set aside time, maybe at the end of a chapter meeting, or perhaps a special time just for this purpose, for all chapter members to meet and discuss what they view as the objectives

for your chapter. A chapter can have many objectives. One objective could be to be a performance chorus that sings for local groups as often as possible. Another objective could be to win your district championship within five years. Another objective could be to just provide a fun, varied, and entertaining chapter meeting each week.

Your chapter board should take the information from chapter members and restate your objectives as part of your chapter's mission statement. Having something written down for all to see, and review periodically, is a good way to remain focused on your objectives.

My Dad was never one to consult maps when making trips. He is blessed with a good sense of direction. But that doesn't mean he didn't get lost a few times. Of course, if you were to ask him, he would say he wasn't lost, he just found a new way to get where he was going. Unlike my Dad, I use maps a lot. I have found over time a map gets me where I want to go more reliably than just pointing in a direction and hoping I will end up where I wanted to go. I hope your chapter will create and use a map as well. If you know where you're going and follow the steps to get there, you greatly increase the chances of a fun and successful chapter experience.

Are we having fun yet?

I encourage each of you to ask this question about your last four chapter meetings. If the answer is anything but an unqualified *yes*, then ask yourself why aren't you, and/or fellow chapter members, having fun? If your chapter meetings are not as fun for you as you think they could be, be sure your chapter board knows this and understands what would help you have more fun.

No matter what type of chapter you have, and what your objectives, a hobby is about enjoyment. It will forever be difficult to invite men to join your chapter if they sense that you aren't having fun. I invite members to email me with examples of what they are doing to have fun in their chapter. I will find a way to share those ideas back with Society members through this column or other appropriate means.

With a song,

pronoah@comcast.net

The upsides and downsides of stagefright

How did Gary Plaag sneak into my quartet's performance last night, then write and publish a description of it the next day? It was the first "official" performance of my months-old quartet (Pacific Wave-Makers) outside our own chapter. We were just guesting at another chapter, but still the nerves were there because, well, these guys knew what to listen for. And this, that, and the other thing went wrong before we sang. Gary's *Harmonizer* article arrived the next day, but not before I wrote an email to my quartet mates apologizing for possibly infecting them with my own pre-performance anxiety. (I'd kept muttering, "not enough warmup, not enough warmup.") The one I least expected it from let me know that his own anxiety was affecting him as well.

I'd heard of Cognitive Therapy but didn't realize its use for stage fright until I saw this article. Obviously, the pattern of negative thinking (not to mention verbalizing the negative thoughts) needs to be turned around to channel the energy positively.

What's more, my life in barbershop is an example of what unhealthy thinking can do to a person. I dropped out of the Society for more than 20 years because I dwelt on the dissolution of a quartet and the accompanying criticism from a fellow member. When I rejoined last year, I resolved to not let anything like that knock me out again. From that experience I can see what you mean when you say "the benefits go far beyond becoming a better performer."

MARK SHELDON

Huntington Beach, Calif.

I thought everyone knew the way to cure stage fright is to get your butterflies to fly in formation.

SUSIE SCOTT

Cincinnati Sound Chorus, SAI Region 4

Thanks for the interesting, appropriate and well done article in the last *Harmonizer*. For me, nervousness sometimes has manifested itself in shallow breathing until I get relaxed and "into it" in both quartet and chorus gigs. Might be a few measures or a whole song. A couple or three deep breaths before going on and "tanking up" before and after taking the pitch helps. At contests our assistant director

leads the chorus in a few deep breaths before we are announced and the lights come up.

Your mentioning False Evidence Appearing Real (FEAR) is interesting. It is something we have used for years in our religious family as a wake-up call not to be self-deceived by erroneous thoughts and suggestions.

ART GRAHAME

Charlottesville, Va.



Great article! There are a lot of "nuggets" that we can all use to improve our performances!

My job often requires me to present to large groups of customers. I once gave a demonstration to 45,000+ that was also simulcast on the Internet. Just before this presentation, a co-worker said, "Remember, there are only three things that can happen during a demo ... two of them are bad. Good luck!" Gee, thanks pal! If I had allowed this negative message to enter my thoughts, I would have been sunk before I started. Even the best intentions of our friends and supporters can back-

fire if we allow them to.

"Negative self talk" can be hugely damaging to our ability to perform. We *always* believe what we tell ourselves, positive or negative. I have to work

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diligently to stay focused on the positive, but in the end, when I convince myself that things will turn out well, they usually do! Try telling yourself something positive, no matter how small or insignificant it may seem. Just try it and see what happens. It costs nothing, nobody knows about it but you, and it certainly can't hurt!

Also, ask any performer, athlete or coach and they will tell you that visualization is a fantastic tool to help you obtain your best performance. I think ... I see ... I understand ... I believe ... I do!

T.J. WEISS
Portland, Ore.

Words were missing in the jump between page 16 and 17 in last issue's article "Nervous About Nerves?" The sentence should have read: "Strive to eliminate potential surprises from distractions that might occur during the performance."
— Ed.

Eeensy-weensy bigger?

The format, color and general eye appeal of *The Harmonizer* has improved so much over the last few years that I am actually proud of the publication. Not only that, but the dry, uninteresting required messages from the historically boring national officers have even improved. The articles hit home and interest everyone. Great, great job!

"HANDSOME DAVE" PHILO
Suwanee, Ga.

I would like to compliment you on the excellent articles in recent issues of *The Harmonizer*. They are well planned and have great content. I am finding a problem however with some of the print and background color choices. This month in particular, there was an area (albeit small) where the black print on a dark blue background, on glossy paper made it virtually impossible to decipher. I would encourage you to make fewer artistic choices in information areas of the magazine in future. Thanks for all your good work.

KEITH BALDREY
Cambridge, Ont.

Excellent! Loved every bit of the new *Harmonizer*, even the ads. It came yesterday and I absorbed it until late evening. However (you knew that a "however" was coming), at my advanced age (91), I'm having more and more trouble reading the fine print. I have a cataract in my left eye and my right eye is poor. I'm not complaining as I've done it all and enjoyed every minute. Most of us, my age and older, read the Chapter Eternal first. Then, if our name is not there, we read the rest of the magazine. This time, I almost missed John Gillespie and he was about the last of my Executive Committee. Merritt Auman is still around but on oxygen 24/7 and not doing well. The rest are gone to the great chorus ... Hugh Ingraham, Bill Parks, Gil Lefholz and now John Gillespie.

Could you possibly increase the size of the print just a teensy weensy bit? And drop the green background. It makes things even worse. It won't hurt the magazine and would sure help me. Thanks!

HANK VOMACKA
Cincinnati, Ohio

The greatest non-champs

The "Uncrowned Champion" article was one of the best. With the exception of **The Vagabonds** and the **Clef-Dwellers**, my quartets, **The Oriole Four** and **The Pros 'n' Cons** competed with all of the others. It was a great time in our history.

Check the records: **The Sun-downers** won silver in 1970 as well. As for the **Easternaires**, they won three medals in their careers, each won with different personnel except for Bohn and Heyburn. In 1970, The Easternaires were fifth, **The Gentlemen's Agreement** were fourth, **The Pacificaires** were third, The Sundowners were second, and The Oriole Four were first. Quite an impressive group!

Nepotistic as it may seem, I believe a quartet that has seven consecutive top 10 finishes, none lower than seventh, including five bronze medals in a row, should be among your august list of great ensembles. Of course, I'm referring to **BSQ**. They would have been great champions. Keep up

the great issues you're engendering. They're pure enjoyment.

FREDDIE KING
Baltimore, Md.

What a great article by Jim Bagby concerning the best quartets that never won; certainly the **Nighthawks** deserved the spotlight on the front cover. Jim Turner was an incredible man, and I consider myself blessed to have been coached by him in my first quartet. He taught me so much in my formative years as a quartetter, not only how to sing better, but how to be a better man. Though small in stature, he was a giant among our ranks, and yet his entire being exuded graciousness and humility. I know that he is up there directing the great barbershop chorus, and is no doubt making sure that the basses "challenge!" the leads.

CHRIS ARNOLD
Waterloo, Ont.

Accidentals

In the last issue, the Denver Convention tours information on page 35 listed a website for ordering. This site is valid, but offers less electronic security. Do not use the version of the site with "www" in the address. Instead, use <https://ceo-eventsregister.com/bhs>. Take note of the "s" in "https".

A letter to the editor misidentified Pete Neushul as the tenor of **139th Street Quartet**. He was the baritone.

The caption that accompanied the below photo, which originally appeared on page 43 of the last issue of *The Harmonizer*, omitted the key fact that it was the **Harrisburg, Pa. Chapter** that had made the detour to the 9/11 Memorial.





The challenge of how to get the word out

Lspeak about an issue that affects all large organizations. It is a bugaboo, a shibboleth that haunts leadership and has sprouted an industry unto itself. That issue is *getting the word out*. How does the Admiral ensure that his desires are communicated to the lowest level of service members? When the head of GM wants to let his workers know that a new program is coming on line, or a new service or benefit is available, how can he be sure that the front line workers know it? To bring this home, what does the Society's Board of Directors do to ensure that all of our programs, opportunities, and relevant information permeates every level of the organization? Here's a test to show you what I mean. Answer this simple question: As of February 28, 2007, the Society has how many members? (The answer is incorporated in the rest of the article below, we'll talk about it more in the future.)

The Harmonizer: You are holding in your hands the primary means that Society leaders use to communicate to the general membership. Sure, we live in the age of the Internet, e-mail, Blackberries, and cell phones that answer your e-mail, wash your socks and take pictures and movies, but not everyone is tech savvy. So, if we in Kenosha want to ensure that information gets to every single member of the Society, we can regularly do that only via *The Harmonizer*. That presents problems of its own, like lead-time and deadlines. Of course, there's no guarantee people will read it after they get it, but *The Harmonizer* remains the journal of Barbershop and long may it reign. By putting it into print, we also afford ourselves the opportunity to archive it and keep it around for generations. Ev Nau has collected and bound a complete set of *Harmonizers* from day one and is looking to collect two or three more. This becomes a great historical reference.



barbershop.org. The next best method for us to disseminate information is www.barbershop.org. Anything of importance, especially where timeliness is an issue, goes onto the website for your perusal. Of course, there's a lot of information that gets lost in the many twists and turns of the web, and it is a passive form of information dissemination, that is, it sits on line and waits for you to find it. (One thing you can do to help us is to have our site as an RSS feed to your home page. Click on the RSS links at www.barbershop.org/newsletters to set it up. Then, when anything new happens on the website it will be automatically noted on your computer's home page and a link will be provided, similar to an AP news story feed.)

Society email bulletins. On the *QT* is for quartets, *Directly Involved* for directors, and *LiveWire* for a general audience, and there are other specialty pubs. Of course, we must be judicious in who gets these, so that

they don't get sorted as junk mail. In the "Members Only" section of barbershop.org you have the ability to opt-in or opt-out to each of these e-mail newsletters. About 8,000 members don't have any e-mail address listed. Right now, we have approximately 7,100 receiving *LiveWire*, 12,000 receiving *On the QT*, and 2,300 receiving *Directly Involved*. With overlap, just over half (Brian Lynch ran the numbers, it's actually 58%) of our 28,912 members are receiving any kind of bulletin from us about hot button issues, trends, and related matters. Why don't the other half want to know about things that affect their Society? Beats me. I'm hoping they just weren't aware that they could get these free, easy to read and easy to delete bulletins. If you're not sure, please go to members only and check your e-mail settings. Help us get the word out.

District and chapter bulletins. Districts and most chapters do a great job of keeping you informed with their bulletins, reprinting articles, passing on information from the Society, and relating their impressions of things they've seen and done at conventions, schools, and Society events. Of course, there is a certain amount of interpretation in what gets filtered through district/chapter bulletin editors. No denigration of their hard work and effort, but there's only so much that they can print.

The rumor mill. Finally there's everybody's favorite method of communication: rumor, gossip, and innuendo. (Some folks call this the Harmonet, but that's a little unfair. The Harmonet is a great forum for anyone to speak his or her mind; just remember that there are no curbs on what is said, and much of it is rumor or conjecture and should be treated as such. Ask yourself what you know about the author of any message.) When the Society fails to get the proper word out to the world of Barbershop, someone will fill in the gap with his interpretation of the issue. It may be the Harmonet, it may be the guy on the risers, it may be you. It's just human nature.

So, there you have it ... rumor, gossip, and conjecture will fill the void when the Society remains mum, but as you've seen there are large gaps in how the Society gets information to you. You can help by subscribing in members only to our e-mail bulletins, and updating your home page with our RSS feed. We will upgrade the website as soon as time, money, and opportunity allow. In the meantime, *The Harmonizer* still reigns as the journal of Barbershop.

"How do you like the job I'm doing so far?" ewatson@barbershop.org

Harmony Foundation presents ...

Take 6 et al *

Barbershop
Harmony Society

Denver Convention

Pepsi Center

Tuesday July 3rd

7:30 pm Curtain



*Vocal Spectrum

*Westminster CHORUS

*OC Times

Appearing Tuesday, July 3 at the Denver
Pepsi Center, the hottest **Harmony
Foundation** line-up ever will be anchored

by multiple Grammy Award-winning a cappella jazz sextet *Take 6*. Mark your calendars for the ground-breaking jazz harmonies, original songs, and vocal pyrotechnics of *Take 6* — representing some of the best a cappella ever recorded. Their earth-shattering 1988 debut redefined the standards for vocal music, and *Take 6* remains among the most enduring and best loved groups in all a cappella.

Other performers include: Our own 2006 international quartet champion *Vocal Spectrum*, 2006 silver medalist *Westminster Chorus*, and 2006 quartet bronze medalist *OC Times*.

ORDER TICKETS TODAY!

Call: 800-876-SING (7464)

Online: www.barbershop.org

Platinum: **VIP \$75**

Gold: **\$35**

Silver: **\$25**



In order to receive seating in the reserved sections, President's Council Members MUST order by phone or through the Order Form—NOT online.

Everyone is celebrating *The Music Man*! Society and non-Society celebrations bring River City back to the forefront

There were some familiar faces taking the part of the School Board in the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra/Mad Cow Theater Company's "almost full" production of *The Music Man*. The Humdingers, all of whom are Dapper Dans of Disneyworld by day, auditioned and landed the spot in the huge production. The two sold-out shows featured full orchestra, professional actors, the Orlando Chorale, and hundreds of high school extras. Chad Bennett, Aaron Stratton, Kevin Miles and Roger Ross (far right of above photo, l-r) attended rehearsals every night for nearly two weeks. In addition to their School Board roles, they performed in most of the production numbers and in the opening train scene.



It's easy to find huge numbers of built-in performers and audience who want to celebrate *The Music Man* on its 50th anniversary. Not every town has Orlando's resources, but chapters are finding many performing co-travelers who to share shows and productions. Take advantage of this anniversary and use it to



increase both awareness and your membership. Plan now for a special celebration on Wednesday, Dec. 19 and start planning other events like:

- A Music Man-themed guest night
- Incorporate the theme, or at least several songs, into your chapter show
- Do a mini Music Man show for your sing outs
- Perform the "Music Man Medley" with your local community/school band or orchestra

Purchase Music Man-themed barbershop music and learning CDs from Harmony Marketplace. Thousands of orders have already been filled this year for Music Man-related sheet music. Order at www.harmonymarketplace.com or 800-876-7464. Stock numbers:

- #6266 Seventy-Six Trombones
- #6267 Lida Rose (Floyd Connet arr.)
- #7688 Lida Rose (Burt Szabo arr.)
- #7764 Lida Rose (8-part male/female)
- #6268 It's You
- #6269 'Til There Was You
- #6270 Sincere
- #6271 Goodnight My Someone
- #8620 Goodnight Ladies
- #4432 Show Script
- #4815 Music Man Medley (with band/orchestra score)



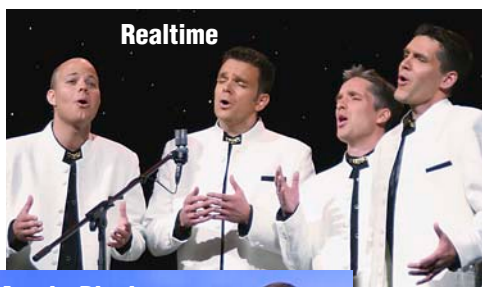
Here's a recent shot of Barbershopper Doug McKnight with Shirley Jones, who played Marian the Librarian in the 1962 screen version of *The Music Man*. She was at a Woodridge, Ill., movie theatre for a nostalgic re-release on the big screen. Doug spoke with Shirley about the Society and its 50th anniversary celebration of the musical. The event was an example of how many other people and groups are already celebrating *The Music Man* this year. What is your chapter or quartet doing to get in on the action?



What might have been: three Society quartets in Sweepstakes finals

For the first time, Society quartets won three of the top eight spots in America's biggest freestyle a cappella contest—but only two of these quartets will be competing at the finals. Nevertheless, the regional contests still presented several firsts for Society groups. Two quartets—**Realtime** (Pacific Northwest Regional winner / 2005 international champion) and **Men in Black** (Boston Regional winner / 2005 collegiate champion)—already own barbershop gold. No Society gold medalist on any level has even competed in the Sweepstakes before now.

Work commitments forced Realtime to bow out of this year's finals despite qualifying, but Men in Black with join Land O' Lakes district yucksters **Nightwatch** (two-time Chicago regional winner) for the May 5 finals



in San Francisco. All three quartets also swept the "Audience Favorite" awards for their respective regions.

Numerous Society quartets have competed in or won past Sweepstakes regional contests, and four Society-affiliated groups have won the 22-year-old Sweepstakes. However Realtime is the first Sweepstakes finalist who had first advanced beyond the quartet semi-finals in Society competition.

