

INSIDE: Pasadena • Easy ways to kickstart chapter Youth in Harmony • Hall of Fame • Convention recap

September/October 2008

THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

OC TIMES



2008 International Champion

Many chapters can tell you that there are few rewards like introducing young singers to barbershop harmony. Other chapters would like to start but don't know how. Here's the first in a series of easy but meaningful tasks that will begin to pay big dividends.

Features

- 14** **Little old party in Pasadena**
Join the top seniors quartetters, nearly 500 young men from 15+ youth choruses, all the 2008 international quartet medalists and the Masters of Harmony for an incredible vacation
JOHN SCHNEIDER, DIRECTOR OF EVENTS
- 16** **Nashville Memories**
With all the uncertainty and change we're facing, the only constant is the thrill of a well-tuned chord—and our annual chance to celebrate (and joke about) our finest groups
LORIN MAY, EDITOR, THE HARMONIZER
- 48** **2008 Hall of Famers**
The Gas House Gang, David Wright, George Shields, Dan Waselchuk, and last but not least, our newest 50-year Society members



On the Cover:
OC Times
Photo by Miller Photography

Departments

- 2**
THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE
When the giants in our lives leave us
- 4**
LETTERS
Buffalo Bills, Inside the judges' huddle
- 5**
STRAIGHT TALK
Help yourself! The other side of the coin
- 7**
TEMPO
Check out the new barbershop.org
Fill theater seats with barbershop harmony!
- 13**
HARMONY HOW-TO
Make breathing your ally, not your enemy
- 51**
STAY TUNED
Encouraging vocal music 7,500 times over!
Why to invite other groups on your chapter show
- 54**
MEMBER SERVICE DIRECTORY
Where to find answers
- 56**
THE TAG
"We'll Just Be the Same Old Friends"

It's hard to say goodbye to our own giants

It was early in the first chorus contest session on July Fourth when I realized my cell phone was going off. There I was front row center, your Society President, and I had forgotten to turn off my cell phone. I took a quick look at the phone number, saw it was from my sister, and turned off my phone. As soon as the performance was over, I walked to the Harmony Foundation hospitality room and called my sister. It was then I learned my 95-year-old father had entered the hospital.

From everything I learned in that phone call, the situation did not seem critical. We stayed at the convention, and went directly to the hospital upon our return home. Dad seemed to be getting



Until we have the chance to ring a chord with them again "up there," I hope you will cherish the memories of all of those who made music a part of our life and soul.

better, but within a week all that changed. We stayed at the hospital and waited patiently for days as dad went from bad to better. Then, just as it looked like the worst was behind us, the doctors informed us that his condition was worsening again. COPD, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, was the culprit, and on Sunday, July 27, 2008, about 6:00 p.m., my dad made the trip that we often refer to as "joining the heavenly choir."

I had been preparing myself for that possible day for several years, and thankfully it occurred much later in life than most of us could have hoped. I cherish each of the days my dad and I had to know one another and share times together. One of the things we shared was a great love of music—country, bluegrass, gospel, church music, and folk music were all my dad's favorites. My tastes were even broader, but we always had songs in common and easily could fall into singing or whistling something together.

My dad was not a barbershopper, but he was a true lover of music. It was his and my mom's love of music that caused me to develop a similar passion about some-

thing so easily enjoyed and so easily shared. I was a bit surprised when I went through my dad's personal papers to find many things he had saved from

the lives of my siblings and me. Carefully protected and saved among the artifacts of our growing up were the programs from the various chapter shows my father had attended. I was deeply touched that some part of what I had done had been important enough for him to save in some instances for more than 20 years.

I apologize if this article seems a bit maudlin to some. I had given the theme of this article some thought after reading a beautiful remembrance earlier this year by Bobby Gray as he recalled the greatest barbershopper he knew—his dad—who died earlier this year. Bobby's message struck a chord with me, and now that I have lost my own dad I felt that many members already must have experienced what Bobby and I have felt. There is the pain of loss, and the celebration of remembrance.

The past year has seen the loss of some of barbershop's true giants. Men such as Buzz Haeger and Freddie King immediately come to mind, but I know that each chapter has its giants whom men regard with honor and respect because of their love of barbershop harmony and how they shared that love with others. Those men may not have been barbershop legends, but had the greatest smile, the greatest passion for friendliness, the greatest patience as the chapter secretary or treasurer for 15 years in a row, or were the chapter director who selflessly prepared music week after week, show after show, and contest after contest.

None of these men, just like my dad, will be remembered for composing a song or writing a great musical arrangement. Their memories will linger on in the lives of those they loved and touched. So while it is hard to say goodbye, we know a part of them continues to live on. Until we have the chance one day to ring a chord with them again "up there," I hope you will, like me, cherish the memories of all of those who made music a part of our life and soul. Those memories always will "keep coming back like a song." Let's never let the music die.

p.s.. Wii Fit update: My Dad's situation slowed down my progress, but I am down two pounds as of today.

pronoah@comcast.net

What I love most about
the International Convention:

*The College Contest gets
better every year.*



JUNE 28 – JULY 5, 2009

Visit www.barbershop.org/anaheim or call 800.876.7464



**Can you imagine
your life without
barbershop?**



Ed Watson
CEO / Executive Director

What activities do you have planned in 2009 to inspire, influence, and enrich your life and the lives of others?

The future of our Society depends on healthy chapters that can identify who they are, what they want to accomplish, and are willing to work to turn those dreams into reality.

It's time to take that responsibility. The future of the Society depends on you!

If you need help formulating your 2009 plans, send an e-mail to itsyourchapter@barbershop.org or call 800.876.SING.

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Ask your chapter secretary about EasyDues.



Buffalo Bills, inside the judges' huddle

I received my copy of *The Harmonizer* yesterday, and "thrilled to pieces" would be an understatement. You honor me in a way that leaves me at a loss for words. The cover was just wonderful, and thanks to barber-shopper Dr. Gary McBride, our dentist, for the great portrait! I can't thank you enough for the honor.

It was nice to read about Hersch Smith, the guy who paved the way. Did I make a difference? I don't think so. We had a few short months to get me in the groove that Hersch had left, and in so doing the other three perfected themselves, overcoming what they may have lacked in 1949 in Buffalo. **The Mid-States Four** were great champions, and we proudly continued to compete against them on the stage of many venues in the following years.

I am quite proud of where I live and want everyone to know that we live in the Buffalo, N.Y. suburb of North Tonawanda, not Towanda. Please forgive the corrections and hear my words, "It's great to be a barbershopper *again*!"

DICK GRAPES
The Buffalo Bills

If Hershel Smith was the forgotten Bill from the earlier days, Jimmy Dale Jones is the forgotten Bill from their later days. They discovered this bass of the

JAD quartet **Stay Laters** when they sang on the same show in the Columbus Veterans Memorial Hall. The Bills were singing on the Arther Godfrey show at the time. Bill Spangenberg was very ill and there were many others who wanted to fill his shoes. The final audition had three men. Jimmy was working as a welder in a factory at the time he got this dream-of-a-lifetime job. He sang with the Bills until their last chord. He would be about 76 years old now. I have been trying to find out what happened to him. You don't just drop off this world, or do you?

WILLARD KAPES
Euclid, Ohio

Huddling with the judges

Thank you for the marvelous article "In the judges' huddle" (July/August, pp. 20-24). Mr. Keller deserves considerable credit for explaining some unfamiliar and difficult concepts so well. His explanations and an example of tritonal energy and the circle of fifths were fascinating to me and were well done. I feel that I understand them sufficiently for the first time, despite my many years in barbershop.

WALT CROW
Bay Village, Ohio

As a 45-year, inactive life member of the Society and a stalwart KIBber [*KIB=Keep it Barbershop - Ed.*], I noticed that missing from category specialist Kevin Keller's list of "hallmarks" of the barbershop style was a song with "strong implied harmony." I seem to remember that when I was active, this was an important part of what defined a good barbershop song. Is this criteria no longer applicable in today's definition? We used to say that songs without this characteristic were "engineered" into the style, which seems to be a growing trend today. Try woodshedding some of the currently acceptable contest material if you have any doubt about the importance of this apparently passé criteria!

BOB BALDERSON
Milwaukee, Wis.

Freddie King's final farewell?

There's rarely anything funny about an obituary, but Freddie King's (July/August issue, page 5) could have been one of those times. It starts with a photo that is animatingly Freddie and ends with a premature final farewell. It's only too bad that he couldn't beat the odds and outlived the "obit." [Fred died Monday, Sept. 1, after the issue was released to the printer.] He would have loved reading of his own passing. Can't you just hear his chortle and vigorous rebuttal!

JAY GARBER
Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

Final farewell? Never! And he's next issue's cover story!

Accidentals

Correcting an error that appeared in the July/August 2008 issue: The annual minimum fee due to ASCAP is \$210 *per year*, not *per show*. ■

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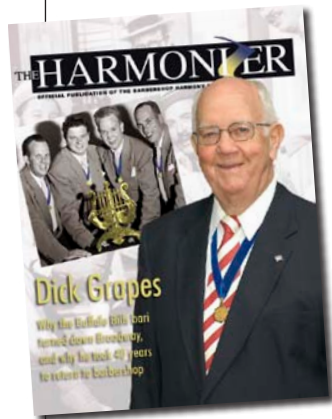
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Want growth and success? Help yourself

Help yourself! Doesn't that sound inviting? Help yourself to an extra cookie. Help yourself to some chips and dip. (Whoa, let's switch to non-fattening analogies!) Help yourself to this issue of *The Harmonizer*, with all the fun reading and pictures from the Nashville International Convention. Help yourself to one more tag with your friends.

But that's not what I mean this time when I say "Help yourself." I don't want it to sound hurtful, stingy or callous, but I want our chapters to help themselves by working on sound practices to become better, more attractive, more inviting, and more successful. Help yourself ...



You, and your leadership and the vast amount of literature, manuals, materials, schools, and coaching sessions available, could make your chapter experience wonderful if you will do it.

international convention all made money this year. They primarily exist to support our mission to enrich lives through singing, so we keep costs low so that the maximum number of members can attend. But while they're expensive to put on, total revenues exceeded costs; we use that revenue to further the aims of the Society.

Just over one-third of overall Society expenses are covered by member dues. The rest comes from Society events and from non-dues revenue, such as Harmony Marketplace merchandise and music sales. As a non-profit organization, we do not pay

Here's a story to illustrate. Harmony University is a place everyone can help themselves. During a "Meet the CEO" session (competing, of course, with free ice cream in another

room) I was enjoying the free exchange of questions and ideas when one Society member asked (I paraphrase), "Why are you spending all this money on International, Midwinter, and Harmony University while my chapter is dying? Why can't you take some of the money you use on competitions and spend it to help my chapter?" Let me share with you what I told him.

First, let's deal with wide misperceptions. Midwinter, Harmony University and our

shareholders and do not make a profit—we have to match income and outflow each year. The more you buy at the Harmony Marketplace, the more you attend Society events, and the more you pay in dues, the more money the Board and staff can use to further the aims of the Society.

The aims of the Society are quite simple; for at least 2008 and 2009, we're especially focusing on the following:

- Chapters will grow and retain members
- Chapters are active in community service
- Members feel a sense of identity and belonging with the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Members enjoy and are actively participating in Barbershop Harmony Society activities

These aims are not simple to encourage and administer, and we have asked for your help. I hope you have responded to our member surveys regarding your satisfaction with the Society and your wants and needs for chapter development. We need your feedback ... but I am getting off topic.

The Scale

Know how many members we have right now? About 27,500. Chapters? About 820. Staff? About 30. How many staff (other than me) are available to visit districts and chapters? Six! If all six (four music, two membership) could travel to 820 chapters at the rate of one chapter each per week, it would take them 137 weeks, or a bit shy of three years, for one of them to reach every chapter. That's if they each traveled 52 weeks per year (not possible). Even multiple chapter assemblages are realistically few and far between for our professional staff. It gives you some idea of the magnitude of our Society, and how formidable the communications and logistics issues are.

On top of that is the fact that many chapters, and some districts, clearly indicate they don't want HQ telling them what to do. "Leave us alone, we don't need to change anything!" Okay, I'll support you in *any* way you want to enjoy barbershop, as long as you promise me this: You will sing, you will ring, and you will support everyone else's right to enjoy singing and ringing. But if you want to grow as an organization, if you want to gain more members, attract new talent, enjoy putting on good shows to great audiences, you must occasionally accept help to get better. And you must take that help and adapt it to *your* needs, and do the heavy lifting on your own.

We can provide you with ideas, tools and experience, but we're limited on how much direct manpower we can provide. (Of course, more members

STRAIGHT TALK

Ed Watson, Executive Director • ewatson@barbershop.org



would equal more revenue and allow more staff and more visits ...) So you, and your chapter leadership, and your district leadership, and your Society leadership, and the vast amount of literature, manuals, materials, schools, and coaching sessions available, could make your chapter experience wonderful if *you* will do it.

I advise you to do it—it is unbelievably rewarding. To take just one example: COTS (Chapter Operations

Training Seminar, now called Leadership Academy) isn't what it once was. That's good—it's growing and evolving to provide more effective help to chapter officers. Please send your chapter officers. We'll *all* be glad you did.

President John F. Kennedy famously said in his inaugural speech, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." I like to think his point was that those who give, those who work

for improvement, those who are willing to try for self-sufficiency, will do great and wonderful things for the cause they are serving.

Right here, and right now, we are serving the cause of preserving, encouraging, and passing on to future generations the unique, beautiful, and moving art form of Barbershop Harmony. If your *chapter* gets better, becomes more attractive, more compelling and more fun, how can it not grow? And as it grows, it will start an upward spiral, the best ride you've ever been on. C'mon along, c'mon along, let me take you by the hand ...

How am I doing?

ewatson@barbershop.org

What I love most about the International Convention:

There is always something to do.

JUNE 28 – JULY 5, 2009

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The MASTERWORKS Series
The International Chapter Champions

- '50 Buffalo Bills
- '54 The Orphans
- '61 Suntones
- '64 Sidewinders
- '65 Four Renegades
- '66 Anti-Towners
- '67 Four Statesmen
- '68 Western Continental
- '69 Mark IV
- '70 Oriole 4
- '71 Gentleman's Agreement
- '72 Golden Striders
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- '83 Side Street Ramblers

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International Champions

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'71 Gentleman's Agreement;	'65 Four Renegades;
'80 Eastern Gentlemen;	'73 Dealer's Choice;
'50 Buffalo Bills	'61 Suntones

Volume I or II 4-CD set: \$70 +\$2.50
Volumes I and II 8-CD set: \$80 +\$4.50
Additional Masterworks CDs \$18 +\$0.75

For additional ME info, see our website: www.singall.com



Check out the new face of www.barbershop.org

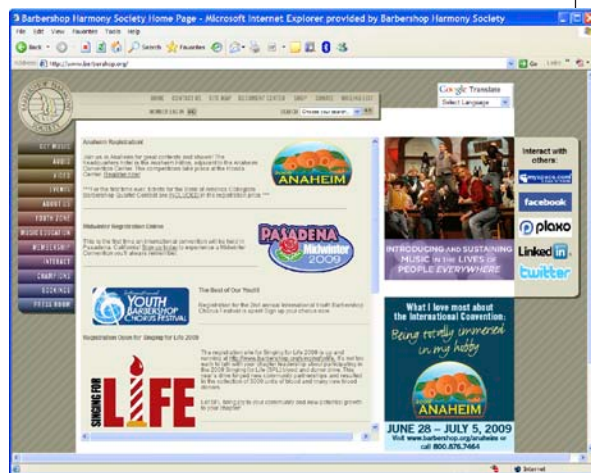
After three testing phases, *barbershop.org* was officially re-launched on October 17. In addition to the face lift, the new site is designed to increase traffic, build greater awareness for barbershop and improve the overall user experience. The new site, finalized and now maintained by Society web developer Gena Dickey (see next page), includes much new content, while older archived content has or will be updated or added. Highlights include:

- Improved navigability and searching
- Language translation (visitors from 150 countries speaking 57 languages have been tracked)
- More content available exclusively to Society members and Associates. Much is currently found in the Document Center
- A much more dynamic main page with more photos, graphics and rotating banner ads
- Google ads replaced with links to social networking sites frequented by barbershoppers
- Better information capture regarding the 450,000 unique annual visitors
- Links to the Society's YouTube channel and coming public domain performance and other content
- Google Maps-based chapter locator

Coming soon

- Searchable music library
- User-friendly tweaks on page sizes and scrolling
- FAQ page
- Updates to links and headers in left-side columns
- "Book a Public Speaker" page with experts on barbershop harmony available for public speaking engagements

The site is optimized for Internet Explorer. Minor



peculiarities in other browsers will be addressed. Send constructive comments to webmaster@barbershop.org.

Barbershop.org quick stats

Captured stats on website visitors:

- different countries: 150
- different cities: 6043
- native languages: 57
- returning visitors: 55%
- new visitors: 45%
- average pages per visit: 3.24
- average time per visit: 2:49

Projected annual 2008 stats for *barbershop.org*:

- 2,500,000 page views
- 760,000 visits
- 445,000 unique visitors
- Percentage of unique visitors who might be barbershoppers: 6% to 12% maximum

Youth Chorus Festival triples in second year! See it in Pasadena at Midwinter

The Second annual Youth Chorus Festival at the Midwinter Convention is already well over twice the size of last

year's and still growing! So far, 15 choruses representing more than 450 young men have registered, with others ex-

pressing interest. Your encouragement can help make barbershop harmony a life-time habit for this rising generation of singers. Tag with them and cheer for them at Midwinter. (Register at www.barbershop.org/midwinter.)

The festival and the Society's youth programs are funded entirely by your donations to Harmony Foundation International (www.harmonyfoundation.org). Few youth choruses could enjoy this immersion in barbershop culture without your financial support. Please do all you can to help youth choruses form in your area and give them the administrative and financial support they'll need to get off the ground. For more information on youth choruses, see the May/June 2008 issue of *The Harmonizer* or contact James Estes at Society headquarters (800-876-7464 x4124, jestes@barbershop.org) or go to www.barbershop.org/youthchorus.



year's and still growing! So far, 15 choruses representing more than 450 young men have registered, with others ex-



Gena Dickey— full time web developer!

Gena moved from Memphis to join the Society staff in September, giving her a chance to blend her love of design with her desire to produce meaningful work in the non-profit sector. As an intern at CNN Headquarters, she helped re-vamp *CNN.com*. After graduating from Rice University, she was a television news producer/web administrator for ABC and NBC affiliates, respectively. Preferring Web design, a few years ago she started I.T. Factor Web Design, working with primarily small business clients throughout the Southeast. Gena can be reached at gdickey@barbershop.org or at 800-876-7464 x4128.



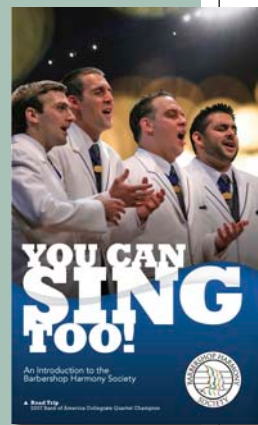
Society briefs

Begin planning now for 2009 Singing for Life.

The first Society-wide Singing for Life blood drive included 176 chapters and about 6,000 performers across North America, with more than 3,000 units of blood collected. Media coverage was equal to and often greater than the coverage markets get during the Singing Valentines campaign, and many chapters gained new members and new relationships with other performing arts organizations. Chapters are already registering for 2009. The event encompasses the entire month of May this year, and this year chapters will have access to more resources and more personal communication from committee members than ever before. For more information, visit www.barbershop.org/blood.

The Society's new recruitment brochure is here!

Order the eye-catching new recruitment brochure. The pocket size piece can be handed to interested parties or unfolded to create a 10x17 poster. It can be customized with chapter contact information and showcases singers of all ages, including six quartets and three choruses. Hand them out at performances, include them in Singing Valentines bundles, or post them on public bulletin boards. Get the brochure (item 201864) from the Harmony Marketplace in lots of 50 for \$14.99 or lots of 10 for \$4.99, plus shipping. www.harmonymarketplace.com



Plan for spring BQPA festival in Phoenix.

BQPA president Jack Martin invites all barbershoppers to the 38th Barbershop Pioneer Festival at the beautiful Grace Inn Resort in Phoenix, Ariz. April 2-4, 2009. The Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA), a Society subsidiary, is dedicated to the preservation and performance of traditional barbershop quartet singing. This semi-annual event emphasizes the pursuit of quartet singing for one's own pleasure and increase quartetting on one's own area. Event emphasis includes a random draw pick-up quartet contest, woodshedding and sharing fun and fellowship in a non-stressful atmosphere. Organized amateurs will participate in a "host a parade of quartets" show on Saturday night. www.bqpa.com.

Excerpts from July 1, 2008 Society Board meeting

Items affecting general membership that do not appear elsewhere in this issue of *The Harmonizer*:

- **Multi-year dues programs:** Eliminated effective July 1, 2008. Enrolled members to continue in programs until their next dues renewal date
- **Life membership:** Cost set at 20 times regular membership dues
- **Senior dues:** Effective Jan. 1, 2010, Senior Member dues (age 70+ who have paid dues previous 10 years) to be 75% regular dues. Senior members qualified and enrolled before Jan. 1, 2010 continue to pay 50% regular dues
- **Interactive museum/experience at Society Headquarters:** to be named

S'ing

A Celebration of Harmony

Board Member elections, effective Jan. 1, 2009

One-year terms

- Society President: Bill Biffle
- Society Executive Vice President: Alan Lamson
- Society Treasurer: Jim Lee

New board members (three-year terms)

- Board member at-large: Gary Parker
- NED/ONT: Ted Devonshire
- DIX/SUN: Shannon Elswick



CONVENTIONS

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

2009

PASADENA
Jan. 25–Feb. 1

HARMONY
UNIVERSITY 2008
St. Joseph, Mo.
July 27–Aug. 3

URGENT: Help put barbershop harmony in movie theaters while raising chapter

Ask anyone who saw "American Harmony" in Nashville why you'll want everyone in your community to see this top-notch documentary—the



most thorough and flattering look at our music and culture ever produced. It can start showing at your local metroplex with just a little help from your chapter. There are financial rewards on top of all the PR and recruiting benefits!

A major player with experience in distributing independent niche films is highly interested in "American Harmony." The key is a motivated fan base (us). Our level of support will determine the resources they can apply to promotion. All Society, Sweet Adelines and Harmony, Inc. chapters in North America may participate. (Complete our survey at barbershop.org/americanharmony

to help us understand your chapter's needs, preferences and expected level of participation.)

Get ready for the resources to sell tickets for showings that will start on to-be-de-

termined post-Feb. 15, 2009 dates. Sell to anyone you know—family, friends, co-workers potential members, and your entire patron list. (Expect the price and flexibility of movie tickets to make this a far easier sell than chapter show tickets.) Preliminary talks involve selling to chapters at bulk prices, while the chapters set the final ticket price and keep the difference.

With high enough ticket commitments from 35 or more markets across North America, professional promoters can join the mix and garner additional theaters and audiences.

The distributor will handle all ar-

rangements with theaters owners—all you have to do is sell tickets. The more you sell, the more screenings theater owners will commit to and the more marketing will be applied in your area.

Get creative!

- Bundle tickets with premium Singing Valentines packages and hand out flyers at every delivery.
- Offer tickets as an incentive to full-page advertisers in your show programs
- Sell them at your annual spring show
- Put an American Harmony link on your website.

A DVD will later be available as well. For more information contact twilson@barbershop.org. See the trailer at www.americanharmonythemovie.com.

Speaking of surveys ... thousands have given feedback to a wide variety of questions by our Operations Team. Look for a summary of results in the next issue.

EARLY BIRD PRICING IS AVAILABLE
until January 5, 2009



JUNE 28 – JULY 5, 2009
Visit www.barbershop.org/anaheim or call 800.876.7464




PASADENA MIDWINTER CONVENTION
WHAT DOES GREG LYNE'S "OTHER" CHORUS HAVE PLANNED?
EXPERIENCE THE CALIFORNIA

ALL-STAR CHORUS

January 28 – February 1, 2009
www.barbershop.org/midwinter
events@barbershop.org (800) 876-SING



Make your plans NOW to participate in the SINGING FOR LIFE Blood Drive and Donor Recruitment Program

SINGING FOR LIFE
www.barbershop.org/blood



Check out The 5th Wheel blog.

It's not an official source of Society information and that's a good thing—HQ couldn't get away with some of the entertaining stuff barbershopper Mike McGee is posting on his new blog. (He appears to be trying for clean but irreverent, cheeky but guileless.) The former **Metropolis** bari is grabbing a lot of attention for his eclectic creation, combining outrageous barbershop "news" with the real stuff, polls, interviews and other assorted interesting content. Quirky, opinionated and yet with actual meat to chew on. We need a dozen more high-personality blogs in the barbershop world. Check his out at www.the5thwhl.blogspot.com.



17-year Society employee Brian Lynch left a big legacy



It seems Brian Lynch had his hands in just about every major bit of Society business, from major PR initiatives to *The Harmonizer* to the Society website and Aptify. But Brian's family was too rooted in Kenosha to make the move to Nashville. (He even writes a regular *Kenosha News* column about his love affair with the city.) August 31 was his last day as a Society employee.

Brian was often among the first to see Society opportunities and was an effective lobbyist for change, eventually running (unintentionally!) many of these initiatives. As public relations director, he helped spearhead production of three specials for public television, a complete makeover of *The Harmonizer* magazine, was co-author (with Ev Nau) of the Society's award-winning "Singing is Life" video, and was instrumental in the establishment and growth of the Society's web presence. He later directed migration to the Society's Stellent engine for the Society's website. He then served 18 months as editor of *The Harmonizer* magazine while serving part time as webmaster. Since 2006, Brian was a business analyst and IT project manager, responsible for the implementation of the Aptify membership management platform.

Brian is active in teaching public relations, marketing and membership classes at Society schools. A chorus and quartet bass (including Buckeye Invitational comedy winner **The Muckety-Mucks**), Brian and wife, Laura, are blessed beyond measure with two adorable children who love singing with daddy.

Society briefs

Hotels will cost less in Anaheim! We've negotiated hotel rates for the 2009 International Convention in Anaheim that are as low or lower than in Nashville! For example, the least expensive hotel in our convention block is \$89 per night and is just four blocks from the headquarters hotel. Hotels in our block have busing and are often set up for chorus rehearsals and afterglows. Register for Anaheim now and receive early bird rates. www.barbershop.org/anaheim

Arrangers: Lou Perry Scholarship Program expands. Get pre-paid tuition to Harmony University 2009 by creating the best original arrangement. Beginning this year, adjudicators also welcome applications from talented young people who may not yet be accomplished arrangers but who show good musical skills and future potential.

One of the adjudicators, Rob Campbell (chair), Dennis Driscoll or Don Gray, will prepare a detailed review of each arrangement. Arrangements need not be contestable but must be in the barbershop style, something that might appear on a normal chapter show. Contestants need not be Society members. Previous winners and published arrangements are ineligible, and submissions from prior years will not be accepted.

Deadline: March 15, 2009. Send three copies of one arrangement only, the published sheet music for the original song and a one-page outline of your arranging experience and any other relevant information. Send electronic files by e-mail (Finale or PDF) to RobCampbell@aya.yale.edu. Otherwise, send by regular mail to Dr. Rob Campbell, PO Box 9335, San Diego, CA 92169.



Burt Szabo to deliver keynote address at Harmony University.

Don't miss hearing the wisdom and inspiration of Dr. Burt Szabo, one of the barbershop world's greatest talents, in the Sunday night keynote address. A 59-year Society member and a barbershopper since age 14, he attended his first international convention in 1949.

He has taught at universities in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Florida and has composed music for almost every kind of performing group, including jazz bands and symphony orchestras. From 1983 to 1995 he was the Society's Music Publications Editor. He has served on the Harmony University music faculty all but two years since 1964, teaching music theory, arranging, music reading, woodshedding and related subjects. An accomplished Society director and 30-year Society judge, he continues to grow his published catalog as one of the Society's most prolific and popular arrangers and composers. His current emphasis is music for high school choruses. www.barbershop.org/harmony

Free for schools! To learn more about the free music for schools program, contact James Estes at 800-876-7464 x4124 or jestes@barbershop.org.

Boost barbershop harmony in YouTube video contest

Win a video camera while spreading your passion for barbershop harmony across the web. With just a webcam or a digital camera in movie mode, in two minutes or less, tell the world:

- Why do you like to sing?
- Why barbershop music?
- What attracted you to barbershop?
- Why did you join the Society?
- What has kept you hooked?
- What is your all-time favorite barbershop experience?
- How has singing barbershop enriched your life or the lives of others?
- What is your best Singing Valentine experience?
- What do you love about Society conventions?
- What makes your favorite quartet or chorus special?

Be brief, clean, interesting and animated for an audience that is proud of its hair-trigger attention span. Be sure the lighting and sound are good and don't include copyrighted songs

or videos in your presentation. Subtitles are good but not required, and *two minutes* is the maximum. Otherwise, just begin your video by stating your name, city and state/province—then unleash your creativity. Makers of the most entertaining video and most uplifting video will win a Flip Ultra video camera valued at \$150. The best videos will be posted on the Society's YouTube page, will be promoted at www.barbershop.org, and

will be used in online marketing and promotions.

Go to YouTube.com for instructions on uploading video. E-mail a link for your completed video by Dec. 31 to twilson@barbershop.org. Include your name, mailing address and phone number in the body of the e-mail. Winners will be announced at the 2009 Midwinter convention in Pasadena. *Any* singer or fan or barbershop harmony, male or female, is eligible to participate.

Welcome new chapters!

Western Washington (EVG)
Grove City, Pa. (SLD)
Rutland, Vt. (NED)
Pullman-Moscow, Idaho (EVG)
Lyndon, Vt. (SLD)
Hell's Kitchen, N.Y. (MAD)

Final stages of chartering

San Marcos, Texas (SWD)
Wichita Falls, Texas (SWD)

Alvin, Texas (SWD)
Germantown, Md. (MAD)

Licensed and moving forward
Winter Haven Fla. (SUN)
Parkersburg-Marietta, Ohio (JAD)
Temecula, Calif. (FWD)
Culpeper, Va. (MAD)
Harrisonburg, Va. (MAD)
Oldham City, Ky. (CAR)

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Official associate status for women! Plus, youth pay almost nada first year

Younger members and female friends of the Society will be excited about the brand new dues classifications that go into effect on Jan. 1, 2009.