Past Society quartet winners of the Sweepstakes include **Hi-Fidelity** (2006), **The Perfect Gentlemen** (2002), and

Metropolis (1998). The **Knudsen Brothers** (1990) became an international Society finalist quartet after they won the Sweepstakes, but competed in

a non-quartet configuration for the Sweepstakes.

www.harmony-sweepstakes.com

Needed immediately: staff geek

Do you know the pitch for VB.NET or ASP.NET? If that question didn't scare you, we need to talk. The Society is migrating its membership management, events registration and merchandise operations to the Aptify Association Management Software Suite (www.aptify.com). A new staff IT person will:

- Perform data conversion and quality assurance from legacy systems to Aptify's SQL database
- Help integrate with Great Plains accounting platform
- Develop shopping cart and member management sites in ASP.NET using data objects from the Aptify library

Needed experience:

- Microsoft SQL Server required. Experience with Data Transfor-

mation Services essential

- Strong ASP, ASP.NET, VB, VB.NET, Visual-Studio.Net required
- Strong Crystal Reports skills
- Experience with Great Plains accounting desired
- Experience with Stellent Content Management a plus

This critical position is required immediately. You will be expected to work in Kenosha, Wisconsin until the move to Nashville, and then fully relocate to Nashville in August 2007.

Competitive salary and benefit package.

Please send resume to:

Charlie Davenport
Barbershop Harmony Society
7930 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, WI 53143
800-876-7464 x 8451
570-814-9726 Cell
CDavenport@Barbershop.org



Harmony Foundation welcomes new Managing Director

Harmony Foundation President and CEO Clarke Caldwell is pleased to announce that Sharon Kayser has joined the Foundation staff as its managing director. She has spent the last 10 years in fundraising and nonprofit management, and the prior 13 years in sales and marketing in the financial services sector. She brings broad experience, skill and management discipline to this assignment.



An experienced manager and consultant in the non-profit field,

Sharon is responsible for day-to-day operations, staffing, budget and programs of the Foundation. Specific responsibilities include the direction of annual giving, planned giving programs and the tactical accomplishments of the strategic plan.

She lives in Chicago with her husband, Ademola Popoola, a middle school teacher and coach. She can be reached at Harmony Foundation, 225 W. Washington, Suite 2330, Chicago, IL 60606. She can be contacted at 312-701-1001 x9 or skayser@harmonyfoundation.org.

Use free copies of *The Harmonizer* to market your chapter. Two print overruns of *The Harmonizer* are now available for interested chapters. Many chapters currently staple a business card to older *Harmonizer* copies and leave them in doctors' offices, use them in media kits, or give them to local music teachers or potential members. Headquarters staff has hundreds of additional copies of the July/August 2006 (Indy Convention) issue and of the January/February 2007 issue. The first 500 of each issue can be had in any reasonable quantity for shipping costs only, as long as they are for marketing purposes.

As always, chapters can also pre-order future issues of *The Harmonizer* for 75 cents each. These also must be used only for marketing. To receive these free back issues or to purchase upcoming issues, contact Cheryl Jankowski (cjankowski@barbershop.org, 800-876-7464 x8457).



Learn vital backstage, offstage and chapter administration skills at Harmony University

Music and singing techniques aren't all you'll find at Harmony University. These expert-taught classes will bring your chapter's leaders to the next level:

Basic Acting For Barbershoppers. The classic secrets for natural line delivery, stage directions, movement, appropriate reactions to others, plus memorization skills.

Copyright - Not Wrong! Know your rights! Apply the basic elements of the U.S. copyright law to music publishing, performance and recording.

Creating a Chapter Business Plan. Customize your own to grow and strengthen your chapter. Little prior organizational planning experience is needed. Arrive with a basic understanding of your chapter's annual budget and benchmark data from previous years.

Daily Bulletin. We're looking for reporters. Join the editorial staff and get hands-on experience turning out a professional-quality bulletin.

Get Famous. Marketing strategies to get more gigs and be more famous inside and outside the Society.

Marketing & Public Relations. Learn the basic responsibilities and tools of the marketing and public relations officer. Arrive with an understanding of your budget and benchmark data from previous years.

Membership Matters. How to grow your chapter and create a better chapter experience for everyone.

Music Team Development. How to develop a solid music team and plan successful meetings. "The Music Leadership Team Manual" (required) may be purchased at Harmony Marketplace.

Permanent Performance Committee. A new organized structure that ensures consistency in types of performances. Prevents re-inventing of the wheel for every performance and show, ensures easier, more complete communication among chapter members, and eases the burden of the director and chorus manager.

Professional Show Production for Amateurs. Novice and pros alike learn all about sets, lighting, staging, sound, costumes and choosing the right themes.

Script Writing. The basics of writing scripts for barbershop performances, including development of theme, song selection and characterization.

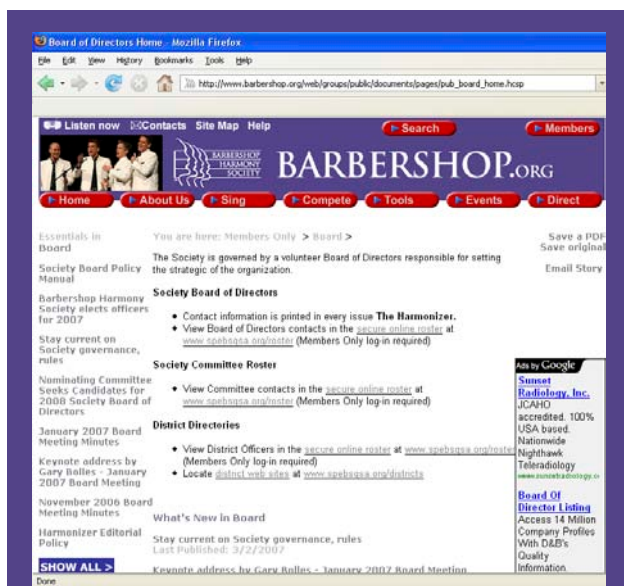
Talk with Ed & Noah. Learn from our top leaders about current trends and Society Board initiatives and Staff operations.

The Technical Theater and Its Crew. All the backstage techniques that will help the audience rise to its feet. Learn while being an actual crew member for the Saturday night show while getting hands on experience with sets, staging, lighting and other mechanicals.

Ticket Sales—Butts in Seats. Principles for filling the house, including venue, reaching the potential customer, establishing and maintaining a database, where to promote and advertise, to comp or not to comp, etc.

For more information, visit www.barbershop.org/harmonyu.





Vital new documents available online at www.barbershop.org

Contest and Judging Manual. This replaces all previous versions, which should no longer be used. Go to www.barbershop.org then click on "Compete" and "C&J Home."

Rules and Regulations Handbook. The Governance and Bylaws Committee has released a new edition, which should be downloaded by all chapters and kept with their governing documents. Go to www.barbershop.org/Rules and Regulations for the authoritative reference on everything from Society bylaws and policy on a large variety of matters to ethics codes and procedures membership rules, chartering, Harmony Foundation, and many other vital topics.

Full board notes and reports. Curious how your Society is run? Interested in the actions and makeup of the Society Board of Directors? Visit the Board of Directors Home at www.barbershop.org/board for access to meeting minutes, official actions, and financial reports.

Welcome new charters

Laguna Hills, Calif.
East Texas, Texas
Elizabethtown, Ky.
Brentwood, Tenn.

Two new licensed chapters

Germantown, Md.
Rutland, Vt.

Get ready for a great time in Denver!

Here's the best way to order Denver Tours. Click on the "Order Tours" link at www.barbershop.org/denver to download a PDF of tour details. Then to order tours, go to the *secure* website at <https://ceo-eventsregister.com/bhs>. Be sure there is no "www" in the address and that there is an "s" in "https"; otherwise, you will reach a less secure version of the ordering system.

Discounted Denver shuttle service.

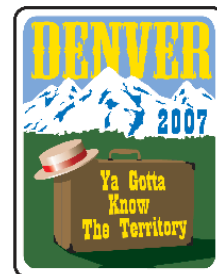
Members can get discounted SuperShuttle transportation to and from Denver International Airport (DIA) and all the downtown hotels. Present the coupon, available at www.barbershop.org/ID_097989, at the SuperShuttle counter in the Denver airport. You can also pre-pay on-line at www.supershuttle.com or call (720) 374-4164 and give the discount code: MPWVQ. Major credit cards accepted. Rate: \$28.00 round trip per person or \$19.00 one way per person. This service will start a week prior to the convention and run until a week after the convention ends.

Enjoy Society night with The Colorado Rockies.

Denver's Major League Baseball franchise will host a Barbershop Harmony Society Night at Coors Field on July 4 for a game against the New York Mets, including special discounted prices for our members. Barbershoppers will be seated together and will be recognized on the scoreboard during the game.



The evening will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display. Tickets are \$24 on the upper level and \$37 on the lower level. To order online, visit www.coloradorockies.com/groups. (Username: barbershop; Password: gorockies) For questions call: Matt Haddad at (303) 312-2485 haddadm@coloradorockies.com. This event is sponsored by the Colorado Rockies; the Society will not provide ground transportation for this event.



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

2015
PITTSBURGH
June 29-July 6

2016
NASHVILLE
July 3-10

MIDWINTER
www.barbershop.org/midwinter

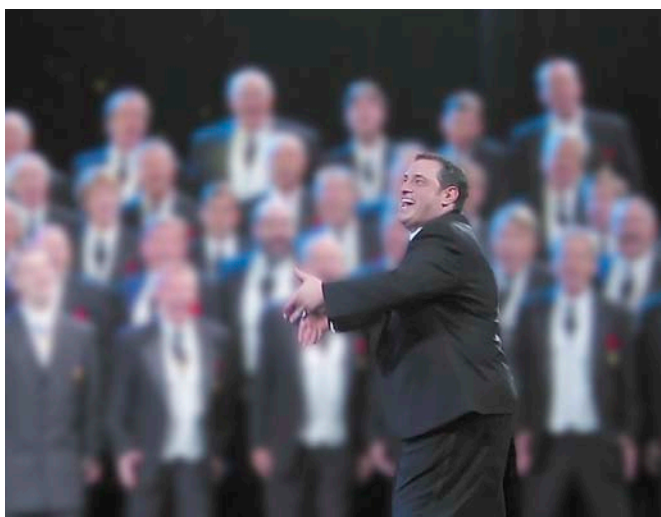
2008
SAN ANTONIO
Jan. 20-27

PASADENA
Jan. 25-Feb. 1

HARMONY UNIVERSITY 2007
St. Joseph, Mo.
July 29-Aug. 5

Join an A-level chorus at Harmony U

Pass the audition for the Honors Chorus and you'll spend two hours a day learning high-end chorus singing from **Ambassadors of Harmony** director Jim Henry. Sessions will include rehearsal techniques, choreography, and sectionals. The chorus will premiere as a featured ensemble on the Saturday Night Show. And you'll still have time for a full plate of the other Harmony University offerings! Auditions will be based on one of the performance songs. Open to Society members attending Harmony University, candidates will submit their auditions on tape or CD to the Society headquarters by May 15. Visit www.barbershop.org/id_047119 to download the Honors Chorus Application Form. Visit www.barbershop.org/harmonyu for more information about Harmony University 2007.



Society briefs

Free director video reviews available. The Society Music department offers a written report and one-on-one phone consultations for any director. Preferably using a contest set, record 10 minutes or less from the middle of the chorus, the director facing the camera onto VHS or DVD. Reviewers will critique gestures, facial expressions, body language, and many other issues. For more details, contact Mike O'Neill at 800-876-7464 x8561 or moneill@barbershop.org.

Get a discount and help the Society every time you use Hertz. The world's largest rental car brand and the Barbershop Harmony Society are offering special year-round discounts in a new affinity marketing agreement. Hertz offers great services like NeverLost™ and 24-hour roadside assistance at 7,600 locations worldwide. Soon, Hertz cards will be sent with membership renewals. For more information, call Society headquarters at 800-876-SING (7464) or visit www.barbershop.org/hertz. To make reservations through Hertz, call 1-800-654-2210 or visit www.hertz.com. All Society members can begin using the discount immediately by using Hertz CDP# 1741435 at the time of reservation.



Your Society credit card has changed, the benefits have not. Don't be alarmed by the Bank of America credit card statement that has come in the mail. MBNA America (the former issuer of the Society-branded card) has merged with Bank of America, and as before, a portion of your pur-

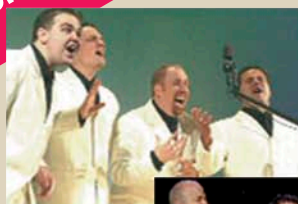
chases is returned to Society programs. Over the years, the sponsoring bank has contributed more than \$1 million to Society programs, and more than an additional \$175,000 in sponsorships for Society programs and events. Currently, Bank of America is a sponsor of the Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest and of featured events at the international convention. This credit card is a great conversation starter and PR tool— get yours at www.barbershop.org/ID_034050 or call 866-227-1553. Use priority code FAAP5L.

Recruiters are eligible for free 2008 convention registrations! Every Music Man of Note recruiter is eligible for monthly drawings of two registrations for either the 2008 Midwinter convention in San Antonio or the 2008 international convention in Nashville. The January winner is Robert L. McClellan of Palco, Kan., a member of the Hays Kansas **High Plains Chorus**. February's winner is Matt Clancy, member of the **Hornell, N.Y.** chapter.

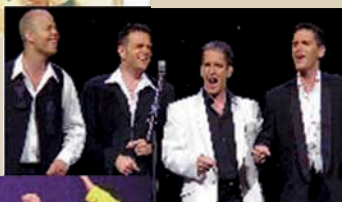
Contest rule change: Limited sound effects are okay. The new rule reads as follows: "Contestants may not use their own equipment to electronically amplify or alter their voices and may not make off-stage use of the house sound system. Contestants may use electronic means independent of the house system to take pitch or to provide limited, brief, and relevant sound effects. Nothing in this rule shall be interpreted to permit the use of recorded music (including singing) and/ or recordings of the spoken word. Violations of this rule are subject to penalties up to and including forfeiture by the Presentation judge(s)."

Featuring
these "Gold Medal"
Performances

You **Know** it's Gonna be Great!



06
**Vocal
Spectrum**



05
Realtime



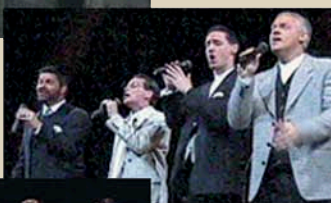
04
Gotcha!



03
Power Play



99
FRED



90
Acoustix



82
**Classic
Collecfction**



75
**Happiness
Emporium**

The Association of International Champions proudly presents

A Celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*

featuring a brand new, soon to be famous
Giallombardo arrangement of a medley of songs
from *The Music Man* sung by the AIC Chorus!



with a
25th anniversary
special tribute to
82 **Classic
Collection**
and a
50th anniversary
tribute to
56 **Lads of
Enchantment**



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HARMONY HOW-TO

Rick Spencer, Charlie Davenport



Interchapter activities equal more fun!

When was the last time your chapter invited another chapter or chapters to your rehearsal to enjoy a special night of barbershop harmony? Has your chapter ever been invited to one of these events? Have you ever thought about it?

One of the Society's foundation blocks is camaraderie—associating with men of like mind. Interchapter activities were a rudimentary part of our founders' primary activities and were a key factor in Society growth for decades. In the last 15 or so years, many chapters have become too busy for these activities, and sadly, the results speak for themselves. Yes, there are conventions to attend and perhaps in which to compete. Yes, there are district schools where you can gather and learn. But, it's amazing how much fun can be had on your regular meeting night by inviting a neighboring chapter to visit.

If you fear that a future interchapter activity could end up a failure, it will probably be the first interchapter activity failure on record in the Society's history. Open up your chapter to these activities and it'll be like opening a bag of potato chips—you can't have just one!

Rick Spencer
Director of
Music and
Education
rspencer@
barbershop.org

Charlie Davenport
Director of
Member
Services
cdavenport@
barbershop.org

What to do on your meeting night

Mystery Bus Trip. Many chapters are located within a short bus ride from another chapter. When everyone has arrived at the meeting, announce that a surprise is waiting in the parking lot, and load everyone onto a bus you've hired to take them on a chapter visitation. You can also plan to meet early that evening and let the members know they'll be taking a bus ride ... but don't tell them where they're going. (Plan ahead of time with the other chapter!) Once you get there the number of activi-

ties are endless. Try some of these suggestions:

- Quartet singing
- Woodshedding
- Tag singing
- Tag-in quartet singing
- Combined chorus singing
- Plenty of break time with refreshments to encourage informal quartet singing and socializing
- Bring in a guest clinician to provide some education for the evening
- Watch a little of the most recent International Chorus or Quartet DVD
- Feature some of your "talented" members performing their other-than-barbershop talent (Important: Approve each act ahead of time!)
- Feature chapter quartets in short performances
- Serve as "audience" prior to contest (something for a non competitor to do for a competitor)
- Feature each participating chorus in short performances
- Invite a local district quartet champion to perform at the event
- Invite your local school's choir to perform
- Have an interchapter guest night. Remember more people singing barbershop=more fun!
- Sing Barberpole Cats
- Learn a song or two for the event or at the event, to give the combined group something else to sing besides Barberpole Cats

Interchapter quartet contest. Plan a night of quartet activity with a neighboring chapter. Make the rules simple. For example, everyone must sing in a quartet, and no more than two members of the same chapter may compete in a quartet. The winner of the contest gets bragging rights.