Y1 – Youth 1. First-time-ever members age 25 and under. To make financial barriers to membership a non-issue for youth, a \$10 enrollment fee waives Society dues for the first year. Many districts and chapter have also chosen to waive dues for Youth 1. There's never been a better time to recruit young men into the Society. Chapters, get or keep your houses in order so that the young men who join will never want to leave!

Y2 – Youth 2. Includes all current and reinstated Society members age 25 and under, or brand-new under-25 members in the year(s) following Youth 1. Dues are half current Society and district dues; chapters are encouraged but not required to mirror the half-price dues structure.

Student member class. Obsolete, effective Jan. 1, 2009.

Associate status. A brand-new classification for women who desire “insider” status within the Barbershop Harmony Society. While this is not “membership” per se, it grants a type of official Society status to wives, widows, female relatives, girlfriends, female directors and female friends of the Barbershop Harmony Society. At half the price of Society dues, associates receive:

- Member pricing on all events, music and merchandise
- Subscription to *The Harmonizer*
- A new lapel pin and kit unique to Associates
- Limited Ebiz access
- Access to password-protected content at www.barbershop.org
- Higher inclusion in Society communications and marketing
- Networking opportunities with other associates and members
- Vested interest in the Barbershop Harmony Society



Society briefs

California barbershoppers: Join the California All-Star Chorus. You'll need to move quickly to sing under the baton of Dr. Greg Lyne at the Midwinter Convention in Pasadena—more than 100 are already signed up. California-based Society



members in good standing may apply by sending their full name, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, chapter name, preferred voice-part (and other parts they would be willing to sing) to CaliforniaChorus@barbershop.org or to Barbershop Harmony Society – Attn: Danielle Cole, 110 Seventh Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37203. The chorus is limited to the first 200 applicants accepted. Each will receive learning tracks and all necessary information.

Evaluate your chapter bulletin with PROBE. By January 2009, enter either the hardcopy or online divisions (not both) to show off your strengths and learn where to improve. (Contact your district coordinator for exact dates.) Contest rules and entry forms are available at www.harmonize.com/PROBE. District winners in both categories are eligible for the International Bulletin Contest and will be announced at the spring district conventions.

Ask before using Norman Rockwell image. The iconic barbershop quartet on our building and on your quartet cards and Bank of America credit cards is a copyrighted image owned by Curtis Publishing. Use of the image requires advance licensing and approval. Contact Curtis Publishing, 1000 Waterway Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202; 317-633-2070, 317-633-8841 (fax), info@curtispublishing.com.

Have you checked out eBiz lately? One week alone saw more than 600 barbershoppers renew their Society membership faster, more cheaply and easier than ever. Our eBiz site allows you to update your personal information any time, look up other members, chapters and quartets, run your chapter, register your quartet, pay your dues and more. Find out how easy and powerful this system is at ebiz.barbershop.org

Nashville contest tunes available at iTunes.com. More than 200 tracks from 51 quartets and 28 choruses are now available at the iTunes Store and many other digital delivery services. Go to nakedvoicerecords.com, for a list of every artist and every track from the 2008 International Contest in Nashville in order of appearance. Downloads of these fully licensed tracks are 99 cents each. ■



Make breathing your ally—not your enemy

The most challenging aspect of singing is not the notes; it's the breathing. How important is it to breathe correctly? Imagine a tightrope walker balancing on one leg, twirling rings on his hands and free leg while spinning a plate from a stick on his forehead. That's like singing: You have to juggle notes, words, rhythm, vowels, placement, dynamics, and phrasing all while standing on one leg—that leg is your breathing! Without the precision and correctness that comes from practice, everything else pretty much falls apart.

As singers, we need to reproduce the breathing techniques we were born with: the diaphragmatic, uncomplicated use of the stomach muscles to do the job. We've all heard "breathe from your diaphragm" referred to as the foundation of proper singing. That's great advice if you know how to do it. Here's how.

A previous Harmony How-to article by Steve Tramack ("Better singing through better alignment," Sept./Oct. 2007, pp. 14-15) was a very good presentation on posture. If you are following the fundamentals outlined in that article, you're ready to breathe correctly. One of the keys is finding the right imagery that works for you and then practice until you return to the breathing that once came to you naturally.

Inhale exercises: choose your imagery

Belly button string. The lungs cannot inflate of their own accord. When the stomach goes out, it creates the vacuum that inflates the lungs. Imagine a string attached directly to your navel and pull directly out on the string to inflate your stomach. When you do this you should also be feeling your lungs inflate without any help or movement from your chest. You breathed this way at birth, so allow yourself to feel the presence of air in your lungs without any tension in your chest. Now, release the string and allow the stomach to deflate, which should also deflate the lungs. Notice the lack of tension in your chest, shoulders and throat? This relaxation is vital to singing freely and beautifully!

Pinball flippers. Put your hands out to your sides as if you had pinball flippers on the sides of your stomach. Rather rigid hands will help (not wimpy ones). Now, imagine your stomach being controlled by these flippers, both moving at the same time. Flip them in and exhale, let them flip back out and inhale. Keep your hands right at your side where the oblique muscles are located. Do this a few times in a nice steady pattern. You should feel

an exhale and inhale with each flip of the hands.

Now do this with your lips closed and make the exhale sound through the nose. See if you can hear only the exhale sound through your nose and make no inhale sound whatsoever—otherwise, you're working too hard. Let the stomach do the inhale—not the chest, not the throat, not the mouth—the *stomach*. (Again, note the lack of upper body tension!)

Lie on your back tonight and feel your breathing. It should be the natural state of diaphragmatic breathing with which you were born. You also breathe this way when you sleep, you just don't know it.

Exhaling—even more important

I've found that the exhale is actually the most important aspect of breathing when you sing. You really should get rid of all of the air on the last word of the phrase you are singing. If you wait until after the last word, you generally will be late with the next inhale. For my choruses, I like to write in for the breath mark "Thou Shalt Exhale," the eleventh commandment. A partial exhale means you can only get a partial inhale—it's as simple as that.

Lift the chest ever so slightly. Remember the posture article I mentioned? I've noticed in singers a drop of the chest when they are at the end of a phrase. Just stand there, right now, and inhale (with the inflation of your stomach of course). Now when you exhale, allow your chest to drop. What do you feel? There should be a tight feeling at the bottom of your throat and at the top of your chest—not a good thing. Okay, now breathe again and on the exhale lift your rib cage every so slightly. Notice that the throat is more relaxed, along with the chest, and the stomach has a much easier time moving in. The lifted posture is critical in how we breathe.

"Snuffing." I often tell my choruses, "Okay, snuff for one minute." I call this last exercise "snuffing" for lack of a better term and because of what it sounds like. Do this exercise for one minute: Use your "flippers" and make your stomach move in and out a little faster than one beat per second. Keep it going for the full minute, mouth closed, exhaling through the nose with no inhale sound. Minute's up! (You may feel a little dizzy but it will go away.) Now, inhale slowly and correctly through the nose. What do you feel up there? A little dry? A cool feeling? Open sinuses? Great! You did it right.

Oh, I forgot! "Sore stomach muscles?" You will get stronger abs doing this workout and you'll feel better! I promise! Happy snuffing! ■

Correct posture plus breathing from your diaphragm positions you for free and relaxed singing.



Bill Weiser
Vocal coach
and director of
the Reno Silver
Dollar Chorus



Coming: greatest Midwinter ever!

The city that hosts the Rose Bowl Parade and the Rose Bowl itself will welcome the Society for its 2009 Midwinter Convention. We won't have our own parade, but we'll provide some spectacular entertainment during the course of the week.

Once again we will have the host state All Star Chorus. It was a huge success last year in San Antonio and already well over a hundred singers have signed up to sing a couple of songs under the directorship of Dr. Greg Lyne. How exciting is that? We could have 200 singers by the time all is said and done. Check out all the great Friday events in the sidebar.

Saturday is an even more spectacular day beginning with the Second Annual Youth Festival Chorus Contest. Those of you that were in San Antonio won't soon forget what a spectacular event that was and how much the audience enjoyed the six choruses that came to compete. This year promises to

be bigger and better and is a definite do-not-miss event. That night, in addition to the newly crowned Youth Festival Chorus champions and a couple of songs by the entire ensemble of all those kids competing in the contest, the

newly crowned Seniors Quartet Champs will sing a couple of songs, 2008 silver medalist **Crossroads** and 2008 champion **OC Times** will sing a few songs;



Ringmasters will again perform; and some special surprise champion performances that you will not want to miss.

So mark your calendars right now and plan to be in Pasadena, Calif. for the Midwinter Convention. You'll be glad you were there. ■



Friday, Jan. 30

Seminars

- "Care of the Senior Voice" with Jim DeBusman
- "Add Excitement to Your Chapter Meeting" with Mike O'Neill

Seniors Quartet Contest



AISQC Show

- Past seniors champs in top form
- AISQC Chorus
- The California All-Star Chorus under the direction of Dr. Greg Lyne
- 2008 Collegiate champ **Ringmasters**
- Extended sets from 2008 international bronze medalists **Stateline Grocery**, **Redline** and **Old School**



Saturday, Jan. 31

Seminars

- "Coaching Under Glass" (instructor & quartet TBD)
- Wealth Building Seminar with Harmony Foundation
- Gold Medal Hour with **OC Times**

Youth Chorus Contest and Festival

Show of Champions

- 2009 Seniors champion quartet
- 2009 Youth Chorus champion
- Full show set with **Crossroads**, 2008 international silver medalist
- Full show set with **OC Times**, 2008 international champion
- **Ringmasters** part two
- **Masters of Harmony**, 2008 international chorus champion
- Surprise performances by **past champions** (you'll have to come to find out!)





JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 1, 2009 PASADENA MIDWINTER CONVENTION

REGISTRATION FORM



Name: _____ Member ID: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____
 State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____
 Phone to: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

TYPE	RATE	QTY	TOTAL
Adult Registration (good for admission to all sessions)	\$ 85.00		\$
Convenience Fee (per ticket)	\$ 4.75		\$
Facility Fee (per ticket)	\$ 2.00		\$
GRAND TOTAL (US FUNDS)			

Method of payment - (Check appropriate box):

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Check & Check number _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

Signature (Required on all credit card orders): _____

Billing address for credit card, if different from above: _____

Special Handling - (Check all that apply):

☐ AIC - Year Champion: _____ ☐ MSOC - Year Champion: _____

☐ President's Council - Membership Level: _____ ☐ Society WFF Position: _____

☐ First time to attend the Midwinter Convention

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:

Barbershop Harmony Society
 Attn: Events Department
 110 7th Ave N
 Nashville, TN 37203-3704

Or register on the web at
www.barbershop.org/midwinter

Toll-free: 800-876-SING (7464)
 Phone: 615-823-3993
 Fax: 615-313-7620

Email: events@barbershop.org

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Nashville Memo



What a world we sing in. Stocks tanking, house prices dropping, despots scheming. Big deal! If **OC Times** can take gold without winning a single round, there are happy endings to go around for the rest of us.

When we sang "O Canada" and "The Star-Spangled Banner" in 8,500-part harmony, what was on your mind? Ahmadinejad's nuclear program? No, it was, "Let's do that again!" Were you fretting about politics while you stood up screaming after the **Ambassadors of Harmony**'s final chord—minutes after doing the same thing for the **Masters of Harmony**? Or were you wishing you could install a TiVo in your brain and play the previous 20 minutes on continuous loop for the rest of your life?

It's a good thing international convention euphoria doesn't come in the form of a pill or someone would try to ban it. (But who's got a problem with thousands of folks spending every waking hour for a week singing, watching someone sing, or debating about who just sang? Who then find a bunch of corners and concurrently wail 200 different songs? Among jolly men wearing makeup and sequins? Okay, so it doesn't

look so good on paper.) Let's just say that the only folks not having an unforgettable time in Nashville either weren't there (what's up with that?) or they were the ones stuck from Wednesday through Sunday in the marathon-distance line at Jack's BBQ. (Mmmm ... brisket!)

In all seriousness, if you didn't or couldn't make it, those of us who experienced one of the best international conventions of all time have only one thing to say: Ha Ha! We didn't spend all week wishing we could be where you were! (Ahem.) And we mean that from the bottom of our hearts.

So we leave you with the crumbs from the proverbial feast, also known as the snarky convention recap in *The Harmonizer*. Whether or not you get into the "super-fan" aspect of our hobby, it's still important to discuss historic issues and trends and to regularly explore some representative samples on the cutting edge of our art form, as delivered by our most talented groups. Or, if nothing else, we can make fun of them. What this year's tidbits lack in quality is more than made up for by their reduced quantity because, well, aren't you getting this issue late enough as it is?

This page: A slice of the crowd pauses to say "Hi." Nashville closed our piece of 7th Ave. while thousands gathered for the dedication of our new headquarters. Photo by Matt Bostick



By Lorin May
Editor, *The Harmonizer*

Photos by:
Miller Photography (MP)
Matt Bostick (MB)
Lorin May (LM)

times

2008 International Quartet Competitors



ALL CONTEST PORTRAITS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY



1. OC Times (FWD)

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



2. Crossroads (CSD)

Fred Farrell (T), Michael Slamka (L), Jim Henry (Bs), Brandon Guyton (Br)
Contact Fred: farrell05@comcast.net; h: (239) 590-0498;
w: (239) 425-3000



3. State Line Grocery (DIX)

Mark Lamback (Br), Drew McMillan (Bs), Tim Brooks (L), Dylan Oxford (T)
Contact Tim: tbrooks@tjbsales.com; h: (770) 982-5392; w: (770) 449-0999; www.statelinegrocery.com



4. Redline (DIX)

Tim McCormic (Br), Kevin Stinson (Bs), Chris Vaughn (L), Rick Spencer (T)
Contact George Davidson: sagez@aol.com; h: (303) 770-3447



5. Old School (MAD)

Rick Taylor (T), Joe Connelly (L), Joe Krones (Bs), Jack Pinto (Br)
Contact Joe: oldschoollead@aol.com; w: (513) 417-2211



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

SOUNDS OF ILLINOIS

In their first appearance on the international stage since 1977, the Sounds of Illinois performed a great Civil War set that made us glad to have them back. Among the 84 singers were 23 State Farm employees—when's the last time you cheered and teared up for a bunch of insurance adjusters? (Yeah, fine, "wait until we need you most," whatever.) Unfortunately, it wasn't clear where the Sounds' first song ended and their second song started, and the Music category deductions were enough to drop them several spots in the standings. It got worse a few weeks later when the non-State Farm men in the chorus received determination letters stating that they were 73% at fault. They're reportedly still arguing about the Music deductible.



BEST NON-SEVENTH CHORDS

THE OAK RIDGE BOYS

What, did you think they would just show up and smile? The brand new honorary members gave us a delicious taste of the four-part harmony that's made them a house-hold name since forever. And they are just as excited about their new membership as we are. They trumpeted it along with this photo on the front page of oakridgeboys.com. Also, barbershop.org is the first click under their "favorites" section. The feeling is mutual, boys.