Eleven members of the Muskegon Barbershop Quartet Club of Michigan took the high-speed ferry across Lake Michigan to sing with Milwaukee-area Barbershoppers. They sang during the 2.5 hour ride, and throughout the buffet and random-draw quartet contest. The informal event showed how much fun a little planning and a light agenda can be for Barbershoppers who don't regularly get to associate with one another.



Combine with other chapters to sing your National Anthem for a sporting event. This is a wonderful opportunity to really impress the thousands of fans by the size and sound of the combined group. You know the group is combined ... the audience knows that a fantastic barbershop chorus just sang an amazing rendition of the National Anthem.

Perform on each others show or hold a joint show. Learn a

Thirty-three members of **The Harmony Heritage Singers**, a daytime chorus of the Mount Vernon, Va. Chapter, took a three and a half hour bus ride for their interchapter visit to another daytime chorus, the **Northern Neck Bay-tones** in Kilmarnock, Va. Another five Barbershop-pers from yet another chapter came for the trip, which was a year in the planning.



They met 25 members of the Baytones late morning at a middle school, where the choruses sang for each other before a lunch and birthday celebration in the cafeteria. That afternoon, the choruses put on a joint show for seventh and eighth graders, and got a standing ovation for their joint closing number. The party continued on the ride home, including a stop for dinner. A very happy bunch of senior Barbershoppers returned home that evening looking forward to a return visit by the Baytones.

common repertoire so the combined “mega chorus” can be the feature of each chapter’s show. Feature chapter quartets from both chapters. Have both groups sell tickets. Sell ads. Split the profits. Have fun.

Host an “All-State Sing” festival.

Invite all chapters in your state to participate in an all-day event and evening performance. Learn two or three songs ahead of time to perform in the combined choruses’ part of the show. Invite a top director from the area in to conduct the entire group. Feature each chapter on the show. Invite the public to the show. The combined chorus closes the show as the finale. Have an afterglow and come home early ... in the morning that is! Have fun.

Try something not directly barbershop related

- Joint non barbershop activity (picnic, ball game, attend a dinner theatre/music show)
- Joint officer installation, chapter charter night, past presidents night
- Co-sponsor a booth at county fairs, relevant trade shows, etc.

The better the plan, the less work all around

With a well structured plan, you’ll ensure that the work is evenly shared and that the evening will run

smoothly:

1. Decide what you want to accomplish

- A night of fun, fellowship and music shared by multiple chapters with singing entertainment?
- A novice contest among several chapters?
- A visit to support another chapter?

2. Separate the components of the plan into Who, What, Where, When elements

- Who to contact with the other chapters
- What is to be accomplished by each chapter representative
- Where the event is to happen
- When each element needs to be accomplished

3. Delegate the work

- Obviously, depends on the chapter size, but the more members involved the better
- Key position: Contact man in each chorus
- Possible traveling chorus jobs: Bus chairman, promotion chairman, sign-up sheet chairman, snacks chairman
- Possible host chapter jobs: Reception chairman, program co-chair (this should be a joint function between all chapters allowing an opportunity for all singing groups to perform for everyone), parking chairman, sign chairman, name tag chairman, etc.

4. Set the plan in motion, follow the

plan and HAVE FUN!

Ask your program VP to arrange an interchapter event. Ask if you may arrange one. Participate in an interchapter event. If you do nothing else in 2007, insist that your chapter be given the opportunity to participate in an inter chapter activity.

If you need help setting up or designing one, call 800-876-7464 and ask for Charlie (cdavenport@barbershop.org, phone x8451) or Rick (rspencer@barbershop.org, phone x8559). ■

Value of interchapter activities

- **Camaderie:** The feeling of trust and friendship when associating with those of a like mind. We enjoy sharing our hobby with each other.
- **Performing:** Opportunity for chorus, quartets, octets etc to perform for fellow barbershoppers
- **Watching:** Chance to watch other groups perform
- **Learning:** Opportunity through watching or direct coaching to gain knowledge
- **Opportunities:** Possibility to find a new friend, a new quartet, a new technique, a new “fun thing” to do
- **Variety:** Not the “same old thing” you’ve all been doing
- **Experience:** Something that every member will remember in his own way but will also be able to share with others as part of his barbershop experience

Capture the spirit of Harold Hill

The Music Man of Note and your chapter



The Music Man of Note is not so much a program as a spirit that we hope to foster in every chapter. I have spoken with nearly 200 chapter presidents, the majority of whom lead chapters with 20-35 guys. But large, medium or small, most are great chapters that are looking to grow. The exciting thing about the Music Man of Note program is when a president and his VP of membership “get it”—when they put their heads together and say, “We’ve fooled around long enough. It’s time we wake up and put some passion back into this chapter.”

All but unnoticed amidst the polarity of ideas in how Barbershop harmony should look on the contest stage are champion stories coming from groups that may never qualify for the international stage. But, they’re having great Barbershop experiences! There’s the 32-man chapter that gained 15 new members in one year, primarily because they *insisted* that every guest sing in a quartet his first night in the hall and every night thereafter until he became a member! They made a big deal out of it. Sure, the guest has the opportunity to say “No” if he really doesn’t want to sing. But guess how often that happens? Not very, I assure you.

Many of us—myself included—absolutely love the competitive aspect of our hobby, while many of our chapters are not as focused on development. What are we to do to help them grow? How can we get them excited enough again to beat the bushes for guests? When will they join the band?

In *The Music Man*, Harold Hill brought harmony to River City—not just to the School Board, who had “hated each other for 15 years,” but for everybody in town. They came together because of the *spirit* of one

“snake-oil” salesman. He brought music, harmony, fraternity, hope, excitement, and vitality back to the community, which had long before lost it.

One Harold Hill makes all the difference

Both chapters I’ve belonged to in my six years in barbershop had a competition mentality. After 32 years of doing mostly the same thing, one chapter, led by the music team and the board, decided to change. It was the spirit of *one* Harold Hill that caught like wildfire. He was excited, wanted to sing well, and wanted to help, in some way, to make the chapter grow. The chapter went from 32 men on the risers at contest, to 55 men on the risers 36 months later. From a high 60s score to a 78 average.

Our Harold Hill was so animated, so exciting, that the chapter made him director. They got coaching from some of the best, and it wasn’t long before they were singing like the best, and the fun never stopped. It took *one* man with the spirit to change things, and it caught like a blazing fire in dry leaves. My other chapter similarly decided to leave the past behind and press on toward great music, great shows, great competitions, and great fun. And they’re doing it!

You see, it is a mind set on success! A spirit that says “We will have a boys band.” Are you from a small/medium sized chapter? *You* can be the Music Man by rallying the troops! Volunteer to be at rehearsal early to help guys with vocals or barbershop basics or the visual plan. Join us in creating a new phase in your chapter’s history. Have the will to grow, take the initiative to grow; you’ll see amazing growth and have a lot more fun in the process.



Drew Ellis
Assistant
Director of
Membership
dellis@
barbershop.org

Welcome new members! (And congratulations to their Music Men of Note!)

New Society members reported as joining between January 1 and February 28, 2007. Each new member name in plain text is followed by his recruiter’s name in italics.

Cardinal

William Mudd-Simmons
Jon Nicholas
Jeffrey Thompson
Alan Richardson
Thomas Martin
James Baumgartner
Michael Draves
William Carbon
Joseph Schmidt
James Sauder
Steven Fay
William Dobslaw

Jonathan Sly
Max Bell
Coy Hutcherson
Stephen Cline
Leslie Dix II
Lindle Pogue
Stephen Highsmith
Winton Gibbons
Larry Smith
Richard R

Central States

Merle Stone
Larry Miers

Richard Hise
Gene Gnuse
Dennis Craun, Jr.
Dennis Craun
Jerry Young
Leland Flickinger
Steven Papson
George Flock
Evan Moore
Thomas Luers
James Schuh
Edward Schuh
Duncan McArthur
Julien Worland

Nick Groves
Larry Aspleaf
Keith Krumrey
David House
John Chambers
Chris White
Marty Williams
John Chambers
Daniel Murphy
Richard Anderson
Joel Short
Wayne Philipp
Daniel Varner
Dan Varner

Russell Fishel
Rodney Madsen
Steve Aldrich
Wendell Aldrich
Christopher Dalrymple
Bob Miller
Charles Poeppé
Mike Scott
Roger Akers
David Knapp
Lyle Schwery
Kevin Schwery

Shawn King
Steven Seymour
Steven Teske
Kenneth Schroer
Ben Bergman
Gene Guenther
Edward Anderson
Darrell Denker
Warren Stafford
Robert McClellan
David Williams II
Dean Sellers

Dixie

William Gronning
David Laughery Jr
John Weber
David Laughery Jr
Robert Slaney
Frank Hrach
Robert Griffin
Noah Funderburg
Robert Clark
John Arnold
John Ball
William Myers

Thomas Schulte
Alvin Bey
Joseph Barnard
Michael McLearn
Christopher Hale
Martin Hill
David Satterwhite
Robert Greene
Matt Dorrough
Philip Petty
Arthur Buhrman
Thomas Masters
David Powell
Nathanael Pendley

Barry Hearn Kevin Dickson Lloyd Haase Paul Collom Jack McConnell Dick Tyrrell Robert Futrell Joseph McDonald Richard Massicott Charles Roberts Lary Griffin Edward Nadeau	Garry Ziegenhagel Fred Janzen James Barry V Thomas Leonard Geoffrey Alder Jim Thorpe Scott Wall Darrell Werries Gary Haubold Phillip LaPorte James Kling III Kenneth Leonard Jack Denedde Harry Joy Todd Dignan Greg Jarmer David Lau Jackson Newell Kirk Dehn Sig Dehn Richard Conner Thomas Wood Brian Preuss Joseph Ott Herbert Nelson George Bellos Larry Weaver David Clarke Mark Warawa Gordon Harris Sean Kollman James Taylor	Edwin Atwater Randall Calm Edward Davies Craig Bersagel James Buttenham Percy Crosthwaite John Volponi Reed George David Voth David Wegenast Gerard Entrop Stephen Halliday Marshall Adderson Kevin Murphy	Ralph Denny Sr Thomas Hammill Stephen Svedi Mike Ferrel Michael Mitchell Lloyd Hild Drew Fomai Arthur Clayton Joe Williams Richard Thompson Reidar Sumstad Kenneth Sylvia Terry Heltn Larry Wilson II Daniel Smolenski Chas Walton Frederick Jones Rocque Pucci Wayne Peterson Bill Weiser Robert Britt Tom Ludden John Johns David Covey John Dillon Robert Haig Johan Hendriks Donald Satterlund Bill Eads Ronald Murray Scott Kahler Raymond Kahler	Johnny Miller Robert Bailey Eric Bishop William Holden Jr Weymouth Fogelberg Loren Englund Mark Coldiron Gibson Hertler Ben Cavaness Dean Brown David Hayes Dan Goforth Tom Christman Jack Peters Richard Burch Luther Hintz David Kwon Mark Freedkin Frederick Cannon Jeffrey Thompson William Reinicke Jan Pendergraft Perry Gebhart Charles Myer Philip Matzen George Jackson Jr	Henry Hunt Garry Hinkle Bill Fryers Vinton Knarr Alan Ackmann Earl Holtz Andrew Locke Maximillian Karpiak Donald Thompson James Flatley Paul Hussmann Eugene Smail Paul Patterson James Finch Gary Eustice Larry Finger James Ferrier Douglas Ferrier	Noel Schwertfeger James Arnold Heath Hale Jim Riley David Brickman Ray Ice, Jr. John Burkey Robert Pflaumer Earl Lhamon Lane Bushong Robert Hilliard Robert Hawn David Haynes Ronald Williams Bronson West Stanford McHenry Richard Siebert Glenn Schillberg Fred Turkington Carl Ondrus Larry Goodwin Jerry Buckland James Ailes James Dumbauld Joshua Monroe Eugene Henninger	Donald Chenault Raphael Chenault Jonathon Gregory Gary Gunstinson James Zelm Gary Gunstinson Mark Winholtz Daniel Slattery Mark Ortenburger Daniel Slattery Mark Danielson Donald Goedtke Raphael Chenault Don Betts Joseph Sandhofer Richard D Jason Fahl Scott Perau Matt Tanger Roger Eisenman Ross Hansen Brent Johnston Robert Maronn William Albrecht Tom Clark James Erickson Duane Schuh Loren Paulson David Naatz Michael Clausen Craig Schaefer Kim Rismiller
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Evergreen

Blare Fritz
James Dippel
Cabbot Sanders
James Dippel
Josh Gwin
James Dippel
Ian Logan
James Dippel
Joshua Bedford
Jonathan Powless
David Bedford
Jonathan Powless
Haelyn Bloxham
Dennis Bloxham
Hethe Bloxham
Dennis Bloxham
Don Kallevog
Peter Nickel

Far Western

Rex Smith
John McDougald
Ross Hawkins
John McDougald
Leonard Jensen
Jose Ochoa
Gabe Hanover
Jose Ochoa
Keith Mortensen
Robert Steele
Andrew Mortensen
Robert Steele
Terrence Pierce
Carl Eckhardt, Jr.
Spencer Videon
Terrence Pierce

Illinois

Dennis Streicher
Edward Vogt

Johnny Appleseed

Jim Kirk
Ronald Sites
Charles Wilson II
Raymond Stone
Ronnie Spann, Jr
John Polofka
Timothy Marborough
Dennis Price

Land O' Lakes

Augustin Chenault
Raphael Chenault
Matthias Chenault
Raphael Chenault

Recruitment tips from members of the 100 percent club

These men are among several who recruited at least five members in 2006 ... and who are therefore paying no dues in 2007. For this year, no other notable Man of Note: Anthony Bowman of the **North East Tennessee Chapter** has already recruited six new members in the first three months of 2007!

Rob Heady, 1-year member



Chapter: Greater Louisville, Ky.

What hooked his recruits: Loved being part of a group that works hard for musical excellence

Technique: Enthusiasm. Feeling like there's something to share that's worthwhile. "Give this a shot, no commitment! Come see what you think"

Motivation: Love of the hobby, and the desire to see it grow

What's next: Keep recruiting and win district singing with his father

Derek Street, 14-month member



2006 Men of Note: 11

Chapter: Rock Hill, S.C.

What hooked his recruits: Different for each man

Motivation: Loves music, Tuesday night is the best night of the week, and he wants to do it well. "You have to actively recruit; you can't expect people to just come to rehearsal." Competition focus, but haven't competed yet. Have gone from about 12 to 35 on the risers in a year. Get them in the door and they're hooked!

Technique: Networks with other choir directors, asks as many people as he can if they like to sing. "I don't think you should be in the hobby if you're not passionate about it. You pay your dues; if you care about

the hobby, do what you can to make it enticing"

Other: High energy, ability to relate to youth. He teaches high school choir recruits from local churches and Winthrop University. They love four-part harmony and the overtones. Has a junior high quartet, a college quartet, and two other active quartets
What's next: Keep recruiting. Wanted 15 this year, but only got to 11. Wants to keep growing the **Carolina Coastal Chordsmen**, which he directs

Kevin Duncel, 4-year member



Chapter: Mt. Pleasant, Lansing, Mich.

What hooked his recruits: The music. Plus with the chapter they get more leeway than in a college group—can miss a week

or two and still be active

Motivation: His dad is the District VP for Membership! Recruited until there were enough men for a new chapter at Central Michigan University

Technique: handed out chorus business cards among local school choruses. "Hey man, I know you like to sing, why don't you come sing with us on _____ night?" Once they're there, they're hooked! Has six Men of Note, all age 26 or younger

Other: A music professor (and former Society judge) is director. Almost half of chapter members are college students

What's next: Recruit more guys

Stew Grosser, 5-year member



Chapter: Kansas City

What hooked his recruits: The Music. Guys love to sing and love the fellowship.

Technique: Simple persistence. Called to get them interested and wouldn't stop until hearing "no" three times. Gave business cards to prospective members

Motivation: Not money but internal motivation. Tried to make sure anyone he brought came back until they were in the habit

Other: Once they're members, the job has only just begun!

What's next: Recruiting more

Tommy Heathman 25-year member



Chapter: Lexington, Ky.

What hooked his recruits: "My Old Kentucky Home" was the thing that really hooked 'em.

Rupp arena and 24,000 people in the seats sends chills down your spine! The excitement of doing something for therapy, your own good

Technique: Talks to everyone about singing. Giving discount tickets to shows for all younger men. More singouts you do, the more singers you'll attract

Motivation: Loves barbershop, wanted to set an example for the rest of the chapter

Other: Gave two of his Men of Note to newer members; he actually had seven

What's next: Want to grow, sound good, become better musicians

Jerry Orloff 42-year member



Chapter: Bay Area, Santa Cruz, Calif.

Motivation: "It's a labor of love!" Wanted dues paid, and

put the money into new quartets and chapters

Technique: Talks to everybody he sees about singing

Other: 180 Men of Note—most in Society

What's next: Want to help each quartet get off the ground; and help give scholarships to quartets. A chance to help young quartets get started, dues, help pay their dues, hotel bills, etc.