BIGGEST GAME-CHANGER

AARON DALE

Westminster won while singing his music and **OC Times** rarely competes with anyone else's arrangements. He owns the back-handed honor of penning some of the most oversung arrangements currently in vogue. That's why some folks call Aaron Dale the next David Wright (or simply, "The Third Horseman of the Apocalypse")—because he's a top creative force who is only getting warmed up. But please remember: it was OC Times who asked him to tackle "Good Luck Charm," "Love Me" and "Surfer Girl." For his own chorus, Aaron chose the 1910 chestnut "I'd Love to Live in Love Land." Does that sound edgy to you? Even after his **Kentucky Vocal Union** made it a swing number and it worked so well that no one will ever perform it the old way again? (Deep breath ... deep breath ...) Our take? Aaron appears dedicated to discovering uncharted space right under the umbrella, and he's a mighty fine director to boot. (Tenth place doesn't begin to tell how amazing KVVU was in its international debut.) You'll have plenty of years to refine your opinion on Aaron's vision. In the meantime, the rest of us will be pressing "replay."



MOST CONSISTENT QUARTET

OC TIMES

The new champs might get a chuckle out of this headline—they'd always seen consistency as their Achilles heel and expected it to be doubly so in Nashville. It wasn't. Although the champs never won a round, six great hits and no fumbles added up to a well-earned victory that surprised nobody but OC Times. Few knew that the prior tumultuous six months had left the quartet feeling lucky to compete at all.

The first months of this year saw OC performing gigs with substitute basses while a bed-ridden, motionless Cory Hunt struggled to keep from losing sight in one eye following a baseball injury. Thankfully he recovered, but then things got even worse for the quartet. Lead Sean Devine's voice was fading fast and needed surgery. They could either fix the problem or compete, but not both. They'd rehearsed little enough with Cory out, and now intense rehearsals were out of the question. Vocal issues were so critical in Nashville that Sean watched all the events on his laptop so he could avoid talking to people. He rarely left his room except to (as silently as possible) attend **Masters** and **Westminster** rehearsals as lead section leader. The quartet tabled new material at the final hour in favor of less rangy fare, and Sean hardly sang a note all week except under the stage lights. Toss in the week-long buzz



for **Old School** and **Crossroads** and it wasn't easy for OC Times to believe that this would be their year.

Yet, they pulled off a quartet and chorus championship on top of helping prepare an amazing swan song set with Westminster. Who would've guessed Sean was singing on fumes? And who knows what would have happened had OC not won this year? Shortly after the contest, Sean moved from California to Nashville to work for Harmony Foundation International. Long-distance competing quartets tend to have short life spans. Now OC instead looks forward to a very long post-championship career ... commencing when Sean's voice returns. His surgery is coming soon—cross your fingers.



BIGGEST PEBBLE IN A POND

RINGMASTERS

They're almost certainly the best affiliate quartet ever to grace a Society stage, yet they're a very young, modestly experienced collegiate barbershop quartet (now champion) near the beginning of their collective growth curve. Ringmasters' already mature musical skills are being refined at the same elite Swedish music school **The Real Group** attended. They're getting the kind of buzz **Four Voices** (2002 champs) got after they, too, reached the semi-finals on their first try. (Four Voices won two years later.) What happens if an affiliate with this much upside continues to excel on Society stages? We've never really had to ask this kind of question. If Ringmasters wants it bad enough, stay tuned for the answers. And don't even get us started on that high-scoring new Swedish chorus coming to Anaheim that bears more than a passing resemblance to **Westminster** ...

BATTLE FOR THE AGES

MASTERS OF HARMONY, AMBASSADORS OF HARMONY

For the chorus contest's third straight year, the only clear winner was the audience. By a twist of fate, two of the best chorus performances of any year drew adjoining slots, and when it was over we still couldn't call it from the seats. The Ambassadors, who tied for first but lost last year's tie-breaker to the **Westminster Chorus**, this year finished only 0.3% behind the Masters, on stage with 19 of last year's champions who belong to both chapters. An equally explosive battle featuring **The Vocal Majority** awaits in Anaheim.



2008 International Quartet Competitors



6. Storm Front (RMD)

Darin Drown (Br), Sydney Libsack (Bs), James Clark (L), Jeff Selano (T)
Contact Sydney: syd@stormfrontquartet.com; h: (706) 367-8175; w: (404) 677-8720; www.stormfrontquartet.com



7. Glory Days (SWD)

Steve DeCrow (T), Tim Reynolds (L), Joel T. Rutherford (Bs), Rick Middaugh (Br)
Contact Joel: joel@glorydaysquartet.com; h: (972) 492-5812; w: (972) 930-4042



8. Metropolis (FWD)

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



9. Rounders (SUN)

Alex Rubin (T), Sean Milligan (L), Myron Whittlesey (Bs), Dan Rubin (Br)
Contact Alex: alex@barbershopchorus.com; h: (854) 636-7372; w: (954) 770-6520; www.roundersquartet.com



10. The Allies (JAD)

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



11. Men In Black (NED)

Ray Johnson (Br), Kari Hudson (Bs), Oliver Merrill (L), Tony Nasto (T)
Contact Tony: meninblacktenor@gmail.com; h: (860) 232-5605

2008 International Quartet Competitors



12. 3 Men & A Melody (CSD)

Eric Derks (L), Chris Droegemueller (T), Brad Stephens (Br), Brian Bellof (Bs)
Contact Brian: brian@3menandamelody.com; h: (816) 569-4747; w: (816) 359-6101; www.3menandamelody.com



13. High Definition (CSD)

Rob Mathieu (T), Mark Fortino (L), Adam Veteto (Bs), John Fortino (Br)
Contact Mark: markfortino@aol.com; h: (913) 897-8978; w: (913) 234-2345



13. Lunch Break (DIX)

Mike O'Neill (Bs), Eddie Holt (L), Shane Scott (T), Drew Ellis (Br)
Contact Shane: fullvoicetenor@gmail.com; h: (615) 210-7764; w: (615) 832-4184; www.lunchbreakquartet.com



15. Ringers (MAD)

Clockwise from left: Rob Seay (T), Al Mazzoni (Bs), Scott Disney (L), Mike Pinto (Br)
Contact Scott: sdisney@westlandprinters.com; h: (410) 674-3343; w: (310) 384-7770; www.harmonize.com/ringers



16. Ignition! (RMD)

Matt Swann (Br), Denny Malone (Bs), Curtis Terry (L), Dan Testa (T)
Contact Curtis: curlymt@comcast.net; h: (720) 364-5800; www.ignitionquartet.com



17. Ringmasters (SNOBS)

Emanuel Ross (Br), Martin Wahlgren (Bs), Rasmus Krigström (L), Jakob Stenberg (T)
Contact Rasmus: rasmus.krigstrom@hotmail.com

2008 International Quartet Competitors



18. NeXus (RMD)

Mike Davidson (Br), Ryan Wilson (L), Makr Zenk (Bs), George Davidson (T)
Contact George: sagez@aol.com; h: (303) 770-3447
www.nexusqt.com



19. Vocality (LOL)

Jay Althof (T), Tony Blackwood (L), David Boyd (Bs), Bob Albachten (Br)
Contact Tony: tonyblackwood@usfamily.net; h: (651) 735-7849



20. HotShots (SUN)

Clockwise from front: Mitch Greenberg (Br), Andrew Borts (L), James Kastler (T), Paul Agnew (Bs)
Contact Mitch: mitchcg@bellsouth.net; h: (561) 963-2188; w: (561) 926-0020 x 109; www.4hotshots.com



21. Sterling (SWD)

Top: Bryan Pulver (Br), Todd Reavis (L); Bottom: Seth Lafler (T), Ross Larrison (Bs)
Contact Todd: toddr@heartoftexaschorus.org; h: (830) 556-4417;
www.sterlingquartet.com



22. Voce (ILL)

Paul Harris (Br), Jay Giallombardo (Bs), Keith Harris (L), Joel Beets (T)
Contact: Jay gbsmedalmusic@comcast.net; h: (847) 272-1022;
w: (847) 272-6854



23. Four Aces (MAD)

Ed Cazenias (T), Jay Hawkins (Bs), Nick Aiuto (L), Richard Lewellen (Br)
Contact Nick: nick@aiu.to; h: (703) 421-1962
www.fouracesquartet.com



KINGS OF COMEDY

STORM FRONT (BY A NOSE)

A summary of the six true comedy quartets: three bulls-eyes, three with mixed results.

Metropolis heeded the call for new material, even as they threatened to sing the "Love/Eyes Medley" until they get a trophy. They were on a great streak all the way until a sixth song that nobody seemed to understand, least of all Metropolis. **Hot Air Buffoons** and **Reveille**? They've still got it. It's just that we got it last year, too, if not the year before that.

If they introduce killer new sets in Anaheim, among them and the other jokers we could have the makings for the funniest semifinals of all time. Except Metropolis is retiring in Anaheim after 12 years as a cartoonish fixture in the finals and the medals, and **HotShots** is rumored to have disbanded. You picked a fine time to leave us hankering for more, boys.

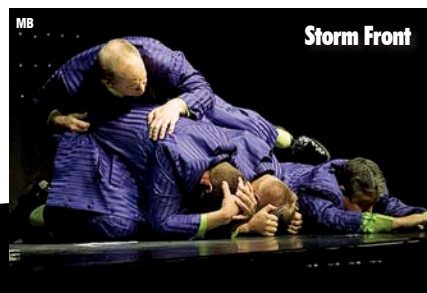
But what a finale for HotShots! Their four-man slice of a chorus was a masterpiece made twice as good because they played it 100% straight. You've probably learned every move and made every "mistake" from their set. We're all self-conscious wrecks now that we've hooted with embarrassment at what we apparently look like, but what a ride! And their semifinals set—"Embrace me, my sweet unbreakable suit"—was a major pop hit.

Some say **Lunch Break** could be the next **FRED** (1999 champ) if they didn't sing so well. (Zing!) The similarities: Wildly original shtick delivered with heavy doses of physical humor,

all anchored by a tenor funnyman. The difference: Shane "Train" Scott would never attempt a "Pookie" pratfall lest he launch his quartet mates into the cheap seats. Wait until you see the material they're preparing for Anaheim! (Spoiler: It's funny.)

Can you believe **Storm Front** used to be straight men who only dabbled in comedy? The quartet was as responsible as anyone for the Presentation judges' post-Denver clamp-down on spoken dialog. This year, Jim Clark and his yuckster trio invented plenty of visual tricks to silently deliver their punch

lines, sorta thumbing their noses from just across the new line in the sand. The Presentation judges loved it as much as the audience did—no other judging category rewarded a quartet with such high scores.



2008 International Quartet Competitors



24. VocalEase (FWD)

Scott Kidder (Br), Joe D'Amore (Bs), Rich Brunner (L), Todd Kidder (T)
 Contact Joe: jpdamore@gmail.com; h: (626) 963-8604
 w: (626-513-6394; www.vocaleasequartet.com



25. Hot Air Buffoons (JAD)

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



26. TKO (JAD)

Aaron Hughes (Br), David Jarrell (Bs), Jonathan Zimmerman (L),
 Garry Texeira (T)
 Contact David: djarrell@woh.rr.com; h: (419) 352-3775;
 w: (419) 575-3117; www.tkoquartet.com



27. Reveille (MAD)

Joe Hunter (Br), John Ward (L), Mark Paul (Bs), Fernando Sicilia (T)
 Contact Joe: jhunna1@aol.com; h: (516) 939-2798



28. On Demand (SUN)

Amos Velez (Bs), Jamie Breedon (Br), Tristan St. John (T), Paul Saca (L)
 Contact Amos: amosvelez@gmail.com; h: (561) 255-1144



29. Speakeasy (SWD)

Justin Oxley (T), Bret Morris (L), Brett Howell (Bs), Ron Rogers (Br)
 Contact Justin: joxley5@sbcglobal.net; h: (210) 481-1054
 w: (210) 383-6888

2008 International Quartet Competitors



30. The Crush (FWD)

Matthew Gray (T), Patrick Haedtler (L), Paul Tabone (Bs), John Brockman (Br)

Contact Paul: info@thecrushquartet.com; h: (760) 522-6376
www.thecrushquartet.com



31. Jet Set (EVG)

Wes Yoder (T), Tim Marron (L), Mike Marron (Bs), Jeremiah Pope (Br)

Contact Tim: marrontm@hotmail.com; h: (253) 820-9121;
www.jetsetquartet.com



32. Stardust (FWD)

John Mininger (T), Larry Halvorson (L), Buzz Bossard (Bs), James Halvorson (Br)

Contact John: jondonsing@aol.com; h: (702) 798-2041;
www.stardustquartet.com



33. 3 Outa Four

Duane Christensen (T), Lowell Smith (Bs), Eric Christensen (L), Ian Christensen (Br)

Contact Ian: ianmchristensen@hotmail.com; h: (503) 312-0070



34. After Midnight (LOL)

Tom Matchinsky (T), David Bailey-Aldrich (L), Steve McDonald (Bs), Jim Emery (Br)

Contact Jim: james.e.emery@gmail.com; h: (612) 824-7464
w: (952) 912-3074; www.myspace.com/aftermidnightquartet



35. Rush Street (ILL)

Steve Davis (T), Mike Woods (L), Duane Fenn (Bs), Patrick Henders (Br)

Contact Mike: laura_mike@comcast.net; h: (847) 372-4846
w: (847) 286-1826

2008 International Quartet Competitors



35. ThunderBox (RMD)

David Ellis (T), Michael Troyer (L), Chris Richards (Bs), Andrew Howson (Br)
Contact Chris: crrbassman@comcast.net; h: (303) 617-0015
w: (303) 359-2585



37. Ringmasters (JAD)

Dave Kindinger (Bs), Mike Hull (Br), Jeff Wallace (L), Mike Nesler (T)
Contact Mike Hull: mike_hull@stercomm.com; h: (614) 871-0190
w: (614) 760-8942



37. The Great Nashville Singout (DIX)

Paul McClung (Br), Jimmy Barr (Bs), Ryan Killeen (L), Daniel Rushing (T)
Contact Jimmy: jamesleebar@gmail.com; h: (615) 833-8223
w: (615) 957-4913



39. Pinstripe (DIX)

Allen Reynolds (T), Mike Tipton (L), Steve Sick (Bs), Steve Dorn (Br)
Contact Steve Dorn: stevedorn@yahoo.com; h: (770) 772-6678
w: (678) 595-4340



40. Revolution (RMD)

Nate Zenk (T), James Eaton (L), Travis Tabares (Bs), Wes Short (Br)
Contact Wes: weshort@gmail.com; h: (303) 525-6777



41. Absolut (SNOBS)

Bengt Thaysen (T), Richard Ohman (L), Joakim Flink (Bs), Joacim Stappe (Br)
Contact Joakim: jocke.flink@typa.se

2008 International Quartet Competitors



42. Last Kids Picked (MAD)

Mike Wallen (T), Eric Wallen (Bs), Bill Colosimo (Br), Anthony Colosimo (L)
Contact Bill: billcatps@aol.com; h: (571) 213-7376
www.lastkidspicked.org



43. Main Street Station (LOL)

Colin Bardsley Stevenson (L), Matthew Curtis (T), Steven Mendell (Bs),
Patrick Boehm (Br)
Contact Steven: skamwbass@yahoo.com; h: (608) 769-5830



44. Chameleon (ONT)

Kevin Harris (Br), Jordan Travis (T), David Baldwin (L), Joel Hilchey (Bs)
Contact David: baldwid@mcmaster.ca; h: (519) 284-3242
w: (905) 523-2998



45. Wise Guys (SUN)

Chad Bennett (T), Mark Schlunkert (L), Aaron Ledger (Bs), Brett Cleveland (Br)
Contact Mark: mschlunkert@cfl.rr.com; h: (407) 855-7733
w: (407) 370-5562



46. Foreign Agreement (SLD)

Michael Holmes (T), Robert Fuest (L), Ted Church (Bs), Ron Mason (Br)
Contact Michael: holmesmichael23@msn.com; h: (716) 868-7866
w: (716) 868-1155



47. Q.E.D. (BABS)

Dick Knight (T), Keith Rees (L), Andrew Walker (Bs), Peter Nugent (Br)
Contact Dick: d1ckkn1ght@aol.com



MOST IRONIC FINALE

OLD SCHOOL

The opening round's best quartet was Old School, who slayed the audience with unreal overtones built on 1970s/1980s-style power chords. As if their name and song choices were too subtle, during the quartet finals Old School delivered a parody filled with un-P.C., non-generic jabs at what they consider bad barbershop. Irony #1: When chord-ringing is your mission and forte, why was the *last* song ringing in our ears a thoroughly unringable pop vehicle slathered with obvious judge bait like barber-rap? Irony #2: The wild, uncritical applause coming from the KIB ranks. It's good to know bad barbershop gets a standing O as long as the lyrics work and the performers clearly dislike the tunes they're singing. Irony #3: Newer barbershoppers were eating out of Old School's hands until this final number. Casting the new school's favorite groups as villains probably didn't help close the sale. A more "ringing" sermon would be welcome in Anaheim!