Vincent Lofquist
Robert Gall
Larry Linrud
Terry Geisen
Eugene Blair
Roger Creedy Jr
Craig LaPoint
Larry Umbreit
David Becker
Adrian Jimenez
Laverne Gansemer
Thomas T
Kevin Sohl
William Grieve
Edward Custance
Paul Frederickson
Raymond Petry
Warren Wilson
Gene Horning
Charles Schubbe
John Dean
Paul Mikkelsen
Jeffrey Gregory
Mark Brainard
Michael Doyle
Peter Benson

Mid-Atlantic

Jason Spector
Noah Morrison
David Morrison
Noah Morrison
Bob Moore
Vincent Cazenias
John Lang
David Schooley
C Lloyd Broadstreet
Hugh Van
Joel Fairman
Stephen Stojowski
Robert Scholl
Howard Sponseller
Chris Leggett
Mitchell Harrington
Marc Dawson
David Dawson
Jeffrey Windsor
Michael Taylor
Donald Ingram
Joseph Chilcoat
Peter Stucki
Earl Sterling
Aaron Greller
Paul Santino
Alfred Jacobsen III
Thomas La Motte
Sam Fasolino
Jerry Blum
John Crovo
Richard Hott
Steve Brausa
Robert Heim
Andrew Krystowski
Michael D'Andrea
Art Kester
James Ferguson
John Fitzpatrick
Henry Laumann
Rick Harrigan
James Weythman
Terrell Holbrook
Norman Slocum
Michael DePaolo
Robert Seda

Northeastern

David Clancy
Thomas Ayres
Kevin Clancy
Thomas Ayres
Raymond
Kidalsowski
Larry Wilbur
Alan Benoit
Larry Wilbur
William Wiles
Robert Wetzler
Robert O'Brien
Ronald Menard
John Dilts
Bernie Graham
Bernie Graham
Matthew Graham
Robert Turner
John Baggs
Richard Cormier
John Dilts
John Campbell
Richard Cormier
Zebulun McLellan
Richard Hamilton
William Vokey
John Peach
Brad Lane
James Flanders
Alfred Duncan
Alexander Forgeron
Eric Craig
Harold Higgins
Robert Sheridan
Leland Daum
Stephen Klein
Peter Cousen
Leslie Blodgett
Charles Fergus
Carl Mazzariello
William Lundy
William Pierce
Tony Di Ianni
Thomas Maletta
John Campbell
Robert Butman
Robert Beauchamp
Paul Traite
Alan Bone
Paul Stickney
Stephen Barden
Daniel White
Manuel Brune Jr
Bruce Soper
Kenneth Cook
Richard Frank
William Wiles
Daniel Graves
Thomas Jackson
Joan Burkhard
Daniel Graves
Ronald Langlais
Daniel Venditti
Thomas Jackson
Richard Frank
Aaron Goldberg
Charles Church
George Washburn
Carl Mazzariello
Peter Millett
George Washburn
Albert Willis Jr
Wilfred B
Ray Abney
David Robinson

Richard Nordmeyer
Albert Willis Jr
Matthew Graham
Richard Nordmeyer
Richard Hamilton
Thomas Maletta
Robert Beauchamp
Stephen Klein
David Foster
Nathan Foster
Richard Bartlett
Malcolm MacDuffie
Christopher Forgeron
Hugh Dickie
Emerson Colby
Roger Arend
Fred Miles
Thomas Andrews
Charles Laskey
R. Paul Koons
Cornelius Robbins
Harold Stephens
John Beatty
Jim Hiscott
Anthony Tesoriero
Frederick Polnisch
Wilfred Cunningham
Peter Millett
William Gatchell
Leland MacLean

Ontario

David Murphy
Daniel Wilhelmus
Steve Magalas
Daniel Wilhelmus
Mark Chambers
Daniel Wilhelmus
Bernard Wesseling
Daniel Wilhelmus
Scott McDermott
Daniel McGuire
Patrick McDermott
John Deacon
Bruce Williamson
John Deacon
Douglas Sheppard
John Deacon
David Warkentin
William Panter
William Stoner
Bob Pope
King Man
Beverly Walden
Jamie Hockin
David Chaplin
William Smith
Orval Allen
Tim Mater
Lloyd Mater
Ralph Esbaugh
Cyril Esbaugh
Andy Prieur
Brian Parish
Ross McKenzie
Emile Touchette
Murray Maw
Larry Maw
Cyril Esbaugh
Roger Wiens
Gary Wood
Gordon Tompkins
Ethan Miller
Paul Wagg

Robert Tester
Dave Neely
Pioneer
Michael McLary
Ryan Collins
Nathan Masterson
Ryan Collins
William Groth
Steven Warnaar
David Bechard
Dominic Calzetta
Ross McEwen
Alan Carscadden
Bradley Venman
Kevin Duncel
Michael Souliere
Ronald Gibb
Daniel Turse Jr
Earl Berry
Robb Pike
James Schmidt
Todd Lowell
David Gillingham
Mark Perrone
Jack Day
Francis Adams
Robert Wolf
Charles Sageloly
Robert Holley

Rocky Mountain

Gerald Tallmon
Ronald Swank
John Elving
John Elving
Harvey Conard
Kelly Michaelis
Thomas Whitfield
Fred Peterson
Ronald Achilles
Sam Chestnut
Roger Shaw
Jeffrey Shaw
John Rotola
Harlan Fretheim
Will Hurley
Shawn Hurley
Alan Hansen
James Halen
James Witt
Kenneth Reish

Seneca Land

Peter Okoniewski
Matthew Clancy
Ryan Kasperski
Donald Johnson
Ralph Hardiman
Milton Moyer

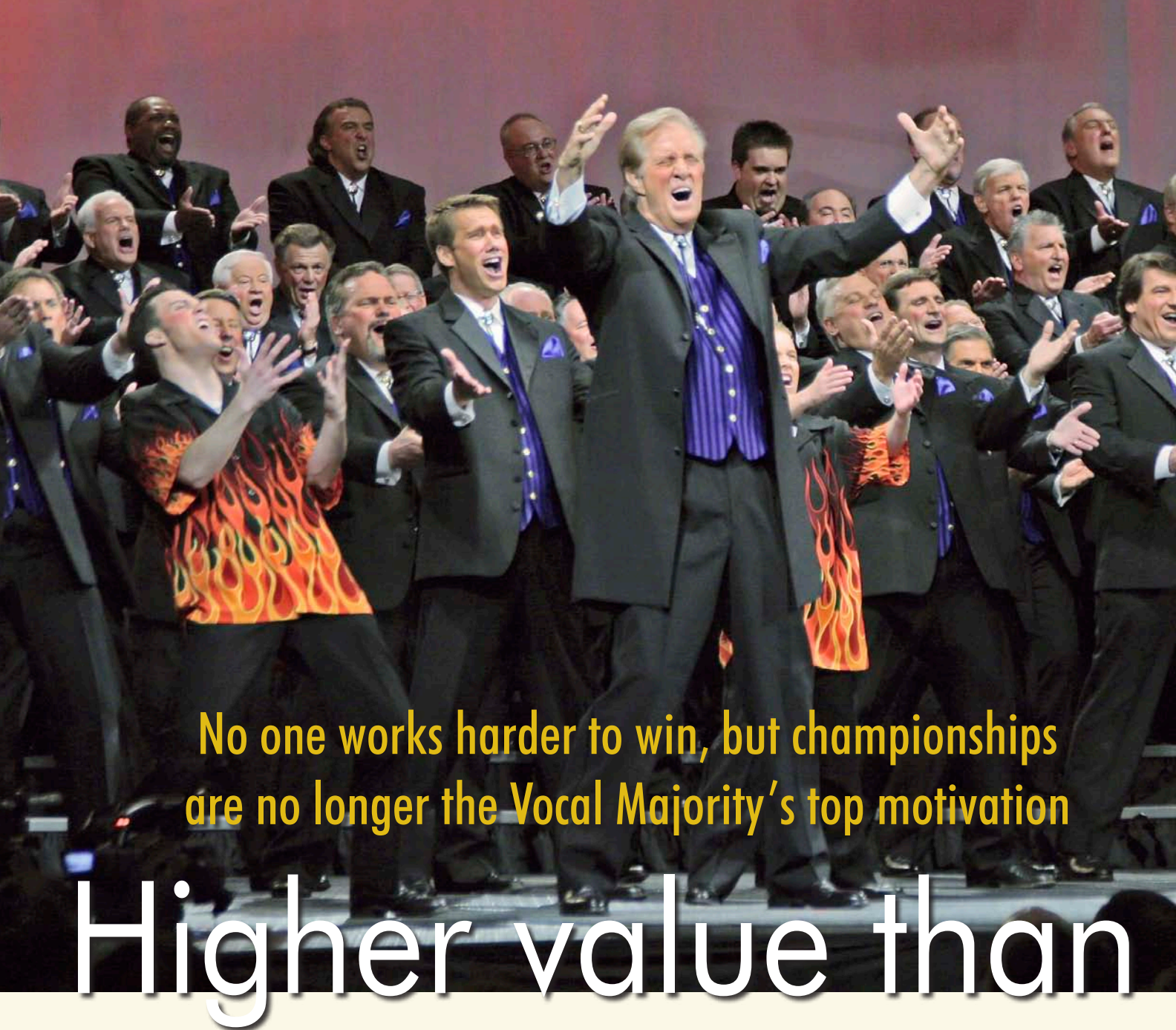
Southwestern

Phillip Beaver
William Bozzelle
Charles Hano
William Bozzelle
Michael Gonzales
William Bozzelle
Brett Auttonberry
William Bozzelle
J Duane Howell
David Bender
Mike Moore
Charles Moore

Seth Binkley
Brooks Harkey
Jason Zelnick
Richard Zelnick
Tyler Spence
William Houpp
James Neu
David Aldrin
Keith Earle
Ronald Rogers, Jr.
Greg Hawkins
Gary Hawkins
Jared Thomason
Larry Thomason
Chris Stancil
Robert Stancil
George Poynor
Judson Gorman
Robert Burkhead
Harry Boucher
Jeffrey Fleming
John Gossard
Steve Campo
Albert Diehl
Rickey Jones
Gary Absher
Matthew McLane
John Loucks
Jim Tracy
David Huff
Todd Winter
Harold Todd
Donis Smead
Charles Hanna Jr
Noah Forsberg
David Forsberg
Michael Carlile
Bobby Young
Robert Florer
Michael Yosko

Sunshine

Larry Ludy
Arend Behrens
Basil Clark
Arend Behrens
John Harding
Arnold Felman
Milton Smith
Eugene Gallucci
Norman Wood
Neil Plum
Dennis Ausman
Allan Stocker
Bruce Witton
Arnold Hansen
Barrett Lampp
Stephen Jacobsen
James Burke, Jr.
Leo Zornow
Arthur Koelsch
Richard Matheson
Gary Fitts
Leon Bisson
Christopher Kizirian
Sean Stork
Dean Dix
Frank Caldarazzo
Donald Ballard
Noel Kersey
Larry Clapp
David Roberts
Ron Gotham
Arnold Appel
Earl Ferkel
Tony Fortune



No one works harder to win, but championships are no longer the Vocal Majority's top motivation

Higher value than

It is the summer of 1978 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Vocal Majority has just been handed its first defeat since winning its first chorus gold medal in 1975, and the members are devastated. The VM lost by ten points to the more exciting Louisville Thoroughbreds, and it seems as if the world has come to an end for the chorus. Tears are shed that night as the VM sings "Didn't We Almost Make It" at their afterglow. Heads hang low. Director Jim Clancy vows that he will do everything in his power to never again finish second. The VM mood is dark, but determined.

Flash forward 29 years. The VM's 11th gold medal is safely secured, and the men are on their way to a fulfilling 2007. The goals have been laid out for the year, including a new Christmas CD, a Las Vegas-themed spring show series, a Texas-themed fall show series and Christmas concerts based on the CD

title, *Believe*. The chorus also has many corporate performances on its schedule, and the members are looking forward to their swan song appearance at the international convention in Denver this summer.

Many changes have taken place over the past three decades to ensure the VM's long run of success. The group's philosophy has evolved over the years, and new priorities now drive the VM to achieve. How might the lessons learned by the Vocal Majority apply to your chorus?

In the beginning, winning was everything

When the Vocal Majority chartered in 1972, the chorus had but one goal in mind: Become the best male choral group in the world. "Barbershopping would be an important part of our identity," said one of the founders, Bob Arnold, "and we knew we



wanted to be the best. So winning the international contest became our ultimate objective.”

“Winning was what it was all about back then,” adds Jim Clancy, the group’s longtime musical director and the soul of the chorus. “After our first victory in 1975, winning became our expectation. That’s why the second place finish in 1978 devastated us. It tore at the heart of our mission to win.”

The loss to an emotionally charged Louisville Thoroughbreds chorus taught the VM an important lesson – singing well is only one ingredient in a great performance. Conveying the storyline of a song with passion and sincerity is equally important. This is a lesson the VM would build on through the years.

A change in priorities

In the fall of 1978, the VM began its second record-

ing project. *With a Song in Our Hearts* was an outpouring of positively-charged music, filled with signature Jim Clancy arrangements such as *How Deep is the Ocean* and *For Once in My Life*. “People loved that album,” Jim said. “Not just Barbershoppers, but people from all walks of life.”

More important, the members of the VM enjoyed singing the type of songs selected for that recording—heartfelt love ballads that were not overly-limited stylistically. The leadership of the chorus took note of what the men sang best and began to choose music accordingly.

The culture of winning stayed in place with the VM, but a paradigm shift slowly occurred in the corporate mentality of the chorus. Winning gradually became viewed as a by-product of what the chorus strives to be – a group of men operating at its best that can touch people’s lives – and being perceived as the best gives the VM a more elevated platform to accomplish this mission.

The ability to move people, either through live performance or recordings, is now the primary focus of the Vocal Majority.

“I think the conscious shift in our mission occurred over a period of years, and became very evident in 1996,” says Chad Ehmke, Immediate Past President and Performance Team member. “Jim had always wanted to record a CD of hymns and inspirational songs, and ’96 was the right time to do so. Recording *How Sweet the Sound* really had an impact on the guys. Singing that style of music really brought us closer together.”

“The reaction to *How Sweet the Sound* is what convinced us that our objective was changing,” says Marketing VP Mike Mahone. “We got enormous feedback from that release, and we continue to get letters and emails even now. People have found some level of peace and solace by listening to that music while facing tough struggles ... serious illness, even death. Yet selections from the CD are also played

“After our first victory in 1975, winning became our expectation. That’s why the second place finish in 1978 devastated us. It tore at the heart of our mission to win.”

- Jim Clancy



Greg Clancy
Asst. Director,
The Vocal
Majority
Tenor, Max Q

The chorus' best performances are the ones in which its members are operating at a very high emotional level. This creates an aura that can move an audience, though they may not understand why

at weddings and other happy occasions.”

“I think we found our purpose when we got the volume of feedback from that CD,” says Clancy. “Our style of music, when sung well and from the heart, can really inspire people at some level.”

The VM has since recorded another inspirational release, *You Raise Me Up*.

Nuts and bolts

Still, the VM understands that singing well is the foundation for its success. The performance team continues to have a relentless focus on fundamental singing and performing techniques. But the directors

the performance team still strives to generate the maximum resonance from each man, they have modified the corporate tonal placement forward. The overall objective is to create the most natural sound to the ear, yet create more forward ping to the sound than in the past. This adds brilliance to the sound and lends more definition to the word sounds being sung.

Whole self performance

The nuts and bolts of singing are still very much a part of what the VM works at rehearsals, but the predominant focus has shifted to the more emotional aspects of performance.

“The VM used to be all about technique and craft,” says VM choreography teacher, Chuck Mitchell. “Now, we just consider these things to be tools in a tool belt for the guys. Tools are important, but it is the art of the craftsman that makes something beautiful and unique.”

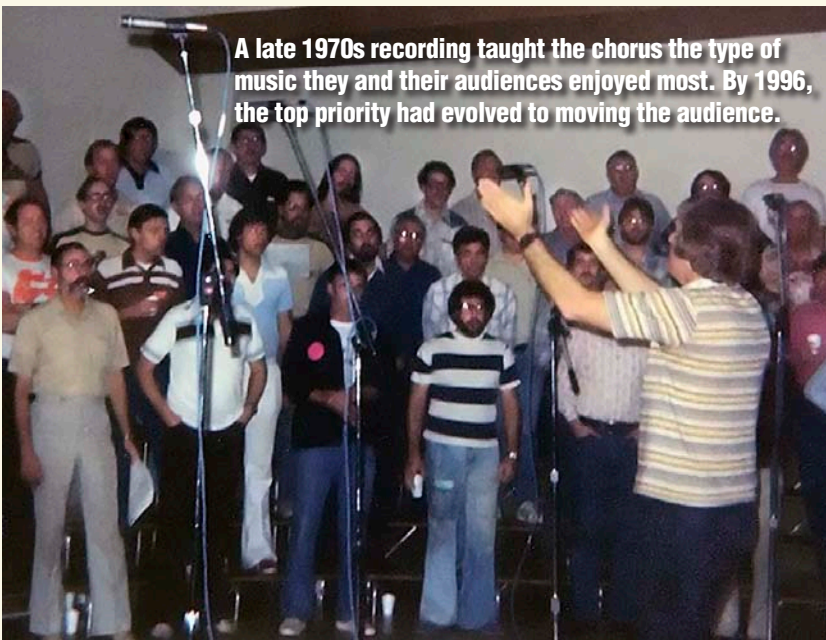
Jim says he has a two-fold responsibility as director. “I need to make sure that the guys have a left-brain understanding of what we are trying to accomplish from a technical point of view, and then have the ability to

let that knowledge function subconsciously while the emotional aspects of the performance take over.”

“The heart of every man on the risers is the driving force of the VM,” says Jim. “It’s probably always been that way, but now we recognize it. Where each guy is operating emotionally and where the corporate attitude is at any given moment are the fundamental factors in how we perform.”

In fact, the chorus’ best performances are the ones in which its members are operating at a very high emotional level. This creates an aura that can move an audience. The people are touched by the performance in some way, though they may not necessarily understand why.