QUIETEST RECORD SETTER

ART TAYLOR

Leading up to Nashville, the long-time **Masters of Harmony** lead had a chronic allergy problem that was killing his upper range. Art, also a tenor for international Seniors silver medalist **Mutual Fun**, realized he would have to switch voice parts if he were to pass the contest audition. He later won his ninth gold on the bass part—a numerically rare achievement in itself. But it gets better: With that gold, the 49-year barbershopper became the first

man to win a chorus gold medal on all four voice parts! And to complete the hat trick, he won gold with the **Louisville Thoroughbreds** in 1978, plus with the Masters in 1996, making him the only man to sing in each of the three choruses that won gold the same year as their chapter quartets. Art has not confirmed rumors that he recently received top secret learning tracks postmarked St. Charles, Mo.



FIRST PLACE LAST PLACE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

THE MOUNTAINTOWN SINGERS

It's a convoluted but appropriate honor for a group that finished 28th out of 28 chorus qualifiers. (Hey, you see what a feat it is to make it to this stage at all, especially three years after forming!) See, they won hands down in one key area: 17 of their 48 singers were under age 25. How'd they do that? Director David Gillingham is a music professor at Central Michigan University, where the chapter rehearses every week and where CMU students can get college credit if they attend all rehearsals and performances. There were 12 CMU students, three recent graduates and two high school singers in the mix.

2008 International Quartet Competitors



48. Audacity (FWD)

John Fynmore (T), Byron Bennett (L), Gregson Dodge (Bs), Fraser Brown (Br)
Contact Gregson: gdodge@brephoenix.com; h: (480) 730-9592
w: (602) 224-4418



49. Wildcard (PIO)

Peter Westers (T), David Miller (L), James Masalskis (Bs), Curtis Struyk (Br)
Contact Peter: peterjwesters@comcast.net; h: (616) 262-7288
w: (616) 257-1500



50. Past 'n' Present (CAR)

Josh Givens (T), Phil Kinser (L), Adam Wheeley (Bs), Mike Wheeley (Br)
Contact Josh: josh2000ss@insightbb.com; h: (270) 780-9648
w: (270) 476-3376



51. Inflagranti (BinG!)

Andreas Marquenie (Br), Gregor Klawikowski (Bs), Leo Freitag (L),
Matthius Neuburger (T)
Contact Gregor: gregor@klawikowski-dedenbach.de



2008 International Chorus Competitors



MOST INCREDIBLE MACHINE MASTERS OF HARMONY

They make it look easy—well, actually they make it look impossible—but if you knew how hard they worked you wouldn't think the Masters' wins were so automatic. We've already used every possible superlative during their 18-year gold run (under three directors!), so let's cut to the chase: As great as they were during director Mark Hale's first two wins, the Masters were markedly better this time. They needed every ounce of improvement to win by a nose, but the fact is that they *improved* on what was already near perfection. How they managed to get cleaner, more exciting and more precise than before is a mystery that begins and ends in Mark's artistic hands. Can't wait to see how they manage to raise the bar in 2011.



1. Masters of Harmony • Santa Fe Springs, Calif. (FWD) • Mark Hale, director

ALL CONTEST PORTRAITS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

LEAST NECESSARY CONDOLENCES

JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY

Think quick! You spot some **Ambassadors of Harmony** members in the Sommet Center lobby right after the chorus contest. What's the first thing you should say? (Hint: It's not, "I'm so sorry ...") Forget that someone else got an itchy-bitsy higher score. Should you face a situation like this in the future, realize that any babbling, incoherent, foaming variation on "WOW!" will do. Come on, the Ambassadors are simply unreal—way better than when they won gold. Talk about that. You've got until Anaheim to prepare a list of possible adjectives. Whether they finish in front of or behind **The Vocal Majority** next year shouldn't change a word you say. (Okay, it would, but let's not over-think this!)

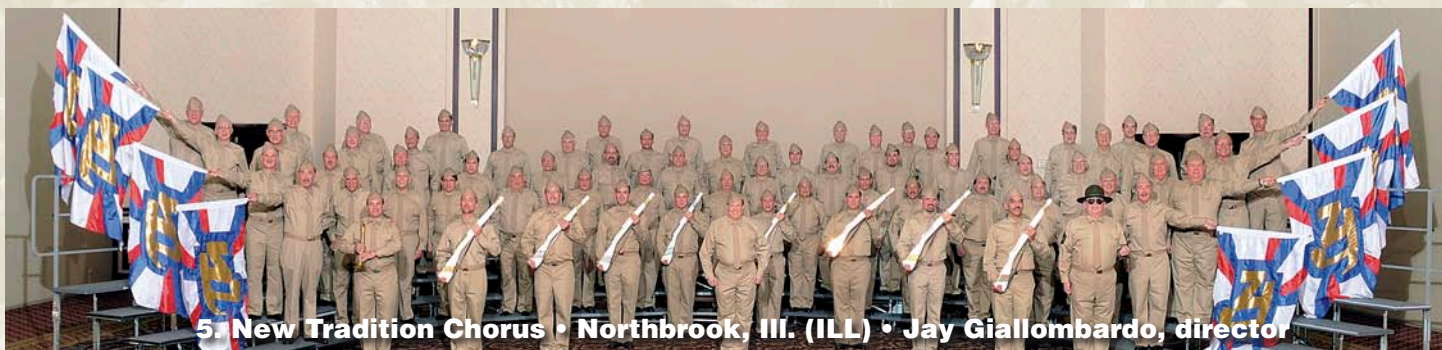


2. Ambassadors of Harmony • St. Charles, Mo. (CSD) • James Henry, director



3. Voices In Harmony • Bay Area, Calif. (FWD) • Greg Lyne, director

2008 International Chorus Competitors



QUARTETS GETTING FAR LESS ATTENTION THAN THEY DESERVE

JUST ABOUT ALL OF THEM

Blame someone else that Nashville saw the most uniformly excellent quartet performances of all time. If you want to read 51 variations on the word "awesome," buy a thesaurus. A lot of quartets that earned a full write-up aren't getting one. **Stateline Grocery**, for example. Their sound is so rich and smooth you could spread it on your morning toast. Their ballads may be the crucial ingredient to negotiating a lasting Mideast peace. Geez, they got third place and could be wearing gold some day! Why aren't they getting a full write-up? Oopsie, just got one.

Many of our best quartets, as a reward for the unfathomable blood, sweat and tears that got them onto this elite stage, will be honored in the annals of barbershop lore by a not particularly memorable punch line. That's if they're getting any mention at all. (FYI: "Really good" didn't stand out enough for this editor to pick up his notebook.) Don't get the inside jokes? Ask someone who attended or watched it online. As if they weren't already smug enough about that.

- **Glory Days.** It's the **Max Q** formula: VM tenor legend + famous lead + part-switching champ at bari + Acoustix bass = oddly restrained ovations
- **Rounders & The Allies.** Your leads deserve every ounce of praise they get, but you other guys aren't so bad yourselves
- **Men in Black.** Every man in the finals had been there before. Attrition will be no path out of 2009 mic testing—guess who's coming to Anaheim!
- **High Definition.** Newsflash: Earth keeps spinning! Sun still hot! Fortino brothers nearly reach finals!
- **Nexus, Ignition, Thunderbox, Revolution.** Same Denver chapter as **Storm Front**. Is it the Rocky Mountain spring water?
- **Sterling & Four Aces.** As good or better than when they reached the semifinals; kicking themselves for failing to find a time portal into a weaker year
- **Voice.** A professional opera singer at lead, a gold medal quartetter/director/arranging legend at bass, plus two dudes who ain't gonna take any prima donna crap
- **Jet Set.** Great sound, but even the progressives will squirm if you scat on a contest stage
- **3 Outa Four.** Duane Christensen should've had one more son. On second thought, "4 Outa Four" isn't as catchy
- **Wise Guys.** Nice to see the 2007 Dolphins' offensive line finally found something they're good at!
- **Gotcha!** Retired? Number of active, brand-name quartets remaining among former Gotcha! members: 4
- **Vocal Spectrum.** Only your dog can fully appreciate Tim Waurick's upper range. *Great vibrations!*
- **Realtime.** The Opry crowd and media gigs couldn't believe what hit them. Doug Broersma coulda won gold, too
- **FRED.** It wouldn't help if we explained. As usual, the stage hands don't get paid enough



2008 International Chorus Competitors



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



10. The Kentucky Vocal Union • Elizabethtown, Ky. (CAR) • Aaron Dale, director



11. Spirit of Phoenix • Greater Phoenix, Ariz. (FWD) • Russ Young, director



12. Midwest Vocal Express • Greendale, Wis. (LOL) • Grant Wilson, director



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

CHORUSES GETTING FAR LESS ATTENTION THAN THEY DESERVE

DITTO

We'll try the "less is more" school with these choruses as well:

- **The Entertainmen.** Some say they stole the first half of chorus session 1. Also stole the risers, curtains, and assorted women and children
- **AIC Chorus.** Be grateful they can't compete; another Jay Giallombardo original, another slam-dunk
- **Big Apple Chorus.** Their drama's as good as their comedy. And dancer Steve Adams (on top): God bless *that* child, who's got us owned
- **Midwest Vocal Express.** The polyurethane industry's darlings. Unused themes remaining: Rocky & Bullwinkle, sub-atomic entropy, bagels
- **Brothers in Harmony.** Gave us Tony Nasto, Tim Waurick and Sean Devine. Whoever's driving the talent away, keep doing it
- **West Towns Chorus.** Yes, your seamstresses got big props here last year, but come on! Two custom chorus outfits?
- **Salem Senate-a-ires.** Two up-tunes and the sun still came up the next day. You mean you can do that?
- **The Vocal Agenda.** Contest's smallest chorus sang right after **Masters** and **Ambassadors**. How did it feel to be the after-dinner mint following such heavy courses?
- **Westminster.** Amazing swan song package features huge sound and many new voices. Directed by Justin Miller, who is 24 and medaled in the college contest. Um, wow?

And let's not forget to almost forget these events:

- **Larry Ajer Show.** The contest warm-up where not even the singers dress up and almost no one sings their contest stuff. Not that there's anything wrong with that
- **Gospel Sing.** Yes, there's a devotional tinge, but even a committed atheist can show up to worship the chords
- **World Harmony Jamboree.** Harmony with non-North American influences. A spicy and satisfying dish!
- **Sing with the Champs.** Learning CD grandmasters' showcase!



2008 International Chorus Competitors



14. The Entertainmen • Ronninge, Sweden • Johan Wilkström & Jan Alexandersso, directors



15. Chorus of the Chesapeake • Dundalk, Md. (MAD) • Rick Taylor, director



16. Houston Tidelanders • Houston, Texas (SWD) • Jeff Delman, director



17. Saltaires • Wasatch Front, UT (RMD) • Scott Hoffman, director



18. Texas Millionaires • Fort Worth, Texas (SWD) • Tom Jackson, director

2008 International Chorus Competitors



19. Heart of America Chorus • Kansas City, Mo. (CSD) • David Krause, director



20. Brothers In Harmony • Easton, Pa. (MAD) • Jack Pinto, director



21. Sound of Illinois • Bloomington, Ill. (ILL) • Terry Ludwig, director



22. West Towns Chorus • Chicagoland West Suburban, Ill. (ILL) • Joseph Krones, director



23. Granite Statesmen • Nashua, N.H. (NED) • Steve Tramack, director

DEFINITIVE TEAR JERKERS

NEW TRADITION CHORUS

In a 1993 portrayal of a soldier who didn't come home, the New Tradition created one of the most moving moments ever on a barbershop stage. Other choruses have since tried variations on the "fallen comrade" theme with varying degrees of (generally lesser) success. The New Tradition tried its own variation this year: the soldier who *did* return. Different theme, different emotion, real tears in the audience. Nobody does it better.



YOUNGEST OLD GUYS

EUREKA!

Generally speaking, international-level quartets tend to have better voices and the top seniors quartets often feature stronger entertainers. And then you have Eureka!, the 2008 seniors champion that sings well enough for the big stage and entertains like the best of the older guys. If you didn't see their set before the semifinals round, here's a summary: book them already!

BEST EMCEE

DORAN MCTAGGERT

The maestro from the **Windsor Ontario Chapter** was presented the Dave LaBar Award as the Society's Emcee of the Year. Not coincidentally, he also emceed at the convention, where he is a semi-permanent fixture. A handful of his gags were repeats but everyone laughed anyway. The material is almost irrelevant with Doran, who's immediate connection with the audience makes anything fly. Of course, it doesn't hurt that he also knows just the right way to say "Saaaskkeetoon, Seeskaaacheewaaan."



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2008 International Chorus Competitors



2008 Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest



1. Ringmasters (SNOBS)

Emanuel Roll (Br), Martin Wahlgren (Bs), Rasmus Krigström (L), Jakob Stenberg (T)

Royal College of Music

Contact Rasmus: rasmus.krigstrom@hotmail.com



2. On Demand (SUN)

Jamie Breedon (Br), Amos Velez (Bs), Tristan St. John (T), Paul Saca (L)

University of North Florida; Lake City CC

Contact Amos: amosvelez@gmail.com

ALL CONTEST PORTRAITS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY



3. Revolution (RMD)

Nate Zenk (T), James Eaton (L), Travis Tabares (Bs), Wes Short (Br)

University of Northern Colorado; Colorado State University

Contact Wes: weshort@gmail.com



4. The University Vocal Band Express (FWD)

Justin Miller (T), Jordan Litz (L), Eric Orr (Bs), David Rakita (Br)

Chapman University; San Joaquin Delta College; University of Southern California

Contact Justin: mille154@chapman.edu



5. Crunch Time (MAD)

Brett Thomas (T), Shawn Thomas (L), Eric Wallen (Bs), Matthew Fellows (Br)

Penn State University; Drexel University

Contact Eric: eric.c.wallen@gmail.com



6. The Goods (CAR)

T.J. Poliskie (Br), Kyle Kitzmiller (Bs), Theo Hicks (L), Mark Lewis (T)

Purdue University; Ball State University; Anderson University

Contact Theo: insignia_lead@ameritech.net

Storrs Four in full hosing parody mode. They zinged the judges so many times that the "geezers" cleared the pit.



BEST CONVENTION ADD-ON COLLEGE QUARTET CONTEST

The Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest. Not easy to say, but much easier to attend in Anaheim—it will be included in the convention registration. If you think 2009 is the year to finally encourage those wet-behind-the-ears whipper-snappers, be forewarned: if you've ever sung in a quartet as good as most of these guys, count yourself lucky. Why not come just because it's among the most entertaining parts of the week?

Look at **Storrs Four**—they can proudly say they made such an impact that the judges walked out on them after their performance (in jest). In one of the more clever parodies of the entire week, "You Make Me Feel So Young" became "We really are so young" as they tweaked the judges mercilessly while they congratulated themselves on all the advantages of youth—unlike all us old geezers such as, say, **Men in Black**. They sang great, they entertained, and that was good enough for 15th place. You should have seen what finished ahead of them. For the first time, all five medalists finished with scores worthy of the international stage. For that matter, several actually did perform on both. Pack the seats next year because you're in for a treat!

LM

On Demand



The University Vocal Band Express

Revolution



Crunch Time



The Goods



BEST SOUND EFFECTS VOICES IN HARMONY

Despite the loud booming that echoed through the arena during their set, they declined a redo. It wasn't early fireworks as some had supposed—it was simply thunderbolts cast by Thor, the god of ominous chorus contest noises. The San Francisco-based chorus, placing third in only their second international contest, aren't yet in the same category as the **Masters**, **Ambassadors**, **Vocal Majority** or **Westminster**; but if Dr. Greg Lyne can't get this crew there, ain't nobody doing it. Were the gods telling us the Silver-Haired One is displeased with only four directing golds?



2008 Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest



6. 4-Way Stop (JAD)

Joe Downey (Br), Ryan McDivitt (Bs), Robbie Churgovich (L), Mike Wright (T)
University of Toledo; Cuyahoga Community College; University of Akron; Ohio State University
 Contact Ryan: ryan.mcdivitt@gmail.com



8. TAGTEAM (FWD)

Brian Fox (T), Danny Ryan (L), Samuel Wambold (Bs), Kevin Meyer (Br)
University of Northern Colorado
 Contact Danny: dtjr2002@yahoo.com



9. Sin City Four (FWD)

Carson Knuth (T), David Meye (L), Spencer Mayer (Bs), Nick Pizzo (Br)
College of Southern Nevada; Pasadena City College; UNLV
 Contact David: daviddmeyer@gmail.com



10. Four Brothers (SWD)

Eric Horn (T), Bryan Pulver (L), Christopher Hanson (Bs), Seth Lafler (Br)
McNeil High School; Texas State University
 Contact Bryan: bryan@heartoftexas.org



11. Monkey Magic (BABS)

Alan Hughes (T), Zac Booles (L), Duncan Blackeby (Bs), Joe Knight (Br)
University of Liverpool; University of Wales, Bangor; Cardiff University; University of Exeter
 Contact Alan: alanhughes86@hotmail.com



12. 4th Floor (LOL)

Dustin Oldenburg (T), Matthew Curtis (L), Allen Pruitt (Bs), Adam Miller (Br)
Viterbo University; UW - La Crosse
 Contact Matthew: mjcurtis@viterbo.edu

2008 Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest



13. High Country Post (DIX)

Matt McNeely (T), Frankie Lancaster (L), Nathan Osborne (Bs),
Scott Feldmann (Br)

Appalachian State University

Contact Matt: matt.c.mcneely@gmail.com



14. Epic (FWD)

Munsoor Shah (Br), Jason Dyer (Bs), Andrew Nickell (L), James Morgan (T)

California State University of Sacramento

Contact Jason: jasonadyer@hotmail.com



15. Storrs Four (NED)

Jordan England (T), Dan Allison (L), Mark Bachiochi (Bs), Patrick Reardon (Br)

University of Connecticut

Contact Dan: dallison12@gmail.com



16. CounterPoint (LOL)

Ashley York (T), Jacob Oxley (L), Corey Meverden (Bs), Jason Seiberlich (Br)

*Milwaukee School of Engineering; UW – Stevens Point; UW – Oshkosh
UW – Fond Du Lac*

Contact Corey: meverc42@uwosh.edu



17. Smorgaschords (CSD)

Cameron Bedell (Br), Matt Svoboda (L), Joe Fine (Bs), Chance Gates (T)

Butler Community College

Contact Chance: cvgates@hotmail.com



18. Beginner's Luck (EVG)

Jake Lombardo (T), Dmitriy Spatarel (L), Daniel Frerichs (Bs),
Corey LiaBraaten (Br)

Auburn Mountainview High

Contact Daniel: musicfog@yahoo.com

2008 Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest



19. Nobody's Afterthought (ILL)

Matthew Neylon (T), Matt Carlen (L), Donovan Davis (Bs),
Eric Gabriel Diaz (Br)
Illinois Wesleyan University; University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Contact Donovan: ddavis@iwu.edu



20. Harmony 101 (PIO)

Nathan Masterson (T), Garrett Gillingham (L), Mark Sprang (Bs),
Kevin L. Dunckel (Br)
Central Michigan University; Saginaw Valley State University
Contact Kevin: dunckel.kevin@gmail.com



21. Motivation (ONT)

Jake Dunbar (T), Mark Palmer (L), Ryan Lindsey (Bs), Chris MacMartin (Br)
Algonquin College; University of Manitoba; University of Windsor
Carleton University
Contact Mark: denton83@gmail.com



22. Barbershoppe 'Til You Droppe (SLD)

James Head (T), Peter Mallozzi (L), Carl Crafts (Bs), Aaron Richterman (Br)
Hamilton College
Contact James: jhead@hamilton.edu



SCIPIO GARLING

It might be worth mentioning
that all of the most fun Nashville
action took place off-stage



LEAST OPTIONAL OPTIONAL EVENT

HARMONY FOUNDATION PRESENTS ...

That's not a typo. Forget that this is a fundraiser for a vital cause—go for purely selfish reasons. The high points this year? All of it. You could have left happy with only **The Marcsmen** showing off the Youth Chorus movement or only "All Rise" with **Voices of Lee** or only **Max Q's** phenomenal show set or only the **Ambassadors'** show set where the cheering never stopped. But headliners **The Real Group** somehow topped them all. Call them the un-Real Group, because no other combined five voices in the world are even in the same category. Whatever else you were doing, it wasn't worth it.



THIS IS NOT SPINAL TAP

REDLINE

The fictional heavy metal band's amps maxed out not at 10 but at 11. The aptly-named Redline could sing an 11 with or without amplification—and that's just during lead Chris Vaughn's pick-up notes. The quartet formerly known as **Flipside** moved up in the medals while rarely passing an 8 in volume. Blow out a couple of amps and you'd quiet down, too.

Harmony



Photo courtesy of "Red Card"

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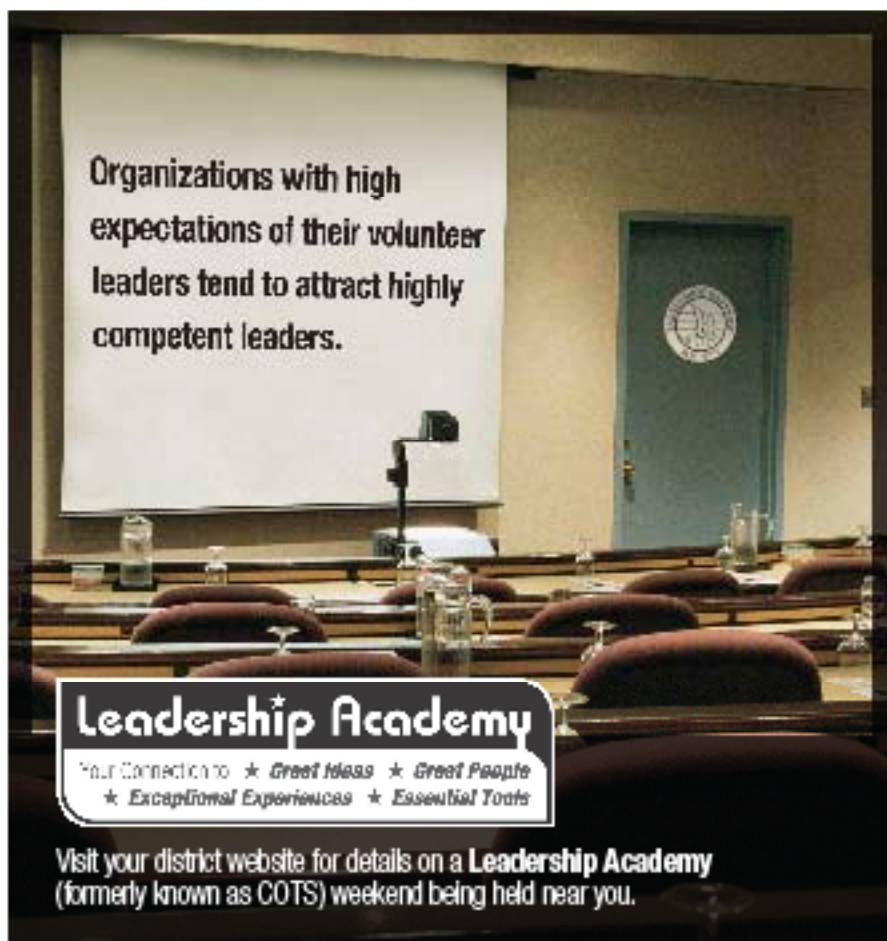
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MISTERS CONGENIALITY

CROSSROADS

Isn't there a rule that says everyone gets one good quartet per lifetime, and then you don't get to sing anymore? Sounds fair. But these guys were responsible for four Harmonizer covers over a span of 14 years, yet they're just so ... how shall we say it ... nice, that no one dares point out that it's a travesty how good they are. Or that they sing so relaxed because they actually don't care if they ever win. (They say that mutual friendship was the main reason they got together, and they compete because there's no other way to get famous. And before you can roll your eyes at that explanation, their vocal coach confirms that their voices didn't match very well at all the first year. One word: Fixed!) Stuff like that makes it really hard to get riled by the fact that they already looked like champions in Nashville and actually won the final two quartet rounds on their way to silver. Congrats for their sake, but what about *our* needs? Looks like they'll someday deprive the AIC of four new members, and all we get in return is a phenomenally entertaining quartet that everyone wants on their shows and which could potentially match the importance of any of their past quartets. Didn't they consider *those* possible consequences before they bought matching socks? Furthermore, um, does anyone know when their new CD is coming out?





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BEST SHOW WE DIDN'T SEE

NASHVILLE "FIREWORKS"

When more than 100,000 gathered downtown on July 4 for a musical fireworks show on the banks of the Cumberland River, they didn't know there would be fireworks in the daylight, too. When **Max Q** was announced for the National Anthem, photographer Matt Bostick heard an audible grumble about the choice of a barbershop quartet. When the 2007 champs' final, tooth-rattling chord was still ringing, guess which guy was cheering the longest and loudest?

Later that evening, we halted the chorus contest to avoid being drowned out by one of the nation's largest fireworks shows. More than 13,000 lbs. of fireworks covered the entire sky for more than 20 minutes, perfectly synchronized with the Nashville Symphony's patriotic performance. About a thousand barbershoppers watched from outside the Sommet Center, but the performance was designed to be viewed from below (about five blocks away). Most convention-goers remained in their seats and watched the televised version. As impressive as the spectacle looked on the big screens, there were no audible "oohs" and "ahs" from our seats—that certainly couldn't have been the case on the river bank. The cameras and microphones piped in an impressive-enough facsimile of the event, but we could only imagine what the live experience felt like.

Kind of like watching the DVDs or webcast compared to the arena experience. Unless you're there, you miss all of the electricity in the air, the anticipation, the buzz leading up to and following each performance. You can't experience what it's like to turn the corner and get to personally thank the group that just ripped your heart out before the intermission. You don't overhear the guy two seats behind you, attending his 40th straight convention, explaining some history and helping the kid next to him get the inside jokes. You don't get to compare notes with strangers on the bus when you're not just singing all the way back to your third straight night of lobby tagging.

You somehow miss the total immersion high when you simply close the laptop after a session and wander into the kitchen in your underwear to check for pickles. Don't spend convention week next year wishing you were with us. We can't wait to ring a few with you in Anaheim at the longest and most impressive "fireworks" show on earth! ■



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JUNE 28 - JULY 5, 2009 ANAHEIM INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM



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 110 7th Ave N
 Nashville, TN 37203-2704
 Or register on the web at
www.barbershop.org/anaheim
 Toll-free: 800-874-SING (7464)
 Phone: 615-823-5953
 Fax: 615-8 3-7620
 Email: events@barbershop.org

Special Requests: _____

Society Hall of Fame 2008 class

The Gas House Gang, 1993 international champion, became one of the Society's most influential and popular quartets, combining an incredibly tight sound with some of the highest-level musicianship and showmanship ever seen in a Society quartet. Inducted into the Hall of Fame are both GHG tenors, Joe Fink (through 1991) and Kipp Buckner, Rich Knight (lead), Rob Henry (bari) and his brother Jim Henry (bass). While still at the peak of their popularity in 2003 and shortly after finishing their fifth CD, Rob Henry was diagnosed with esophageal cancer and died later that year. The quartet completed their performance schedule with the help of many bari friends and finally retired in 2005. They performed in all 50 states and in 15 foreign countries as ambassadors of barbershop harmony. A favorite of many non-barbershopper audiences as well, they shared the stage with The Four Freshmen, The Swingle

his Hall of Fame induction. David is one of the most influential arrangers and historians in our Society's history, and also a highly accomplished judge, director and coach. An authority in the origins and history of barbershop harmony, since 1986 he has taught history courses at Harmony University, where his tag-singing class is also a must. David's contest and non-contest arrangements are widely considered the definitive treatment for many barbershop songs, often blending close harmony with elements of jazz, blues, gospel, country, doo-wop or contemporary a cappella. For years he has been the most popular arranger for the men's international stage, creating dozens of signature arrangements for top-level quartets and choruses, male and female. A major force in the St. Charles, Mo. **Ambassadors of Harmony** since 1981, he was director from 1981 to 1990 and



Members of the 2008 class on stage in Nashville: David Wright, Pat Waselchuk (widow of Dan), George Shields, and Gas House Gang members Jim Henry, Joe Fink, Sue Henry (widow of Rob), Rich Knight and Kipp Buckner

Singers, Rockapella, The Persuations, The Chordettes, The King's Singers, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Victor Borge, Porter Wagner, GLAD, Rebecca Luker, Chanticleer and others.

David Wright was The Gas House Gang's primary arranger and coach, making 2008 a most fitting year for

again from 1999 to 2001. He helped design the Music category and served as its first category specialist. A leading mathematics researcher in affine algebraic geometry and polynomial automorphisms, he chairs the mathematics department at Washington University in St. Louis. Many top barbershop groups record and mix their CDs in David's home recording studio.