A late 1970s recording taught the chorus the type of music they and their audiences enjoyed most. By 1996, the top priority had evolved to moving the audience.



have a much tougher job than before, according to longtime member and former president, Mickey Bonesio. “Early on we had maybe a dozen songs in the repertoire. Now, we’re managing about 70 active songs, including our holiday music.”

“The chorus stays booked because it is so stylistically versatile,” explains the VM’s marketing consultant, Tom Stoker. Depending on the event, Stoker can book the chorus to sing music that is patriotic, religious or inspirational, Texas-themed, accompanied by an orchestra, holiday-themed, etc. The resulting repertoire has grown cumbersome, which has led to a large change in the way music techniques must be applied.

The winning Indy set: Right message, wrong year?

The summer of 2005 brought a Society name and logo change that stirred up a hornet's nest of debate about where our Society was headed. Incarnations of the debate even showed up at the AIC Show and contest stage in Salt Lake City. That summer, we decided to state our philosophy the next chance we got, in Indy. "Those Chords Will Still Be Ringing In My Heart," by Jim Clancy contained interpolations of "The Old Songs" and "Shine On Me":

Oh how I miss those good old songs, the ones we
used to sing

*And how I loved the old quartets that made the music
ring*

*Their harmony would feed my soul, I knew right from
the start*

Those chords would ring forever in my heart.

"We wanted to show that the music Barbershoppers have sung over the years is to be revered and treasured ... it is special," Jim said. "We also wanted to show that the old chestnuts still have a place on the contest stage."

Our uptune was a little-known Irving Berlin song, "Marching Along With Time." The musical vehicle wasn't particularly strong, but the lyrics perfectly captured our message:

*This world of ours it's ever changing, the hands of time
keep rearranging*

*But with every change I'm right on the beat, and I just
won't let the grass grow under my feet.*

*For there will be a change in music, a change in
rhythm,*

*A change in dancing, but I'll be marching right along
with 'em.*

"Time does change things, and we feel like we as a chorus and as a Society need to evolve to keep up with the times," said associate director Greg Clancy. "We need to make sure we have a healthy Society to preserve after we are all gone."

Was the VM a year late in its message? "Probably so," says Jim. "I think everyone was ready for us to come out with a passionate love song and larger than life uptune, and we came out with a message that, while important, probably represented an issue that had cooled in most Barbershoppers' minds."

Will the VM send a different message in 2009? "Yes!" answer both Clancys emphatically.

"For me personally, I think it's important to operate with a positive, energetic manner with the guys at all times," adds Jim. "And when the chorus is on, they feed me so much energy they practically lift me off the ground."

That's not to say that Jim sugarcoats his criticism when the chorus isn't performing to its capability. "It is imperative that directors be honest with their men at all times. Treat the guys with respect, love and honesty, and they will respond in positive ways that can be very inspiring."

Making a difference makes a difference

Being a member of any group, especially one that offers no financial compensation in busy times, has to be rewarding in some way to keep attracting its members. The VM is no different. "We try to provide a carrot for every man at all times," states Jim. "We are always introducing new music, and we focus on special events that are ahead of us on the calendar."

Some of the guys are in it for the music, some for the camaraderie that barbershopping offers, but the VM's collective goal is for each man to feel like he is an integral part of what makes the chorus work at a consistently high level. Each guy feels like he has the ability to make a difference in people's lives through the chorus' performance. He feels that when this chorus is "on," it can matter to people. That's worth his time.

"Being a member of the Vocal Majority is all about being the best you can be," states one of its newest performers, Jack Westbrook,

By the time VM offered its answer, many had already moved past the original question.



“and I don’t mean just singing. This group is a family that is all about caring for each other and its community. They strive to make an impact on their community and their audiences in a very positive way.”

As driven as the leaders are, they understand

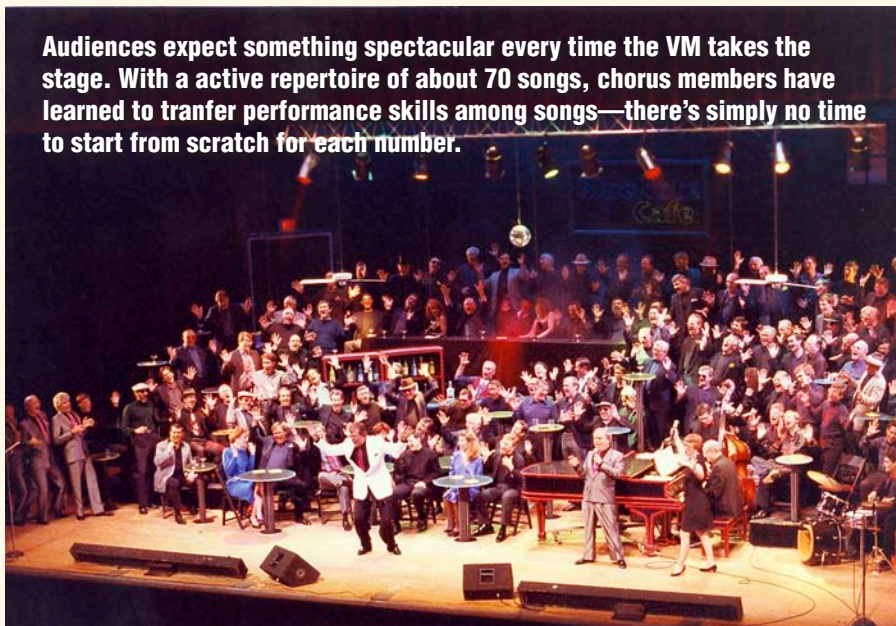
that family comes first. “We’re encouraged to put our families ahead of the VM”, says the dad of young twins, Mike Cooper, “as long as we show up when we’re able.”

So, where does the VM go from here?

“We still work as hard as we ever have to prepare for contests,” says Jim. “But now the operations of the chorus are not built on a contest cycle. We aim to have ‘purpose’ at all times. That, coupled with working to improve who we are, not only as singers and performers, but as men, motivates the guys to be on the risers and ready to perform each week.”

“We are just beginning to consciously realize the significance this community we call a ‘chorus’ can have on its members, and its audiences,” Jim concluded. “It’s all about the men and the music ... there are so many songs left to sing and so many new ways to entertain. We really are having more fun than ever.” ■

Audiences expect something spectacular every time the VM takes the stage. With a active repertoire of about 70 songs, chorus members have learned to transfer performance skills among songs—there’s simply no time to start from scratch for each number.



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THE HUMDINGERS perform 365 days a year at a popular Central Florida family vacation destination. For over 35 years this multi-talented group has been singing, dancing, and chiming their way into the hearts of millions. The question, "How many are in your quartet?" is always asked. (We just keep adding guys until we get four parts.)

To book The Humdingers for your next chapter show or special event, please contact:

Drew Kirkman (813) 967-7541

drew@humdingers.org or jaketenor@k4hdd.com

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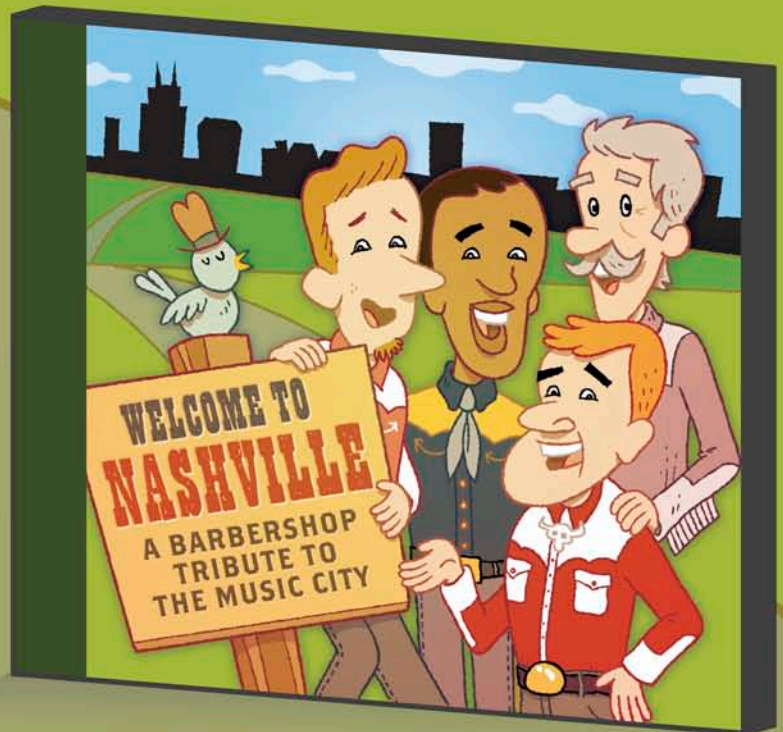
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A NEW CITY!

The Barbershop Harmony Society's International Convention comes to Denver, Colorado this year, for the very first time. Singers, friends and fans of barbershop harmony will have a chance to experience the sights and sounds of a new vacation destination.

THE BEST SHOWS!

Shows are one of the biggest draws at the annual summer convention. This year will be no exception and will include four spectacular productions designed to leave a lasting impression. A majority of these events will be held at the Pepsi Center.

Harmony Foundation Presents ...—Tuesday, July 3 at 7:30pm (separately ticketed event) Featuring performances by:

- **Take 6**, award-winning Christian vocal group and recording artists
- **Vocal Spectrum**, 2006 International Quartet Champion
- **The Westminster Chorus**, 2006 International Silver Medalist Chorus
- **OC Times**, 2006 3rd place Bronze Medalist Quartet

The Larry Ajer Tuesday Night Concert—Tuesday, July 5 from 9:00pm to 1:00am (separately ticketed event) This annual concert benefit event in the memory of Larry Ajer features a parade of performances by some of the Society's top groups. It will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel.



The Association of International Champions Show “A Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Music Man”

Thursday, July 5 from 7:30pm to 10:30pm (separately ticketed event) Featuring performances by:

- **Vocal Spectrum**
- **Gotcha!**
- **FRED**
- **Happiness Emporium**
- **AIC Chorus**, performing a new medley of Buffalo Bills/Music Man songs arranged and directed by Jay Giallombardo. This event will be held at the Pepsi Center.
- **Realtime**
- **Power Play**
- **Acoustix**

The World Harmony Jamboree—Saturday, July 7 from 2:30pm to 5:00pm (separately ticketed event)



This annual event will be held at the gorgeous Buell Theatre. Proceeds benefit the World Harmony Council. 14 memorable acts from Australia, Canada, England, Germany, New Zealand, Sweden and the USA. Champions from around the world will share the stage at the World Harmony Jamboree including:

- **The Vocal Majority**
- **Toronto Northern Lights**
- **Denver Skyline Chorus**
- **Vocal FX**
- **Cambridge Chord Company**
- **After Hours**
- **Vocal Spectrum**
- **Spotlight**
- **Pitch Invasion**
- **Voices**
- **Fast Forward**
- **Ladies First**

SING, SING, SING!

We've created several venues for you to join in the singing. Here are just a few samples of where your voice is needed:

- **Mega Sing**, under the direction of Rick Spencer.
- **The Good News! Gospel Sing**, an open invitation for everyone to sing.
- **Sing with The Champs** for a small fee 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.

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY CONVENTION 2007

- **The Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders—** AHSOW maintains a room where you can try your hand at woodshedding.
- **Red, White & Blue Tag-In Quartet Contest—**At the 2007 Denver Convention there will be three color designated **Red, White & Blue Tag-In Quartets** roaming various designated convention areas according to announced schedules and locations. Each Tag-In Quartet will present three different, specified songs that it will sing with conventioner guests. Each quartet will carry a notebook with its three songs' arrangements that the "Tag-In" guest can read from if necessary to refresh a bit before singing to qualify.

Red, White & Blue Tag-In Quartet Contest Songs

Red	White	Blue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm Sittin' On Top Of The World • Seventy-Six Trombones • Lazy River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coney Island Baby • Lida Rose • This Little Light of Mine, Do Lord Medley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hello Mary Lou • Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah • Sincere

Call (800) 876-7464 or visit www.harmonymarketplace.com to order your music and learning CD for this fun event. Each packet has its own stock number: **#4526** (Red), **#4527** (White), **#4528** (Blue). Each packet is priced at only \$10, plus shipping and includes the music and a part-predominant learning CD.

Quartets will also carry "song cards" specific for only its own three songs. When a conventioner guest sings a song reasonably proficiently from memory ("satisfactory", not "perfect") as adjudged by the Tag-In Quartet's displaced member, the quartet will "sign-off" on the song card for that specific song. Each conventioner guest will keep his/her own "song card" so it's handy if he/she returns to qualify on another song with that same color Tag-In Quartet. When all three quartet-specific songs for a quartet are "signed off", the quartet will keep the guest's "song card" and deposit it into a drawing for the Three Grand Prizes:

Flat Panel HDTV



Blue Ray DVD Player



Video iPod



A volunteer guest singer may qualify with any one, two or all three of the Tag-In Quartets, thereby increasing his/her chances to win one of the Three Grand Prizes. A singer can only win once in the Three Grand Prizes drawings.

BREATHTAKING CONTEST SESSIONS!



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—Saturday, July 7 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm, The not-to-be-missed session showcasing 10 of the best barbershop quartets in the world.

International Chorus Championship—Friday, July 6 Session One: 11:00am to 3:00pm and Session Two: 6:30pm to 10:30pm, Some of the most exciting choral performances on the planet featuring 32 of the world's top choruses.

Bank of America Collegiate Quartet Contest—Saturday, July 7 from 11:00am to 2:00pm, This event is rapidly becoming the talk of the convention and features the top young men's quartets.

MEET A LEGEND!



Saturday, July 7 from 10:00am to 10:50am
Dick Grapes, baritone of the 1950 International Champ Quartet, The Buffalo Bills, will be a VIP guest of the Barbershop Harmony Society at the 69th Annual International Contest and Convention in Denver, Colorado. Dick will serve as Master of Ceremonies at the Quartet Semi-Finals Contest to be held on Thursday, July 5, 2007 at the Pepsi Center. Barbershoppers from around the world will have the opportunity to spend an hour with Dick Grapes, the only living member of this legendary quartet, at a meet and greet session to be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

SHOP, SHOP SHOP!

The Harmony Marketplace will be open throughout the convention week with an array of barbershop and music-themed merchandise. For information on shopping destinations in downtown Denver, visit: www.denver.org.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!



The Colorado Rockies will be hosting a **Barbershop Harmony Society Night** at Coors Field on July 4 for a Major League Baseball game at 6:05pm between the Colorado Rockies and the

New York Mets including special, discounted prices for our members. Barbershoppers will be seated together and will be recognized on the scoreboard during the game. The evening will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display. Tickets are \$24 on the upper level and \$37 on the lower level. To order online, please visit: www.coloradorockies.com/groups.

Username: barbershop, **Password:** gorockies

For questions, call Matt Haddad at (303) 312-2485 or email at haddadm@coloradorockies.com. This event is sponsored by the Colorado Rockies. *No ground transportation will be provided by the Barbershop Harmony Society.*

FUN FOR THE LADIES!

Barbershop spouses have a host of activities 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. **Ladies Breakfast** will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in the Tower Ballroom. *Thursday, July 5 at 8:30am (separately ticketed event)*

TOURS

Denver tours are available from **Monday, July 2** through **Friday, July 6**. Refer to www.barbershop.org/denver for complete tour information or from our previous *The Harmonizer* issue.

Buy now at <https://ceo-eventsregister.com/bhs/>.

Register today according to the instructions in this article. Read *The Harmonizer* and visit www.barbershop.org/denver for updates. For more information go to www.barbershop.org, email at convention@barbershop.org, or call at 800-876-SING (7464).

GETTING AROUND!

Free shuttle-bus service will be provided from the hotels to the Adam's Mark Hotel, (site of registration/marketplace/exhibitors) all week. On contest days, there will be some bus routes from the hotels to the Pepsi Center. Most hotels will be on one of those bus routes.



Renting a Car?

Take advantage of special member pricing through the Society's new affinity marketing agreement with Hertz. Your Barbershop Harmony Society discount CDP#1741435 is the key to great savings. Go to hertz.com for Hertz reservations, services and special offers. For phone reservations, call Hertz at 1-800-654-2200.

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 insights, tips, experiences and guidance in a variety of subjects.