Our other Hall of Famers: Welcome the Society's newest 50-year members!

Abel, Ron	Carthew, Bob	Fransus, Joe	Johnson, Robert	McFadden, William	Robinson, Robert	Tibbitt, G. Edward
Adams, John	Castrodale, Albert	Frese, William	Kirby, Wes	Miller, Douglas	Ruettiger, Walter	Tillou, Frank
Aliapoulas, Theofelos	Clark, Ralph	Gehrt, Paul	Klassen, Peter	Miller, Gerald	Ryberg, Delbert	Townsend, John
Bagley, Donald	Clement, Len	Gilboy, Paul	Kocan, John	Montgomery, William	Samuels, Dave	Turbush, Charles
Bauder, Charles	Corrao, Joseph	Graham, Paul	Kuhn, Richard	Moss, Eugene	Savarin, Lou	Veltre, Rudolph
Beaver, James	Cowin, Dave	Haase, Robert	LaBaw, Lonnie	Musich, Jack	Schwenker, Ted	Walker, Ricardo
Benson, Charles	Dames, Thomas	Hale, Jack	Lacey, Leonard	Neushul, Peter	Schwimmer, Philip	Ward, Edward
Bernard, Lou	Davey, Dan	Halen, James	Larsen, Tom	Nicholson, George	Scroggins, Ray	Ward, James
Booth, George	DeMars, Henry	Hastings, Robert	Lauck, John	Paton, William	Shisler, James	Weiss, Dave
Botchick, Robert	Dergan, Leslie	Hazard, Robert	Leese, Thomas	Petch, Douglas	Sisk, Louis	Wheeler, Mike
Boyle, Richard	DeVany, Richard	Hefler, Judson	Loch, Earl	Pollio, Joseph	Slack, Thurman	White, Brett
Briel, Richard	Dickson, Robert	Hibinger, David	Long, Victor	Potts, Richard	Smith, Vernon	Whitener, Arthur
Briner, Dave	Dittbrenner, Jack	Himes, Clifford	Mackin, Willard	Press, Meyer	Stern, Richard	Williams, Lee
Buckley, Lawrence	Durschlag, Edwin	Hindom, Fred	Mahan, Paul	Radford, Maurice	Stiers, Denny	Williams, Reese
Burke, Marvin	Duval, Lee	Hoppe, Kenneth	Mann, Harold	Reddy, Allen	Summers, James	Willis, Don
Butterfield, Gene	Eggers, Ronald	Howell, Harry	Maracle, John	Redgers, Clifford	Sutherland, Jim	
Camp, D. Vernon	Ewing, Herb	Huddleston, Lee	Martin, Gene	Reisetter, Elden	Sutcliffe, Frank	
Campbell, James	Fagan, John	Hummel, Jim	McCabe, John	Ries, Art	Tate, Jim	
Carpenter, Harold	Fogle, Robert	Johnson, Kelly	McCandless, Roger		Tattersall, Dickson	
	Fraley, Oscar	Johnson, Robert	McCord, William		Thiel, Robert	

George L Shields is a quintessential leader and prime mover of barbershopping in Canada, the Society and beyond. A founder and leader of numerous lasting and influential institutions, George's influence, accomplishments and honors are too numerous to mention. A past district president and two-time Society board member, he was a key player in helping establish the British Association of Barbershop Singers. He was founder and chairman of the Ontario District Harmonize for Speech Fund that has raised more than \$4 million among barbershoppers to treat speech disorders. He is the 1977 founding director of Speech Foundation of Ontario, a post he currently holds. His Hall of Fame induction joins countless high honors George has received from church and youth organizations, speech professionals, government and civic organizations and higher education institutions. George and Gail's three grown sons all currently sing with their father in the **East York Barbershoppers Chorus**, for which George was a founding member and 31-year past director.



Dan Waselchuk was a quiet, unassuming and thoughtful man who was as relentless as he was effective in his drive to make our Society not

only the world's largest all-male singing organization but a force in charitable giving. This 58-year barbershop veteran was an active judge and a leader in his beloved Appleton, Wis. chapter and Land O Lakes District. As the Society's 1964 international president, Dan was the prime mover behind the cause of helping children with speech and hearing disabilities, through the Institute of Logopedics, later Heartspring, which received \$5 million over many years. For nearly 40 years, he volunteered untold time and personal assets to the Society's Heritage Hall Museum, keeping it organized, staffed and preserving our heritage. Dan and beloved wife Pat made their home in Appleton, Wis., and had nine children and 26 grandchildren. ■

What I love most about
the International Convention:

THE SINGING!



JUNE 28 – JULY 5, 2009
Visit www.barbershop.org/anaheim or call 800.876.7464



2nd Annual International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival

January 31, 2009
Pasadena, CA

- Competitive and educational!
- Different age brackets for high school and collegiate groups!
- Financial assistance available!
- Bring your men's choir or combine your men into one choir!
- Receive written and live feedback from judges!





The mission of The International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival is to:

Enrich young lives through a cappella vocal music while perpetuating the barbershop harmony style.

Promote excellence in young male choruses by providing the best overall musical experience in an educational environment where students can learn from top adjudicators and performers, as well as from each other.

Provide a deeper understanding of an authentically American art-form, and to send students home with a new-found passion for singing, making music a part of the rest of their lives.

www.barbershop.org/youthchorus

Contact Festival Coordinator James Estes
at jestes@barbershop.org for more info!




The Youth in Harmony challenge

Don't know where to start? Check every issue for easy but meaningful tasks

So your chapter wants a Youth in Harmony program, but you don't know where to start—or whether you have the time and money. No problem! Get ready for a series of relatively easy activities that any size chapter can use to start making an impact.

Few things are as rewarding as introducing youth to barbershop music, all while strengthening a local school's strained choral program. This is a never-ending process, but it doesn't have to be difficult!

This and succeeding issues of *The Harmonizer* will contain tasks that will help you strengthen local school choral programs. Complete by the date listed, then write a brief paragraph or two to youthchallenge@barbershop.org telling what you did and how many students and teachers were involved. Participating chapters and top participating districts will receive recognition in *The Harmonizer*.

First challenge: By Jan. 31, 2009, accomplish at least one of the following:

- Help a high school choral program start up a Singing Valentines fundraiser among their peers. In addition to raising money, they'll experience first-hand the thrill of four-part singing for receptive peer audiences. Provide a *Singing Valentines Kit* and assist with the fundamentals of marketing, scheduling and running the program.
- Send five or more chapter members to a school choral concert (many concerts/performance take place during the month of December), and send a note afterwards to the school choral director thanking them for the music and congratulating the students on their performance. (Take note of the program's strengths and needs to determine where *non-musical* chapter assistance might later be welcomed. *Do not* critique them or offer coaching!)
- Send five or more chapter members to



Barbershop harmony can be an easy sell when you go about it the right way

Youth In Harmony. Make sure your chapter secretary identifies him as such on Society records.

Many chapters may have already done one or more of these activities this school year or already have a 2009 Chapter VP for Youth in Harmony assigned. If so, you've completed the first Youth

volunteer at a school concert ushering, taking tickets, setting up or tearing down concert staging or working at a concert fund-raiser.

- Identify a member in your chapter to serve as your 2009 Chapter VP for

In Harmony Challenge! Send a note to youthchallenge@barbershop.org. Everyone else, please choose one or more of these easy and productive tips. Look for the next set of tips in the next issue of *The Harmonizer*. ■

You asked. We listened!

The Bank of America Collegiate Quartet Contest is included in the registration price in 2009!



JUNE 28 – JULY 5, 2009

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PASADENA MIDWINTER CONVENTION

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NEW COLLEGE CHAMPS RINGMASTERS CROSS THE POND FROM SWEDEN TO WOW THE CROWD IN PASADENA



January 28 – February 1, 2009

www.barbershop.org/midwinter (800) 876-SING





Encouraging vocal music 7,500 times over!

Looking for ways to promote music within schools? Try donating 7,500 songbooks!

With funding from Harmony Foundation grants, performance fees, show receipts, sponsor donations and a deep discount from Hal Leonard Corporation, the **Greater Ozarks Chapter** has donated more than 7,500 *Get America Singing ... Again!* songbooks to more than 100 elementary and middle schools in a three-county area of northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri. This chapter mission has led to numerous quartet, very large quartet and chorus performances in classrooms, at school concerts and school fundraisers.

The chapter has seen lot of unexpected and gratifying results as a result. For example, after the chapter's **Pride of the Ozarks Chorus** performed at a concert for Helen Tyson Middle School, they left a packet of *The Barbershop Style: Catalog and Reference Materials for Music Educators* with seventh-grade boys' vocal teacher Sharon Long. This



Thanks to the wide generosity of the Greater Ozarks Chapter, Helen Tyson Middle School has a boys choir singing barbershop harmony!

spring, they learned she had 40 seventh-grade boys singing barbershop and invited the chorus to perform with them. They have already performed at her school four times since April!

"Barbershoppers have been part of our music program for many years, but this is the first time that HTMS has had a seventh-grade boys honor choir," said Long. "It's so wonderful to see the smiles on their faces when they hear and sing barbershop music."



Baseball, The Babe and barbershop. The big guns have cheered for so many of our national anthems, why wouldn't they want a barbershop quartet to open the Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony? A quartet from the Sounds of Liberty Chorus did the honors for the 2008 induction in Cooperstown, New York. The 15,000 on hand, including 56 past inductees and nine 2008 inductees, blew the crowd away with "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "O Canada" and later sang a few with fellow baseball fans.



BUCKEYE INVITATIONAL ENDS, BUT HARMONY CAMP LIVES. The Buckeye Invitational was unfortunately discontinued in 2007 due to time constraints and diminished attendance. But while the “best of the rest” contest has halted, the massive Singing Buckeye Harmony Camp rolls onward. Roughly 300 high school singers showed up this year thanks to the Buckeye Chapter (and scores of other helpers from Central Ohio and around the Johnny Appleseed District, as well as from Sweet Adelines International) and a generous contribution from Harmony Foundation. Metropolis and Sweet Adelines silver medalist Jackpot were featured quartets for the event. www.singingbuckeyes.com



The boys chorus under clinician Gary Lewis practices “Please Mr. Columbus.”

Why to invite other groups on your chapter show, part 58

Barbershop and Gospel music share some of the same African-American musical roots, and the Bellingham, Wash. **Mount Baker Toppers** chapter chose a unique way to bring the two together. The chorus and its quartets were scheduled to perform their annual gospel concert at a local high school auditorium and had already invited the highly-acclaimed Total Experience Gospel Choir (TEGC) from Seattle to be their guest performers. Toppers director and **Realtime** lead Doug Broersma knew the choir also conducted gospel music workshops. It was an easy decision to combine the concert with an afternoon workshop. They expected a few dozen participants for the class, and an astounding 75 attended!

There was an intense training session on rhythm and on the “call-and-response” pattern of gospel singing and the participants were taught several of the songs likely to become part of the finale. The only

problem: these were three-part arrangements that had no bass part! Fortunately, TEGC director Pat Wright was impressed by the number of deep male voices available at the workshop and improvised a bass line on the spot and taught it to the guys! A full house for the well-publicized event that included all the workshop participants.

The TEGC fans who attended the workshop and show got a great exposure to barbershop harmony, and an additional audience is about to get the same exposure. TEGC obviously liked what they heard and invited the chorus to perform at an upcoming concert in Seattle!



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MORE TIME

TO DO WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU

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The Marcsmen are more than the winners of the inaugural Youth Chorus Contest—they're a full-fledged chapter that's busy doing the business of bettering their community. For example, a handful of chorus members recently sang for The Kid Ranch Childcare and Learning Center in Kyle, Texas, where Marcsmen bass Adrian Ramirez works. Attending the mini-concert were infants, children of various ages, parents, staff, and grandparents.

"As a member of a youth chorus, I strongly believe that it is our job to influence the younger generation of barbershoppers, said Ramirez. "If we plant a seed in their minds about how cool this genre is, then we've made a huge step in the right direction toward youth in harmony."

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between August 1 and November 1, 2008. E-mail updates to membership@barbershop.org.

Cardinal

Terry Kreigh
Columbia City, IN
Thomas Shade
Greensburg, IN

Central States

Robert Burge
Davenport, IA
Raymond Cody
St. Louis Suburban,
MO

Melvin Emig
Manhattan, KS
Presley Herndon
Hays, KS
Bob Hummel
Mason City, IA
Clarence Martin
St. Louis No. 1, MO
Kendall Rice
McCook, NE
Earl Swales
Elkader, IA
Clarence Swenson
Aberdeen, SD
Roy Warman
Frank Thorne
Kenneth Wimbish
Joplin, MO

Dixie

John Gonzalez
Frank Thorne
H. Russell Keyser
Winston-Salem, NC
Robert Oake
Pinehurst, NC
Allan Ritari
Fayetteville, GA
John Sweitzer
Marietta, GA
Roswell, GA

Evergreen

Craig Burson
Central Oregon, OR
Gary Fisher
Missoula, MT
Ron Kolagi
Havre, MT
William Mulholland
Nanaimo, BC

Fred Redmon
Rogue Valley, OR
John Smith
Missoula, MT
Harry Squires
Chilliwack, BC
Robert Wiggins
Central Oregon, OR
Alan Wilhite
Abbotsford, BC

Frank Thorne

S. Paul Buuzendahl
Vince Formingo
Russell Mensinger

Far Western

Nathan Ankenman
Hemet, CA
Joseph Arone
Coachella Valley, CA
Doc Crandall
Frank Thorne
E. Wallace Crane
Santa Barbara, CA
James Dale
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North Valley, CA
Sidney Foster
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Patrick Henley
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William Light
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Peter Monzo
Palomar Pacific, CA
Charles Myer
Sacramento, CA
Cornelius O'Leary
Fullerton, CA
Fedele Pavia
Inland Empire, CA

Ted Pilueger
Monterey Peninsula,
CA
Harry Prigg
Pittsburgh North
Hills, PA
Dave Rubin
Whittier, CA
John Stepanuk
Inland Empire, CA
Phillip Taylor
Folsom, CA

Illinois

Earl Buttjer
Chicagoland West
Suburban, IL
Glenn Cockrell
Danville, IL
James McDonald
Champaign Urbana,
IL
Richard Murphy
Sterling Rock Falls,
IL
Joseph Shekleton
Arlington Heights, IL
Chicago Metro, IL
Albert Veach
Coles County, IL
Joseph Wleklinski
Arlington Heights, IL
Lake County, IL

Johnny

Appleseed
Robert Bossert
Maumee Valley, OH
Edward Burkardt
Pittsburgh Metro, PA
Lyell Clay
Greater Kanawha
Valley, WV
Robert Brunelle
Marion, OH
Bill Foster
Butler, PA
Robert Grover
Mansfield, OH
Donald Leasure
Lawrence County, PA
Edwin Perry
Defiance, OH

Warren Richards
Western Hills
(Cincinnati), OH
Francis Roche
Pittsburgh North
Hills, PA
Robert Roshon
Columbus, OH
Louis Sisk
Greater Pittsburgh,
PA