Tuesday, July 3



Jim DeBusman



Gary Plaag



James Estes

Singing for Life—Jim DeBusman, 10:00am to 10:50am

Performance & Presentation—Cindy Hansen, 10:00am to 10:50am

Barbershop Butterflies Bite the Dust—Gary Plaag, 11:00am to 11:50am

Quartet Rehearsal Techniques—Brandon Guyton, 11:00am to 11:50am

So You Wanna Be a Judge? (all categories), 2:00pm to 2:50pm

Sing a Bunch of Tags—James Estes, 2:00pm to 2:50pm

How to be a Great Quartet, 3:00pm to 3:50pm

Thursday, July 5



Vocal Spectrum



Rick Spencer

Gold Medal Hour—Vocal Spectrum, 9:00am to 9:50am

Sing a Bunch of Tags—Mike O'Neill, 9:00am to 9:50am

Mega Sing—Rick Spencer, 10:45am to 11:30am

Saturday, July 7



Vocal Majority



Dick Grapes

Directors Seminar—Mike O'Neill (moderator) Expert Panelists include: Ron Black, Jay Giallombardo, Jim Henry, Paul Wigley and Russ Young, 8:00am to 8:50am

Master Class—Vocal Majority, 9:00am to 9:50am

Meet & Greet Session—Dick Grapes, 10:00am to 10:50am

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Event and Date	Time	Location
Monday, July 2		
Exhibitors Breakfast	8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Adam's Mark
Ladies Hospitality Room	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	1:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Tuesday, July 3		
Ladies Hospitality Room	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Singing for Life—Jim DeBusman	10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Barbershop Butterflies Bite the Dust—Gary Plaag	11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Quartet Rehearsal Techniques—Brandon Guyton	11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	Adam's Mark
So You Wanna Be a Judge? (all categories)	2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Adam's Mark
Sing a Bunch of Tags—James Estes	2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Adam's Mark
Harmony Foundation Presents... featuring Take 6	7:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Tuesday Night Party/Larry Ajer Fundraiser	9:00 PM - 1:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Harmony Foundation Presents... Backstage Party	10:30 PM - 11:30 PM	Pepsi Center
Wednesday, July 4		
AHSOW Room	9:00 AM - 12:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Ladies Hospitality Room	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Quartet Quarterfinals Session #1	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Quartet Quarterfinals Session #2	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Thursday, July 5		
Ladies Breakfast	8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Adam's Mark
Gold Medal Hour with Vocal Spectrum	9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Sing a Bunch of Tags—Mike O'Neill	9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	Adam's Mark
AHSOW Room	9:00 AM - 12:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Good News! Gospel Sing	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Central Presbyterian Church
Mega Sing	10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Civic Center Park Amphitheater
Ladies Hospitality Room	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Quartet Semi-Finals	12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Pepsi Center
AIC Show	7:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Friday, July 6		
Ladies Hospitality Room	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Adam's Mark
AHSOW Room	11:00 AM - 12:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Chorus Contest Part One	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Chorus Contest Part Two	6:30 PM - 10:30 PM	Pepsi Center
Mixed Harmony Showcase/Chorditorium	11:00 PM - 1:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Saturday, July 7		
Marketplace/Registration/Exhibitors/Ticket Sales & Info	8:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Director's Seminar—Mike O'Neill	8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Master Class with Vocal Majority	9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Sing with the Champs	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Competitor Services/Volunteer Office	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Adam's Mark
Meet & Greet Session with Dick Grapes of the Buffalo Bills	10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Adam's Mark
Bank of America Collegiate Contest	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Pepsi Center
AHSOW Room	11:00 AM - 12:00 AM	Adam's Mark
World Harmony Jamboree	2:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Buell Theater
Quartet Finals	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Pepsi Center
Chorditorium	11:00 PM - 1:00 AM	Adam's Mark
Sunday, July 8		
Church Service	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Adam's Mark

DENVER HOTEL INFORMATION

Free shuttle-bus service will be provided from the hotels to the Adam's Mark Hotel, (site of registration/marketplace/exhibitors) all week. On contest days, there will be some bus routes from the hotels to the Pepsi Center. Most hotels will be on one of those bus routes. **The Adam's Mark Hotel is the headquarters hotel.** Room tax for all hotels is 14.85% per day. The daily parking fees shown as self parking/valet parking costs. Suites shown are one bedroom and two bedroom suites with a parlor.

Online housing registration is open. A link to this online registration is available at www.barbershop.org/denver.

Attendees can also use the registration form that appears in this issue of *The Harmonizer*.

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT HOTELS DIRECTLY!

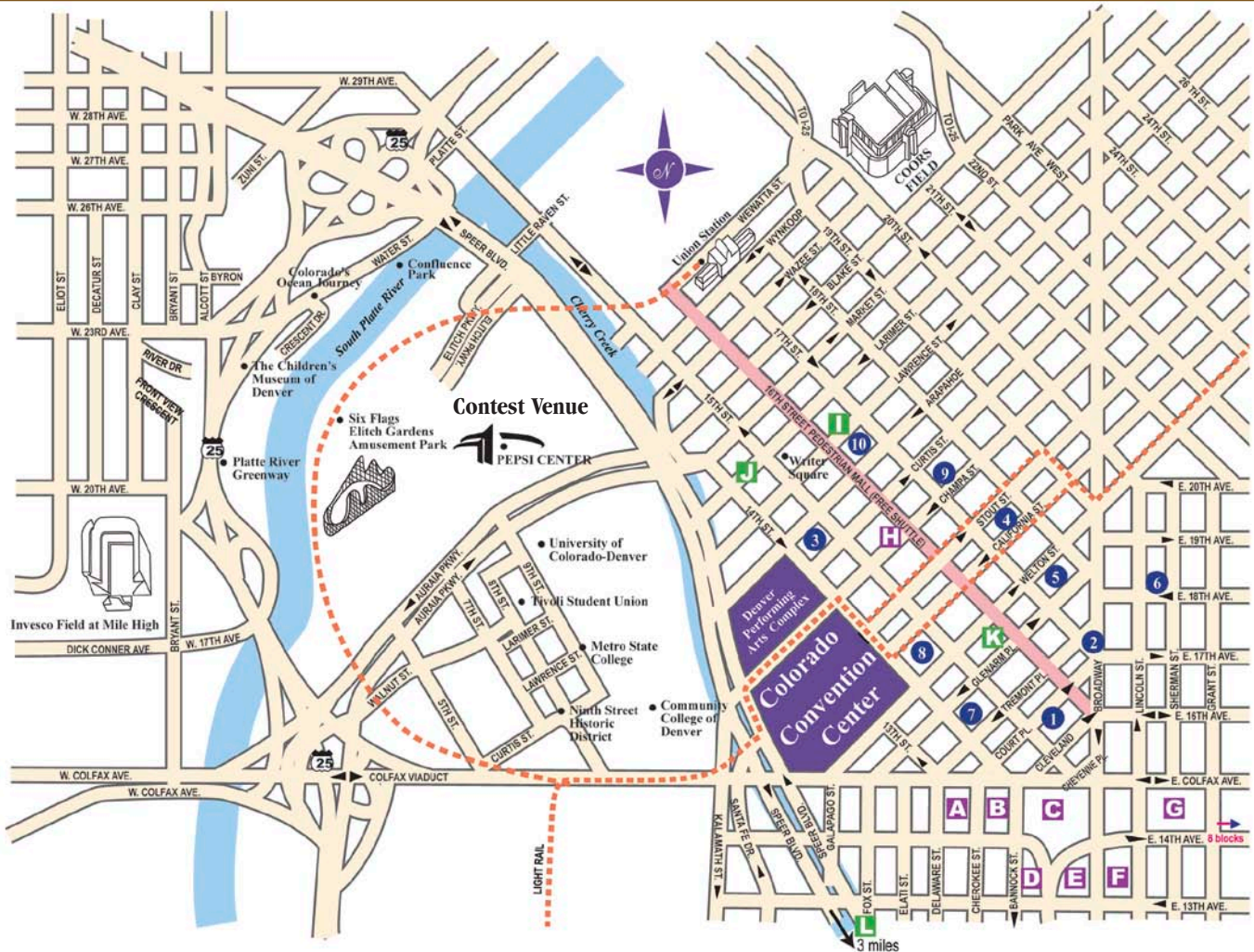
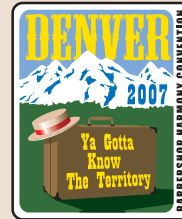
REGISTER NOW!

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 article. Keep reading *The Harmonizer* and visiting www.barbershop.org/denver for detailed updates.

For more information:

www.barbershop.org/denver

Email: convention@barbershop.org • 800-876-SING (7464)



- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| A U.S. Mint | D Denver Art Museum | G Colorado State Capitol Building | I Tabor Center Shopping |
| B Denver City & County Building | E Denver Public Library | H DMCVB Visitor Information Center | J Larimer Square Shopping |
| C Civic Center Park | F Colorado History Museum | | K Pavilions Shopping |
| | | | L Cherry Creek Shopping |

Denver 2007—*Ya Gotta Know The Territory!*

July 1 - 8, 2007

Hotel Registration Form

Arrival Date	Departure Date	
Guest Name	First Name	Last Name
Share With		
Email	Daytime Phone	Fax
Address		City : State/Province : Zip/Postal Code

Hotel Preference (See list to the right)

1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

Room Type

Number of People: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

Number of Beds: ☐ 1 ☐ 2

Special Requests

☐ King Bed ☐ Rollaway (unavailable in room with 2 beds) ☐ Non-Smoking
☐ Smoking ☐ Handicapped Accessible ☐ Suite (give details below)

Payment Information

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Diners Club

Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Denver Hotel Information

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Hotel	Sgl/Dbf	ExPer	Suites	Parking
1. Adam's Mark	SOLD OUT!			
2. Brown Palace	\$156	\$15	\$380/585	None/24
3. Grand Hyatt	\$143 <i>reduced!</i>	\$25	\$304/none	\$15/24
4. Hampton Inn	SOLD OUT!			
5. Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza	\$140	\$10	\$180/225	\$16/none
6. Hyatt Regency Convention Center	\$143	\$25	\$350/450	\$20/24
7. Magnolia Hotel	SOLD OUT!			
8. Marriott City Center	\$143	\$10	\$275/375	None/24
9. The Curtis Hotel	SOLD OUT!			
10. Westin Tabor Center	\$149	\$20	\$295/395	\$17/21

The Adam's Mark Hotel is the headquarters hotel.

Room tax for all hotels is 14.85% per day.

The daily parking fees are shown as self parking/valet parking costs.

Suites shown are one bedroom and two bedroom suites with a parlor.

General Information

Reservations can be made online or by form only. Do NOT call to book.

Internet: Hotel reservations can be processed on-line at www.barbershop.org/denver. This is the quickest and most effective method.

Phone/Email (for changes and cancellations only): Call the Housing Bureau at (303) 892-1112 ext. 601, Monday thru Friday, 9:00am - 4:45pm Mtn or email at dmcvb-housing@dmcvb.org.

Fax: Fax completed form to (303) 571-9435.

Mail: Send completed form to Barbershop Harmony Convention Housing Bureau, 1555 California Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80202.

All reservation requests will be made through the Housing Bureau.

Deadline: June 1, 2007.

Acknowledgements: Acknowledgements will be emailed or faxed after each reservation booking, modification and/or cancellation. Review acknowledgements carefully for accuracy. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within 14 days after any transaction, please call the Housing Bureau.

Modifications/Cancellations: No deposit is required unless no credit card information is provided. In that case mail a check to, and made payable to, your assigned hotel with a copy of your acknowledgement. Do NOT send checks to the Housing Bureau.

Note: Please send one form per room requested. If sharing a room, send only one form with the names of all adults occupying the room.

REGISTRATION & SPECIAL EVENTS ORDER FORM

Denver, Colorado • 2007 Barbershop Contest & Convention
July 1-8, 2007 • Order online to choose your own seat! • www.barbershop.org/denver

Name _____ Membership ID _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

• **Denver Adult Registration** (Good for All Contest Sessions) \$149.75 x _____

• **Denver Junior Registration** (12 & under) \$84.75 x _____

• **Bank of America Collegiate Quartet Contest** (General Admission) \$17.00 x _____

• **Harmony Foundation Presents...**

Platinum VIP \$79.75 x _____

Gold \$39.00 x _____

Silver \$28.00 x _____

• **2007 AIC Show of Champions**

Platinum \$84.75 x _____

Gold \$49.50 x _____

Silver \$33.50 x _____

Bronze \$22.75 x _____

• **Ladies Breakfast** \$28.00 x _____

• **World Harmony Jamboree**

Premium \$39.00 x _____

Standard \$28.00 x _____

All prices include Convenience & Handling Charges **TOTAL** \$ _____

Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Check all that apply:

Society VIP ☐ Position _____

AIC ☐ Year Champion _____

President's Council ☐ Membership Level _____

Special Requests _____

Send Us Completed Form

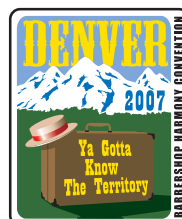
Barbershop Harmony Society Fax: 262-654-5552

Events Department Email: events@barbershop.org

7930 Sheridan Road

Kenosha, WI 53143

Order online to choose your seat!
www.barbershop.org/denver





A photograph of Paul Agnew, a man with glasses and a light blue button-down shirt, standing next to Ned Flanders, a yellow Muppet character with glasses and a blue sweater. Ned is holding a bunch of bananas. The title 'The HOT Seat' is written in large, bold letters, with 'HOT' in red and 'The' and 'Seat' in blue. Below it, 'With Paul Agnew and Ned' is written in yellow.

The **HOT** Seat

With Paul Agnew and Ned

Who is your favorite quartet and why?

Paul: **FRED.** They sound like four raccoons fighting over an old McNugget, but dang they're funny.

Ned: **The Autotowners!** No one else could sing so well while wearing outfits made from gold curtains! And those Al Rehkop tags! Who can pass up a chance to sing "Beep Beep"?

Who is your favorite chorus and why?

Paul: The **Masters of Harmony.** They have excelled with three different directors because they have a clear and consistent plan and a leadership that keeps the common goals above anything else.

Ned: Pish! You mean the **Masters of Hoppin' Around?** I hear their new contest uptune involves tutus and tap shoes! Our favorite chorus is **Midwest Vocal Express.** The GeriTones identify with guys that play with foam and aren't frightened by the business end of a loaded hot glue gun. Plus, in Indy they smelled like a good tuna melt on wry. Ba-dum-bump! I still got it!

Who is your favorite Barbershopper and why?

Paul: My Dad, Ernie Agnew (bari). He introduced me

to the St. Petersburg Chapter in 1982, and I became a member three weeks later. Now in his mid-70s, he still comes to the international convention as my guest each year and frequently lasts as long as I do in the lobby or AHSOW room.

Ned: Oh, wipe your eyes and be a man! My favorite is some guy named Kratt that invented the round pitch pipe. Before that, we had to hit Frankie in the head with a tuning fork. Actually, we never owned a tuning fork. We just liked to hit him in the head with a giant fork from the barbecue set.

Ev Nau has almost single-handedly raised a boat load of money for the President's Council of Harmony Foundation. Should he get a statue?

Paul: Ev is a Society treasure and should have a huge statue on the front steps of our new Headquarters.

Ned: Ev Nau? That kid could sell spot remover to a dalmatian! Forget the statue—Ev should get the Barbershop Medal of Honor for not turning his back on us when we threw him out the door.

Are Dr. Greg Lyne or Dr. Jim Henry "real" doctors?

Ned: Who are they? They sound like a couple of card sharks on a Mississippi riverboat.

Paul: They'd better be doctors. Otherwise, someone owes me an explanation ... and some roses.

How many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop?

Paul: Ah-one, ah-two, ah-three. Three! Hey, there's our next parody!

Ned: No, no, no. It's, "Ah-one, ah-two, ah-three—ba bum bum, I've got some good news honey! An invitation to the Darktown Ball..."

What does the word "KIBBER" mean to you?

Paul: A defender of the barbershop style and an unyielding advocate for not letting our style of music evolve at such a pace that it becomes completely unrecognizable from its barbershop roots. You can identify some of the more radical Kibbers, like Ned here, by the faint smell of mothballs and liniment.

Ned: Kibber? That red-haired kid in **The Gas House Gang**? Oh, I got it. If a Kibber is someone that wants to "Keep it Barbershop", then everyone in the Society had better become a Kibber. The question is the extent of "kibbiness." There is a faction that wants to "Keep It The Same Old Barbershop" (KITSOBs) and a faction that wants to "Keep It Barbershop-Ish" (KIBIs). For the record, The **GeriTones** are Contest Kibbers. But we are also Show Liberals, Afterglow Radicals, and Lobby Anarchists!

How can we significantly raise our membership?

Ned: All we need is a new slogan. How about, "If you can carry a tune, we'll provide the bucket!"

Ned is more than the older and yellower alter-ego of Paul. The literally velvet-throated GeriTones bass has proven that he is anything but a puppet to the bass of HotShots.

Paul: Participation! Stop recruiting new members and ignoring them once they pay their dues. Second, across the Society, our conventions have become spectator events—shows tacked onto contests and afterglow revelry hijacked by district chorditoriums and other sit-down-and-shut-up shows when we should all be out in the hallways and lobbies singing the night away. The lobby activity in Indianapolis is proof that we are all craving the time and place for singing and fellowship. Can someone tell our districts all we need is a lobby, a melody, and three other guys? Okay, perhaps a libation would be nice, too. And some cheese. Ned likes cheese.

Why do many of us still fight for the respect from the "regular" music world?

Paul: Ned is the reason we don't get respect. He's proof that we have no standards or controls on which quartets sing in public. If you start a rock band that doesn't play very well, you simply don't get many gigs—no harm done. With barbershop, if you have a quartet that can't carry a tune in a bucket (like The GeriTones) they'll still get gigs because someone will hire them sight unseen as a novelty act. The public's expectation of a foursome of out-of-tune geezers singing some old moldy tunes and telling corny jokes is exactly what they'll give them.

Ned: I'll tell you about respect. **The Buffalo Bills** had respect. **The Suntones** had respect. But, why do the rest of us care about respect from the rest of the music world? Barbershop had its heyday when I was knee high to a Nehi, and it will never be the hot music style again. Neither will contemporary a cappella. So why this unnatural cross-breeding of barbershop with other kinds of music for the sake of people who won't care either way?

Paul: Back to the question, please, Gramps? We have to each be willing to not be the novelty act if we can't sing well enough to give people a pleasant surprise when we open our mouths.

We need to make every effort to find ways to train, teach, encourage, and mentor our quartets and choruses. If we are concerned at all about our public image, we also have to be willing to censure quartets that are not up to a minimum quality standard and should not be publicly performing. Every effort we make to create a better public impression of barbershop quartet music is instantly obliterated the moment we send a poorly chosen foursome out for a Singing Valentine.

Ned: Give it a rest! Sometimes we have to think about dollars over sense. The public doesn't care as long as we have four guys and someone gets a flower.



Paul: I rest my case. Go take your nap.

Why can't we all just get along?