Land O' Lakes

James Ellingson
Minneapolis, MN
Arnold Feklit
Le Roy, MN
Jerry Fraser
Saskatoon, SK
Harold Grills
Winnipeg, MB
Raymond Pike
Saskatoon, SK
Richard Ripp
Madison, WI
Mark Sathe
Minneapolis, MN
Jim Schmitt
Manitowoc, WI
Alois Schneider
Menomonee Falls,
WI
William Van Thiel
Kenosha, WI
Frank Ward
Saskatoon, SK
John Weber
Winnipeg, MB

Mid-Atlantic

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Rahway Valley, NJ
Robert Brunelle
Montgomery County,
MD
Paul Crowl
Hanover, PA
Michael DeGirolamo
Montgomery County,
MD
Germantown, MD
William Evenson
Richmond, VA

Edward Joyce
Arlington, VA
Freddie King
Dundalk, MD
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Larry King
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George Ryan
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Harold Snell
Rahway Valley, NJ
Roy Thorpe
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Office hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Central or anytime at www.barbershop.org

Executive Offices

Ed Watson

Executive Director/CEO
ewatson@barbershop.org

Patty Leveille

Office Manager/Executive Assistant
2630 • pleveille@barbershop.org

Seba Hazelitt

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
4118 • shazelitt@barbershop.org

Sherry Lewis

Administrative Pool/Receptionist
4114 • slewis@barbershop.org

Dorene Santarelli

Receptionist
4114 • dsantarelli@barbershop.org

Music Education and Services

Rick Spencer

Director of Music and Education
4123 • rspencer@barbershop.org

Jim DeBusman

Music Specialist/Quartet Development
4125 • jdebusman@barbershop.org

Mike O'Neill

Music Specialist/Chorus Director Development
4126 • moneill@barbershop.org

James Estes

Music Specialist/Student Activities Development
4124 • jestes@barbershop.org

Julie Grower

Library and Licensing Coordinator
4127 • jgrower@barbershop.org

Joe Liles

Music Publications Editor
4121 • jliles@barbershop.org

Becca Box

Quartet Registry/C&J/Harmony University
4122 • bbox@barbershop.org

Finance and Administration

Frank Santarelli

Director of Finance
4133 • fsantarelli@barbershop.org

Julie Cervantez

Accountant
4134 • jcervantez@barbershop.org

Amanda McCowan

Accounting Specialist
4135 • amccowan@barbershop.org

Nick Fotopoulos

IT Specialist
4141 • nfoto@barbershop.org

Sam Hoover

IT Specialist
4142 • shoover@barbershop.org

Vagdevi Sreedharan

IT Developer/Programmer
4140 • vsreedharan@barbershop.org

Harmony Marketplace

Jerilyn Evans

Merchandising Manager
4145 • jevans@barbershop.org

Jenna Waters

Retail Associate
4144 • jwaters@barbershop.org

Nancy Carver

Customer Service Specialist
4117 • ncarver@barbershop.org

Ebony Davis

Shipping & Receiving Associate
4143 • edavis@barbershop.org

Pam Cervantez

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4143 • pcervantez@barbershop.org

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Charters, licensing, dues, fees, renewals,
address corrections, officers and rosters

Charlie Davenport

Director of Membership
4130 • cdavenport@barbershop.org

Drew Ellis

Manager of Membership Services
4120 • dellis@barbershop.org

Jerry Richardson

Membership Assistant
4129 • jrichardson@barbershop.org

Jacqueline Robinson

Membership Specialist
4113 • jrobinson@barbershop.org

Marketing & Public Relations

Todd Wilson

Director of Marketing
4136 • twilson@barbershop.org

Danielle Cole

Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator
4137 • dcole@barbershop.org

Gena Dickey

Web Developer
4128 • gdickey@barbershop.org

Lorin May

Harmonizer Editor
4132 • harmonizer@barbershop.org
4137 • Convention & Harmonizer ad sales

Print Shop

Justin Gray, Joe Rau

Printing specialists
4147 • jgray@barbershop.org
jrau@barbershop.org

Conventions and Meetings

John T. Schneider, Jr.

Director of Events, Staff Counsel
4115 • jschneider@barbershop.org

Dusty Schleier

Meetings Manager
4116 • dschleier@barbershop.org



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pronoah@comcast.net

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bbiffle@brgcc.com

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651-484-8030
j.lee11@comcast.net

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770-364-8136
drayton_justus@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ BOARD SECRETARY

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800-876-7464
ewatson@barbershop.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Lou Benedict

760-747-3736
lbenedict@cox.net

Dan Brinkmann

321-259-7953
brinktenor@aol.com

Greg Caetano

773-353-3732
gjcaetano@att.net

Peter Feeney

702-655-9064
PeterFeeney@embarqmail.com

Connie Keil

520-219-8575
Ckeil@comcast.net

Skipp Kropp

304-344-2408
skropp@jacksonkelly.com

Alan Lamson

860-647-9523
janlam314@cox.net

Judd Orff

651-439-3108
Juddorff3108@msn.com

Rod Sgrignoli

720-981-1246
sgrig@aol.com

Barry Towner

905-473-2424
btowner@interhop.net

Alan Wile

703-538-6526
Alan.Wile@comcast.net



110 Seventh Avenue North, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203
866-706-8021 (toll free), 615-823-5611
Fax: 615-823-5612 hf@harmonyfoundation.org

Clarke Caldwell
President/CEO
ccaldwell@harmonyfoundation.org

Ev Nau
Director of Major Gifts
enau@harmonyfoundation.org

Sean Devine
Major Gifts Officer
sdevine@harmonyfoundation.org

Carolyn Faulkenberry
Chief Financial Officer
cfaulkenberry@harmonyfoundation.org

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Annual Giving Manager
dsemich@harmonyfoundation.org

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tpregel@harmonyfoundation.org

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269-965-5714
rjlewiscmc@aol.com

Susan Sauls
270-826-5027
ssauls@insightbb.com

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801-733-0562
mikedeputy@utility-trailer.com

James C. Warner, General Counsel
901-522-9000
jwarner@martintate.com

Sing Canada Harmony Board of Directors

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gborden@uniserve.com

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(902) 679-1367
ternst@waterburynewton.ns.ca

Edward G Manthorp
613-733-7317
egm@kellymanthorp.com

Doran McTaggart
519-948-0637
doranmct@aol.com

I. Murray Phillips
902-542-1342
Phillips.murray@gmail.com

James Thexton
403-238-1008
jthexton@shaw.ca

Sharon Towner
905-473-2424
sbstowner@aol.com



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www.aambs.org.au
Michael Donnelly: mvdonnel@bigpond.net.au

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www.singbarbershop.com
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www.barbershop-in-germany.de
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DABS (Dutch Association of Barbershop Singers)
www.dabs.nl
Lenhard van Ballegooijen: voorzitter@dabs.nl

FABS (Finnish Association of Barbershop Singers)
www.fabs.fi
Juha Aunola: juha.aunola@gmail.com

IABS (Irish Association of Barbershop Singers)
www.irishbarbershop.org
Gunnar Karlsson: gunnartenor@eircom.net

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Andy Hutson: president@nzabs.org.nz

SNOBS (Society of Nordic Barbershop Singers)
www.snoobs.org
Contact Henrik Rosenberg: henrik@rospart.se

SPATS (Southern Part of Africa Tonsorial Singers)
Tony Abbott: adabbott@mweb.co.za



General correspondence/editorial:
harmonizer@barbershop.org

Editorial Board: Todd Wilson, Danielle Cole, Gena Dickey, Rick Spencer, Charlie Davenport, Lorin May.

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Copy editing: Doug Yonson (Capital City Chorus) Ottawa, Ont.



Mission

- The Barbershop Harmony Society brings men together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing.

Vision

- To be the premier membership organization for men who love to sing.



THE TAG

Joe Liles, Tagmaster!!



Great Autotowners tag from Carl Dahlke

Carl Dahlke joined the Society in 1955 at 20 years of age. In 1960, he formed the Pioneer District quartet the **Autotowners**, which became international champion in 1966. As a fine chorus director, Carl took **Oakland County Chorus** to international competition five times from 1968 through 1972. He directed the Sweet Adelines' **Great Lakes Chorus** five times in international competition from 1976 through 1981. Directing **Detroit No. 1** at international in 1982 and **Macomb County**



at international in 2003 and 2004, you can see that this man is truly a seasoned barbershopper.

Carl's greatest joy right now is singing and teaching tags, which he does rather well, I might add. I've learned some really fun tags from him. Carl, as you might imagine, can also arrange barbershop gems. One of his best is an arrangement he did for the Autotowners of "If We Can't Be the Same Old Sweethearts (We'll Just Be the Same Old Friends)." The tag is available for you here. Enjoy! ■

WE'LL JUST BE THE SAME OLD FRIENDS

Words by JOE MCCARTHY

TAG

Music by JIMMIE V. MONACO

Arrangement by CARL DAHLKE

freely *as sung by the Autotowners*

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

8

1

2

3

Though I know you can't be mine, — we will meet from time to

4

5

6

7

8

time, and we'll just be the same — old friends, old friends. We'll

9

10

11

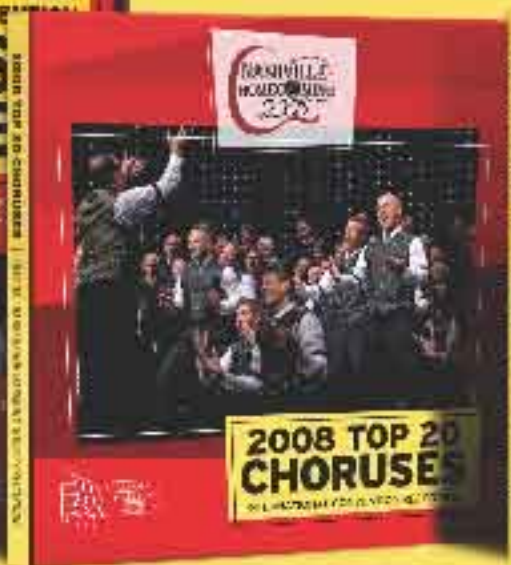
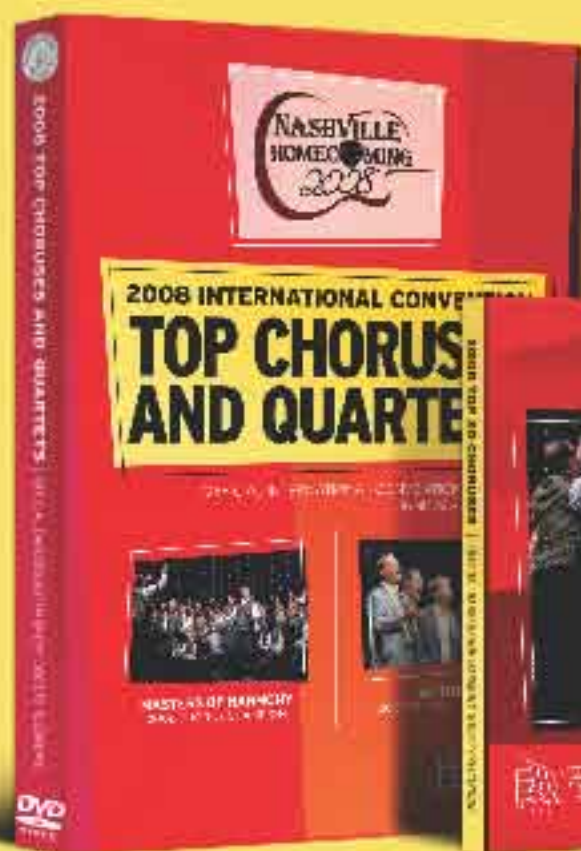
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13

14

just be the same — old friends, — old friends. —

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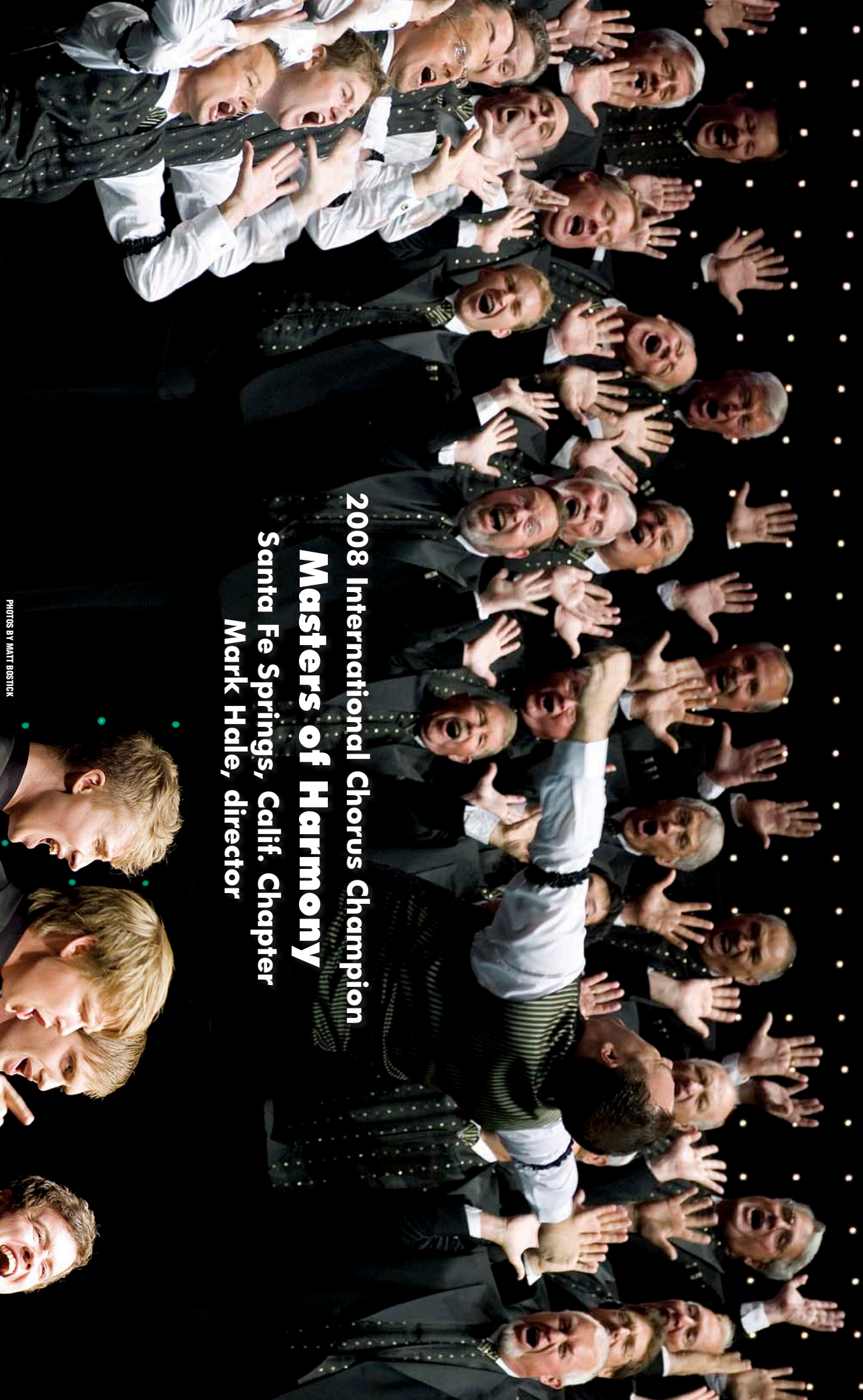
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