Paul: We do, until we stop singing. It's when we start talking that Barbershoppers seem to get in trouble.

Ned: That's why The GeriTones don't believe in rehearsals. We used to argue so much that we'd forget to sing a note. Now, if you can't state your question in the form of a woodshedable melody, you keep your yap shut!

Do you think we should ban suspenders at our conventions?

Paul: Not exactly. We should permanently ban the ubiquitous fashion combo of suspenders *and* white belts!

Ned: Heck, no! Our contest patch vests just wouldn't look the same without suspenders. And, do you really want to see a bunch of old men like us walking around with our pants hanging low like those hippity-hop kids?

Does the current judging system accurately and consistently represent the vote of the masses?

Paul: Our judges reward performances against a system of clear criteria—judging to a standard of “the masses” would be as ridiculous as introducing an applause meter or non-barbershop judges. The masses would give overly high marks to novelty acts that sing mediocre barbershop (The GeriTones) and unfair low marks to groups that fully understand the artistry that makes a song reach into our hearts (HotShots).

Ned: Those judges better be careful not to fall off that pedestal you're putting them on! The contest stage is for contest barbershop, period. The audience doesn't know what that is anymore. Let the show stage be where the masses cast their ballots.

Are you saying you'd like to change something about our judging system?

Paul: First, stop pretending that each performance is judged without preconceptions and expectations, and admit the judges are human. They like to think they start with a totally blank sheet, but every year there are some significant head scratchers when we see the scores. Take **Realtime's** first round scores in their 2004 debut. In the second round, they performed at nearly the same level, but somehow their scores jumped an astounding 100 points—arguably because the judges' expectations had been raised.

Ned: The buffoon finally says something that makes sense. We like to make our contest sets fun and entertaining, but we've been frustrated to have judges openly admit they didn't expect us to sing very well when they saw us enter the stage with the HotShots in tow. All we ask is to get a fair shake. Most of them admit they were pleasantly surprised with our singing. Now, isn't it just as wrong to assume a comedy quartet is not going to sing well as it is to assume a new quartet of ringers is going to run away with the contest?

Have you ever had any disappointments in your barber-shop career?

Paul: My biggest disappointment is all of the chapters that we haven't had a chance to sing for in this great Barbershop Harmony Society of ours. In our days as ...

Ned: Stop sucking up to the readers!

Paul: I'm not sucking up, you walking pharmaceutical ad.

Ned: Philistine!

Paul: Pleistocene!

Ned: Biggest disappointment? We've never been invited to sing in Canada, where my girlfriend lives. Her name is Alberta and she lives in Vancouver.

What kind of changes do you think we've seen as a result of the Society name change and logo change?

Paul: As a marketing move, we can probably relax and admit that the name change probably won't kill us after all. As for the logo, I think the Harmony Marketplace has sold more Thin Mints lately.

Ned: I don't know about everyone else, but we like the name change! Every time Elmer tried to say ess-pee-ee-bee-ess-que-ess-ay (SPEBSQSA) his false teeth would pop out when he got to the “S-Q”. If nothing else, the new name has saved many an audience from getting sprayed with putrid pieces of petrified PoliGrip.

Do you think we should hold International conventions in more interesting cities?

Paul: A prime location may bump up registrations, but I suspect the costs are what keep some people home. Some say the webcast affects attendance, but I disagree. If I could afford tickets to the Superbowl, I'd see it in person. Since I can't, I watch it on TV. The Webcast brings the excitement of the contest to people who can't make it to the convention. We need to add a live camera in the lobby for everyone to walk up to and tell the webcast audience about all of the fun they're missing!

Ned: One word: cruise ships! Charter a mega-ship that holds 8,000 people and go to sea for our next convention! We could hold the first round in Nassau, then go to Cozumel for the second round. (Extra points for

After appearing with HotShots on the international stage in Indy, Ned and The GeriTones each had a total makeover. Last fall, the new GeriTones helped HotShots win the Sunshine District quartet championship. Paul said the GeriTones will still perform a song or two with HotShots for chapter shows, but the quartets won't be competing together again. Ned is livid, and the GeriTones haven't gotten over the shock.



singing “Mammy Of Mayan.”) Of course, we’d end up in St. Petersburg for the final round. They have a Denny’s right next to the port!

If the Suntones and Power Play were to compete tomorrow, both at the height of their power, who would wipe the floor with whom?

Ned: I wouldn’t touch that with a 10-foot microphone cord.

Paul: The Suntones are my idols and were the first championship quartet I had ever experienced, but in a straight barbershop contest, the winner would be Power Play by a nose. The Suntones had Gene, but Power Play had the genes!

Is Joe Connelly from another planet?

Paul: I suspect Joe is actually one of Walt Disney’s animatronic characters. Like Abe Lincoln in the

Hall of Presidents, he is eerily consistent every time you see him perform. The only difference is you have a better chance of Lincoln returning your voice message.

Ned: That’s a silly question. Then again, that would explain my Harmony U. alien abduction dreams.

Mark Hale, David Harrington, Joe Connelly, Drayton Justus and Chad Guyton. Rank them in order starting with who’s #1 all time.

Paul: I’m sorry, but I can’t do that. It would be disrespectful to the guy on the bottom of the list. (Guyton)

Ned: 1. Joe Connelly. 2. Drayton Justus (before the Botox). 3-5: Whoever they are.

Who’s the best baritone who ever breathed air and why?

Paul: Tony DeRosa gets my vote. He is so reliable that the other guys never have to worry about anything but their own part. Tony never lets anyone down.

Ned: Hardly Wilcox. What? Oh, Harlan Wilson. He’s an inspiration to us “mature” singers. At 94 years old, he can still hang with the kids and out-sing most of them!

Who’s the best bass to ever walk the contest stage?

Paul: The “R” guy in FRED. [*He means Joe Clay—Ed.*] He can’t sing worth a darn, but boy does he have a fine way of walking on that contest stage.

Ned: Joe Clay? He walks like he has artificial hips made from recycled Stretch Armstrong dolls. Oh, I see what you mean ...

Who’s the best tenor ever? Why?

Paul: Kipper! (Kipp Buckner) He was great with the

Interstate Rivals, but showed his true skill when he had to adjust to fit **The Gas House Gang** sound. (That is, until he was told to “Kipp it” on the tag on “Bright Was The Night”!) He’d better look out, though. Tim Waurick (**Vocal Spectrum**) is nipping at his heels.

Ned: Todd Wilson (**Acoustix**), because he told me so. No, wait ... Gary Steinkamp, because he can fit into a suitcase to save on airfare. No, wait! Alessandro Moreschi. Because ... oh, just Google him.

Why shouldn’t Don Barnick (The Wizard) win all three?

Paul: Best in all three? Too close to call. Musically the smartest? Don gets the honors by a mile!

Ned: You mean “Coattails Barnick”? The guy that finds a good threesome and lets them get him a medal? Quartets only bring him in to get a look at his tag list, which is now the size of a Gideon Bible! I wonder if he knows the “Beep Beep” tag?

Why haven’t you entered the Seniors Contest?

Paul: Ask Riptide Van Winkle, here.

Ned: When **SEP** finally does, so will we. Until then, we’re going to keep hanging around and showing these kids how to do it right. We’re not so old that we aren’t able to keep up with the youth movement. We like to get jiggy with it and even tried that hippity-hop dancing ... until we found out it voided the warranty on our new hips.

Where do you think our Society will be in 60 years?

Paul: The Society will still be around singing a new form of music that is vaguely related to traditional barbershop. Judging by the exciting expansion of the barbershop umbrella and the increasing complexity of the arrangements, it may be a much smaller and semi-elite organization of semi-professional singers. Joe Barbershopper may have to sacrifice one thing he likes to do today—listening to his top quartet CDs to learn his part to their songs. The increasingly complex arrangements that are in vogue are exciting to hear, but will leave a lot of guys in the dust.

Ned: Paul worries too much and thinks the world will stop if he doesn’t keep an eye on things! Sixty years from now the Society will still be going strong and the BQP-AARP will still be trying to turn the clock back to 1950. (Some things will endure forever.) Quartets like **Four Voices**, **Vocal Spectrum** and **OC Times** will keep bringing new ideas to the stage while quartets like **Power Play** and **Gotcha!** will pop up now and then to remind everyone that good old-fashioned barbershop can still win a crowd. Everybody wins, and Paul’s chest pains go away.

The opinions expressed by Paul and Ned are not necessarily the views of The Harmonizer, HotShots or The GeriTones quartets, nor are they necessarily Paul and Ned’s own opinions. ■

Our favorite chorus is Midwest Vocal Express. The GeriTones identify with guys that play with foam and aren’t frightened by the business end of a loaded hot glue gun.

In Atlanta, Men in Black and Society Music staffer Mike O'Neill put on a presentation for a very receptive audience of glee club members at Morehouse College, the only all-male, historically black college in the U.S.



The MIB & MIB College tours

Men in Black and Musical Island Boys bring Barbershop Harmony to the classroom

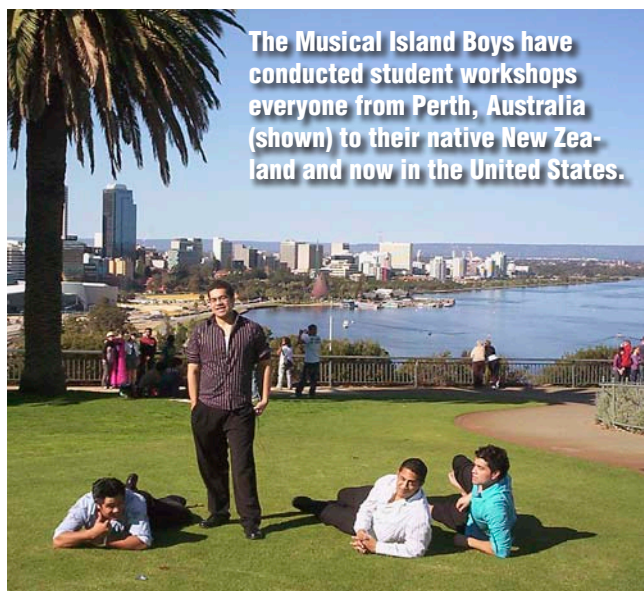
Call it the year of MIB. The two collegiate champions with the same initials have each covered thousands of miles to tour colleges and high schools as ambassadors or barbershop harmony. Everywhere they go, they've found enthusiastic audiences that want to hear more and try more of the barbershop art form.

The **Musical Island Boys**, 2006 Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet champion, are busy in two hemispheres. As the first offshore-based gold medalist in any Society contest, they have conducted workshops and concerts for hundreds of students in New Zealand and Australia; yet, they're finding time to give back in North America as well. This January, a one-week trip to the states was packed with more than a dozen school visits in California, Arizona and New Mexico, several chapter visits (including performing on a chapter show), and several shows and performances at the Midwinter convention.

New Release, the 2005 and 2006 collegiate silver medalist, handled most of last year's collegiate touring duties due to **Men in Black's** scheduling conflicts. This year, Men in Black, 2005 champion, was able to fit in two collegiate

tours, including one to eight Virginia schools and another to Atlanta area colleges. Nearly 2,000, largely composed of young music students, listened and sang with Men in Black on these two tours alone.

One highlight of Men in Black's Atlanta trip was



The Musical Island Boys have conducted student workshops everyone from Perth, Australia (shown) to their native New Zealand and now in the United States.

a visit to Morehouse College, the only all-male historically black institution in the United States. The quartet went in with some apprehension because the school had previously been reluctant to respond to prior overtures by members of the Dixie District. Once the presentation began, they realized there had been no reason for the apprehension. The members of the glee club and their director were wide eyed and very receptive to the demonstration of Barbershop singing.

A barbershop quartet from within the group also sang, and the director asked Society Music staff member Mike O'Neill to coach them. Several of the men asked about how to get involved with the local chapters and more than 60 members of this group alone requested flyers about collegiate barbershop. Greg Denson, student and member of the Morehouse Glee Club said, "I also enjoyed the different techniques (Men in Black) demonstrated to the group that can be applied to others maybe wanting to organize a quartet." It seems as though the relationship is now built and the Society has allies in the Morehouse College Glee Club! ■



Musical Island Boys in New Zealand



Men in Black in Atlanta

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SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL

Internet marketing for Barbershoppers

In the vast media wilderness, the Internet is one of the easiest places to snag new gigs and woo potential members. Here's how to get noticed and help make the Web work for you

Barbershop is often described as a hobby, a lifestyle, an amateur sport, or even a pseudo-cult. But precious few of us call barbershopping our profession.

Perhaps that's why we often don't think very "professionally" about marketing our hobby to others.

Whether you're recruiting members, soliciting gigs, promoting shows, or all of the above, good marketing is essential to your chorus or quartet's success.

That means having both traditional and online marketing. You may have a website, but do you really know how to put your site to work? Online success requires three essential ingredients:

- A great product
- A great website
- A great marketing plan

The "great product" is, naturally, great barbershop. Most of what we read in *The Harmonizer* focuses on this part of the recipe. Instead, we'll consider items two and three.

A Great Website

Your website is your storefront, where you sell your product. Whether you design it yourself or have someone else do the work, there are a number of qualities to aim for:

Good looks. Visitors should immediately know whose site it is and what they'll find there. It should be attractive, with a comfortable "look and feel."

Garish colors, hokey animations, and other amateurish design decisions are okay for your MySpace page, but not for your chorus or quartet website.

Easy navigation. Whether you choose traditional sidebar links, top-of-the-page tabs, or another strategy, your navigation options should be clearly marked



and available on every page. Help your visitors to find what they came for!

Efficient and optimized. Content should be brief and to the point. Most people don't like to read long sections of text online. Use clear headings, bullet lists, and lots of meaningful keywords to increase readability and make your pages more search engine friendly.

One proven strategy is to pick several sites that you like, determine what you like about them, and then emulate the best qualities in your own design. As you refine your design, keep asking: "Will this help accomplish the goals for my site?" Have a non-Barbershopper read your content to make sure it's understandable by a lay visitor.

Above all, make it easy for your visitors to contact you about hiring your group, getting tickets to shows, or becoming members.

A Great Marketing Plan

Any online marketing plan will include at least two components:

traffic building and conversion. Put another way, you first draw visitors to your site, then turn them into customers. Web traffic doesn't just happen. There are only three ways to get people to visit your site:

Direct traffic. Someone opens a web browser, types "www.MyQuartetName.com" and clicks "Go." Make this happen by printing your web address on everything imaginable. Put your web address on your business cards and in your newspaper ads. Embroider

Get the full details at
www.barbershop.org
This article barely stretches the surface of strategies. For greater detail and more specific practices and strategies on how to make your chorus or quartet website work for you, see "How Search Engines Work" and "Online Marketing for Chapters and Quartets" at www.barbershop.org/ID_105967.



David Baker

Web marketing professional
Tenor, Equinox Quartet, Spirit of Phoenix Chorus

www.equinoxquartet.com
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it on your shirts and stencil it on your dog—and make sure people can remember it without writing it down.

Direct links. Somebody sees a link to your site on another website, and clicks it. Rarely will these cross-links appear spontaneously. Call or e-mail the webmasters for community sites, local newspapers and clubs, and anyone else you can think of. Ask them to link to your site, and reciprocate with links to theirs. This will also improve your ranking in search engines.

Search engines. In Google or Yahoo or MSN (or another search engine), someone types a search phrase and clicks on your site in the results. Being listed in search engines takes months or even years—if you're lucky. Even if your marketing budget is small, do yourself a favor: pay your way into the "sponsored" results on the big search engines. You can spend as little or much as you want, and directly target the cities and keywords you want. You only pay if someone clicks through to your site. This makes search engine advertising the most cost-effective marketing strategy on the planet.

Convert, Convert, Convert

Conversion opportunities happen when you convince your visitors to contact you.

You might provide an online form, or even just an e-mail address and a phone number. Whatever you do, treat these "conversions" like gold. This is your customer raising a hand and saying "Sell me something!" Whether you're "selling" concert tickets or membership in your chapter, this is what it's all about. ■

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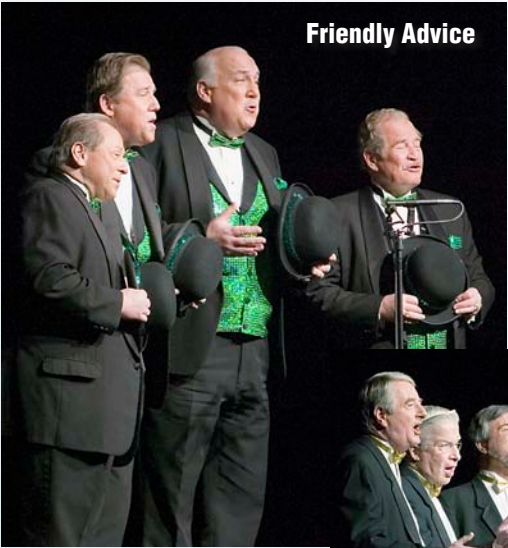
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Friendly Advice

Senior quartetters—they still got it

Senior quartetters don't often have the tooth-rattling vocal power of **Musical Island Boys**, the 2006 collegiate champions who shared the stage with the Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions. But experience counts for a lot when it comes to entertaining a crowd, and the top senior quartetters showed that they still have musical and performance skills in spades. Friendly Advice struck gold in another tight seniors quartet contest, with the rest of the medalist following closely behind. And a show full of senior champs favorites like the **Jurassic Larks** showed why they're still in high demand on the show circuit.



Vintage Gold



Jurassic Larks



Silver Chords



Great Western Timbre Co.



Musical Island Boys



Catalyst



AISQC Chorus

SENIORS QUARTET COMPETITOR SHOTS BY MAXWELL DURYEA

AISQC SHOW SHOTS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

The Buffalo Bills-era Quartet Contest revives the style and criteria of the '50s

Those who remember the older style of quartet singing knew that this contest was going to be quite a trip down memory lane. Everything about the contest was set up to be old school, from the songs and arrangements to the gestures and 5-category judging system. In the end, **Great Honk** showed that younger guys can do an old style proud. Meanwhile, quartets featuring legends like Buzz Haeger and Freddie King showed why the old songs and the old sounds still have as much staying power as they ever did.

BUFFALO BILLS CONTEST SHOTS BY MAXWELL DURYEA



Then there's one of the biggest draws—full show sets from the Indy top five!



After a day of golfing, touring and tagging, the best is always yet to come at Midwinter. Feeding off the laid-back atmosphere of Midwinter are always the top five quartets from the previous international convention. With extended show sets and an audience of barbershop insiders, they get to show off in ways never possible on the contest stage. And in two evenings, you get five of the best chapter show sets packed together in the longest-running display of ear candy all year!

2007 international seniors competitors



1. Friendly Advice (EVG)

Dan Tangarone (T), Wes Sorstokke (L), Forrest LaMotte (Bs), Bill Thurmon (Br)

Dan Tangarone, h: 425-333-4900

djtangarone@comcast.net



2. Vintage Gold (FWD)

Ron Bass (T), Jim Sherman (Bs), Gary Bolles (L), Chuck Landback (Br)

Jim Sherman, h: 408-265-9034, w: 408-201-8000

jassherman@msn.com



3. Great Western Timbre Co. (SUN)

Jack Liddell (Br), Ron Black (Bs), Dwight Holmquist (L), Roger Smeds (T)

Ron Black, h: 830-557-6563, w: 210-579-0506

ron@heartoftexaschorus.org



4. Silver Chords (EVG)

Robert Schmitt (Br), Dick Swanson (Bs), Les Walter (L), Dave Brasher (T)

David Brasher, h: 425-820-1849

dnebrash1@comcast.net



5. Catalyst (CSD)

Denny Paulsen (Br), Jim Bolluyt (Bs), James Thomas (L), Gene Lutz (T)

James Thomas, h: 515-292-9257, w: 515-294-3434

jat@iastate.edu



6. Chicago Times (ILL)

Ray Henders (T), Eugene Koth (L) (bottom), Dave Boo (Bs) (top), Dave Cowin (Br)

Dave Boo, h: 815-838-7950, w: 630-971-8400

davidcboo@comcast.net

2007 international seniors competitors



7. Talisman, (ILL)

Gene Woolcott (T), Ralph Brooks, Jr (L), Ed Chapman (Bs),
Dick Kingdon (Br)
Ralph Brooks, Jr, h: 773-282-5023
ralphbrooks@juno.com



8. Play It Again! (ONT)

Rod McGillivray (T), Bill Vermue (Bs), Jim Whitehead (L),
Andre Carriere (Br)
Rod McGillivray, h: 819-778-0973
rodmcg@videotron.ca



9. Riverblend (JAD)

John Byerly (Br), Chuck Watson (L), Dutch Speidel (Bs), Don Gray (T)
Don Gray, h: 513-421-2413
dongray@cinci.rr.com



10. Antiques Roadshow (PIO)

Doug Lynn (L), Roger Lewis (Br), Raleigh Bloch (T), Lee Hanson (Bs)
Roger Lewis, h: 269-965-5714, w: 269-209-5268
RLewisCMC@aol.com



11. Who's Counting (AAMBS)

Keith Lay (Br), Charlie Voges (Bs), Don Godfrey (L), John McMillan (T)
John McMillan: johnandlyn@optusnet.com.au



12. Test Of Time (JAD)

Glen Spangler (Br), Bob Mills (L), Donald Pullins (Bs), Gary Wulf (T)
Gary Wulf, h: 614-793-8864
parkave@columbus.rr.com

2007 international seniors competitors



13. Perfect Timing (LOL)

Ed Boehm (T), Bob Thiel (L), Bob Lemkuil (Bs), Robert Haase (Br)
Ed Boehm, h: 715-735-6240
eboehm@new.rr.com



14. Backstage (SWD)

Baxter Fullerton (Bs), Mike Johnson (L), Jon Smith (T), Jack Ware (Br)
Jack Ware, h: 214-351-3964
jackware@sbcglobal.net



15. RING! (NED)

Bill Wright (T), Philip Carter (L), Michael Maino (Bs), Jeff Hanks (Br)
Philip Carter, h: 781-749-5729
pcarter62@hotmail.com



16. Sound Association (ONT)

Morgan Lewis (T), Gerry Gilders (L), Ken Fisher (Bs), Barry Towner (Br)
Barry Towner, h: 905-473-2424, w: 416-709-6106
btowner@interhop.net



17. Music Box (FWD)

Bob Szabo (Br), Jack Nelis (L), John Bloomquist (Bs), Dan Wilson (T)
John Bloomquist, h: 480-807-5284
desertblom@aol.com



18. River City Rhythm (CAR)

Dave Reiff (T), Danny Johnson (L), Carl Sipe (Bs), Tom Schaden (Br)
Danny Johnson, h: 765-748-4523, w: 765-289-5437
djohnson@yocinc.org

2007 international seniors competitors



19. City Slickers (MAD)

Hardman Jones (Br), Bob Caldwell (L), Warren Strandberg (Bs), Glenn Van Tuyle (T)

Hardman Jones Jr, h: 804-379-6257

hajones425@aol.com



20. Anything Goes (SLD)

Jerry Schmidt (T), Tom Glosick (L) (bottom), Jim Holder (Br) (top), John Rice (Bs)

Jim Holder, h: 607-724-9152

jholder@stny.rr.com



21. Category 4 (RMD)

Terry Dodd (Br), Jerry Perron (Bs), Robert Fox (L), Denny McPheeters (T)

Terry Dodd, h: 303-909-1166, w: 303-790-7677

tcdodd@hardcastleco.com



22. Aarps-a-Chord (LOL)

Dick Plaisted (T), Lance Johnson (Bs), Gary Jacobson (L), Bob Griffith (Br)

Bob Griffith, h: 952-831-5473

robertlgriffith9@hotmail.com



23. Silver Threads (ONT)

Bill Robertson (T), Bruce Marchant (L), Bruce Bonnyman (Br), Pete Dennett (Bs)

Bruce Marchant, h: 416-281-5544, w: 416-439-9400

bruce@marchants.com



24. Times Gone Bye (DIX)

Dave Brennan (Br), Larry Deters (L), Wesley Winchell (Bs), Charlie McCann (T)

Charlie McCann, h: 615-833-8147, w: 615-781-2299

mccannengr@aol.com



25. Gadzooks (ILL)

William Miller (T), Robert Scheible (L), Mike Saeger (Bs), John Cain (Br)
Robert Scheible, h: 312-255-1344, w: 312-946-7162
rscheibl@maiengr.com



26. Still Standing (DIX)

Alan Sundling (T), Chuck Villier (L), Wally Cluett (Br), Dick Kruse (Bs)
Chuck Villier Jr, h: 704-846-2386
cjbv@carolina.rr.com



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The biggest contest you've never seen

Can you name the world's longest running non-Society Barbershop contest? If you can't, betcha don't belong to the Evergreen District. The *Forest Grove Barbershop Ballad Contest* has been going on for at least 60 years now, and it's still big enough to overshadow some of our smallest district contests. And you can't help but know about it if you live in Forest Grove, Ore. (pop: 18,000), located 25 miles west of Portland. This year, all three early March shows filled an 800-seat auditorium to capacity, which is typical of this popular event that is well known throughout Oregon and beyond.

This year's winner was **The Dean's List** (also the current Evergreen District champion), shown receiving the championship trophy from Miss Oregon, Donilee McGinnis. In addition to the trophy, each quartet member was presented with a championship mug and the quartet received \$600 paid in silver dollars—a long-standing tradition. Note the “Gay '90s” costuming, a contest tradition linked to past city-wide festivities that once included a Gay '90s parade and other events. The contest is sponsored by the non-Society **West Side Singers**, originally known as the **Forest Grove Glee Men**.

Big-name Society quartets from the area have long considered Forest Grove one of the major events of the year. “We used to pass up high-paying gigs if they were on the same weekend,” says Bar-



bershopper Chuck Olson. The baritone of the legendary comedy quartet **The Aliens** first competed in the contest as a high schooler in the 1950s. Chuck says he has since competed in the contest about 50 times.

Even though neither the rules, format or judging resemble a Society event, anybody who's anybody in the area wants to win this contest. The early March time frame makes it a great warmup to international prelims. The contest is open to any quartet, but is understandably dominated by Society quartets, many of whom come from surrounding states and southwestern Canada. Past winners include **Flipside** (2006 international medalist), who were retired from the contest after winning three times; two-time Forest Grove winner **Real-time**, who stopped competing after becoming the 2005 international quartet champion; and **Most Happy Fellows** (1977 international champion).



INVERSE OF THE ABOVE QUARTET. This other lovely young woman stands with a self-described “mediocre” quartet that could have started a brawl had they dressed like this during the Gay '90s. However, **The Beetlejuice Quartet** just blends in at the way-over-the-top Fantasy Fest celebration held each October in Key West, Fla. Wild partiers who expect bawdy lyrics are even more blown away when they instead hear a straight rendition of an old chestnut like “Story Of The Rose.” Dan Smyth (Br), Jason Lautzenheiser (L), Steve Moody (Bs), and Frank Savino (T) have performed there for two years now. Last time, they sang almost non-stop from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m.

THE CODY CHORALIERS of Leavenworth, Kan. have long gone the extra mile in support of Leavenworth public school music departments, but they recently topped themselves. The chapter has donated \$2,000 a year for the past four years, coming primarily from Singing Valentines and show profits. The schools needed a \$10,000 acoustical shell to compensate for the poor acoustics in 11 of the district's 12 auditoriums. The chapter's grant writer Rod Rivard took up the challenge, along with the support of a district grant writer and a local newspaper. He created and hand-delivered a grant package to about 50 local business and area luminaries. Of these visits, 32 resulted in donations, totaling \$7,175, with the Leavenworth Public Schools Education foundation making up the difference. It comes with its own trailer for transport and has already seen heavy usage.



The delivery recipients so appreciated the extra-mile gesture that most asked the quartet to pose for spontaneous photos.

“Singing Valentines” in December equal great marketing for client

Here's a great marketing idea from the mind of a non-Barbershopper: Singing Christmas Cards! Nashville quartet **SweetSpot** delivered 10 of them last December to the clients of Corvel Corporation, an idea that was the brainchild of Corvel manager Kevin Helms. Corvel account executive Helen Olsen had purchased a Singing Valentine earlier in the year for her supervisor and co-workers, an event that stuck with Helms until Christmas. Rather than simply send gifts to these special clients, Helms made sure the clients would be around to receive these gifts, along with an extra-special delivery. Members are Clyde Perkins (T), Doug Wooten (L), Sam English (Br) and George Luken (Bs).

Incidentally, when the quartet stopped for lunch during deliveries, they ran into a family from Oshkosh, Wis., which was visiting Nashville for a wedding. A high schooler from the family correctly assumed that the four men must be a barbershop quartet, and struck up a conversation. Before long, he was singing lead to “Jingle Bell Rock” with them in the restaurant. Oshkosh West High School, it turns out, has a barbershop chorus, directed by high school Barbershopper Jake Oxley!



A Huge Tokyo barbershop performance in a cafe the size of an RV

Kenneth Dewire knew his trip to Tokyo wouldn't be complete without singing with the Tokyo Barbers, the nation's oldest barbershop chapter. But after Society staff helped him connect with the chapter, he was disappointed to learn that the Barbers had no rehearsal scheduled the week of his visit. But Tokyo Barbers president Shigeo Kurimoto ("Geo") invited Kenneth to a smaller barbershop gathering at the recently opened café of a friend.

A "smaller gathering" it was. Kenneth met them in business dress in case they were going to a posh supper club, but Geo and Barbershopper Hiroshi Abe met him in more casual clothing. They led him on and off trains and through streets, which led them up three flights of stairs to a windowless café with the interior space of a large motor home. (What else do you expect of a new business in the world's most expensive city?) In an alcove at the front of the room was barely space for a ukulele player and his amps. On one side of the room were only two tables, the other side taken up by a squatting shelf. But the venue made up in quality what it lacked in elbow room.

For example, among the few people in the crowded room were Kanno Tet-suo, coordinator of the Society of Barbershop Quartet Singing in Japan—essentially the nation's O.C. Cash. Across the small room on the shelf were some young men who appeared to be there to see the ukulele player. They enjoyed a wonderful jazzy performance with great food and drinks, but Kenneth was disappointed that few in the café seemed to be there for the sake of



barbershop harmony. As it turned out, they all were.

When the ukulele player finished, he was replaced by four young men on the squatting shelf who proceeded to put on an amazing display of barbershop harmony. Trademark, as they are called, performed 15 songs in perfect English, ranging from "Small Fry," to "Sing, Sing, Sing" and "Mary Lou," all with a style and sound that would have been well received on any North American stage. A female Barber-shopper even took over as

tenor for a couple of numbers. Afterwards, the room was filled with Barberpole Cats and tagging. It was only a tiny taste of barbershop in a nation that hosts three choruses and about 20 quartets, but Kenneth wouldn't have traded this evening for the world!



THE FAIRFAX JUBILAIREs (Fairfax, Virginia Chapter) performed at the National Eclipse in Washington, D.C. at the invitation of the National Park Service. The annual "Festival of Peace" took place in front of the brightly lit National Christmas Tree and a forest of miniature Christmas trees representing the 50 states and each territory.



Barbershoppers, bellicism, and a thousands of bikers at the Buffalo Chip Stage

To bikers, the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D. is more than famous—it's like a religious pilgrimage. Every August, the city of 6,500 swells by roughly half a million Harley-loving visitors. This year, 20 members of the **Shrine of Democracy Chorus**, from 30 miles south of Sturgis in Rapid City, shared a prominent spot in festivities.

The famed Buffalo Chip Stage—famous if you know anything about Sturgis—hosted a presentation honoring all returning and fallen soldiers. Attendance was heavy due to an impending Gretchen Wilson/Lynyrd Skynyrd concert and due to the fact that a high percentage of bikers are military veterans. After a Healing Field was dedicated to American soldiers who gave their lives since 9/11, the SOD Chorus took their place on the main stage to

sing the "Armed Forces Medley" and "God Bless the USA."

Members of the chorus will tell you that they got a huge standing ovation, never mind the fact that

Network all the way to Iraq and Afghanistan.

For the past three years, the chorus has sent VLQs (very large quartets) walking through the Buf-



the crowd was already standing during the presentation! After the show they got plenty of hearty pats on the back—sometimes, almost to the point of pain—from many of the thousands of grateful bikers in the audience. The whole ceremony was broadcast on the Armed Forces

falo Chip Campground, serenading groups of campers with four-part harmony. They have always been well received by the campers and rewarded with generous tips on occasion. Since starting, they've enjoyed an open invitation from campground management. ■



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THE TAG

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A tough-to-tune ear teaser from Russ Foris

Barbershop singers, and in particular arrangers, have always experimented with chord progressions. These ventures have often created some delightful “ear candy,” but some have turned sour and have been pitched aside. One special area of interest has been the penultimate chord, that is, the chord that immediately precedes the final chord of the arrangement.

If you’ve been singing harmony for a while, you have begun to get a sense of the varying strengths in the sound of certain chords and the harmonic direction they take your ear. I like to think of chord progressions as a “harmonic highway.” Some highways are smoother, some bumpier than others, but in good arranging the arranger will use the harmonic highway to enhance the lyric or the essence of the song. The strongest progressions involve chords from a fifth away, but chromatic half steps can be satisfying, as can some others. I’m trying not to bore you with heavy theory, so I’ll let it go at that.

Russ Foris started singing barbershop harmony in 1953, when he formed a high school quartet. Russ is a talented arranger, has served as a certified judge in the Arrangement and Music categories, served on the faculty of Harmony College (now Harmony University) for many years, directed some great



choruses (**West Towns Chorus** of Illinois and the **Midwest Vocal Express** of Wisconsin). He was on the Society staff as Media Production and Service Manager and is now retired and living in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas with wife, Nancy, and daughter, Joanna.

Russ shows in the below “Experimental Version” a weaker approach to the final chord by using a progression that is, as Lou Perry used to say, feminine. Dennis Driscoll used this approach in his arrangement of “Who’ll Dry Your

Tears When I’m Gone.” **The Insiders**, 1976 international quartet champion, sang it in their quest for the gold. It seemed to fit the lyric. However, it is deceptively difficult to tune the progression, especially starting with the chord on the downbeat of measure 2. Although the indication is that $A^b = G^\sharp$, the G^\sharp is slightly higher and the tenor is slightly lower on the second D. From the penultimate chord, the ear has to be ready for a solid tonic chord. Try it just for fun.

The “Stronger Version” still has the A^b/G^\sharp problem, but the E7 chord now moves around the circle of fifths to an A-minor chord. Finally, the penultimate chord is one we have learned to love, built on the flat seventh of the scale. Have fun practicing these ear teasers! ■

EVERY TIME WE SAY GOODBYE TAG

Experimental Version

Arrangement by RUSS FORIS

Tenor Lead

1 2 3 4

Ev - 'ry time we say good - bye.

Bari Bass

$A^b = G^\sharp$

Stronger Version

1 2 3 4 5 6

good - bye, we say good - bye.

Ev - 'ry time we say good - bye.

good - bye, we say good - bye.

$A^b = G^\sharp$

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