

January/February 2009

THE

HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

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THIS IS JUST A TEST PRESENTS MAY 11, D.C. TIMES REVEILLE & VOCAL SPECTRUM "AMERICAN HARMONY"
ADDITIONAL EDITING BY STU SILVERMAN
EDITED BY KATE AMEND GRANT KAHLER
DIRECTED BY JENNIFER SILBERT
PRODUCED BY COLIN KING MILLER AND PRODUCED BY AENGUS JAMES

Inside: We're little
but we're LOUD!

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The New Tradition



“What is Barbershop really all about? The success? The District Champion Pin? The International Medal? No, it is about the people who surround you on a daily basis and the “family” who support us in this wonderful hobby. Being a part of this fraternity is an honor that we all enjoy! McPhly chose to include some of those people in our district photo because to us that is what this hobby is all about. We enjoy the opportunity that we have to sing for those we love and care about. To find out who is in McPhly just look for the shoes....”
— **Curtis Terry, Lead McPhly Quartet**



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Theater and other quartet
photos by Lorin May; corner
photo: Hi-Country Harmonaires,
Apply Valley, Calif.

The secret to growth: fun meetings every week

I've spent much of the past couple of months thinking about this, my first column as your president. In fact, I've written about a hundred versions of it! Then last Saturday night—Sunday morning, really—the problem solved itself. About 1:30 a.m., I stopped into the AHSOW room at the headquarters hotel in Pasadena as our Midwinter convention was drawing to a close. There I found Dave Calland, about whom I'll say more below.



Men keep telling me the importance of having fun on chapter meeting night. To woodshed, to gang sing, to quartet. To have fun. On chapter meeting night. Every week.

After we sang a few (Dave made me sing lead; he was working on his baritone and tenor woodshedding skills), Dave said to me, "We're one of the few chapters in the Society that's growing!" "What's causing that?" I asked. "We put the 'Eight Points to Fun' in our meetings," he replied. "That old thing that Joe Liles came up with way back in the '70s?" I exclaimed. "Yep," he rejoined with a great big smile.

"What eight points?" you ask. (It's your turn, now.) Well, sez I, "the Eight Points you can find at www.barbershop.org/8points." For the record, here's the list, but you'll need to look at the whole document for the complete scoop. (For instance, you don't do them in this order!):

- Vocal warm up
- Gang singing
- Craft
- Break
- Quartet activity
- Woodshedding
- Business meeting
- Rehearsal



Let me tell you a little bit about Dave. He sang lead in the silver medalist quartet **Uptown Sound** and directs the eight-time JAD champion—and consistent top 10 chorus—**The Alliance** from Columbus, Ohio and sings lead with 2008 international quartet finalist **The Allies**.

(He's also the current Johnny Appleseed District president, just to close the circle.) This is a man to whom competing—and winning—is important. And this man who has dedicated his entire barbershop life to musical achievement has "discovered" the "secret" to chapter growth.

By almost every measure, The Alliance is a successful barbershop chapter. But they had one persistent problem—they did not grow. Not consistently. Not predictably. Why not? They sing like angels. They're great guys. They have wonderful musical and administrative leadership. Why not meteoric growth? Well, Dave and the boys decided to try something "new" to attack this problem. Variety.

Fun. At chapter meetings. On purpose. And the guide they used has been around for a long time and is readily available on our wonderful, new, improved, user-friendly Society web site.

By now, many of you know that growing the Society will be the main focus of my tenure as Society President. I have initiated a Society-wide conversation on this subject. (To join in, email me at bbiffle@barbershop.org using the word "membership" in the subject line.) Hundreds of members—present and past, and dozens of ladies, too—have sent me their ideas about what we need to do to reverse our membership decline. How we can guarantee that our grandchildren's grandchildren will have the opportunity to have their lives enriched by this hobby as ours—mine and yours—have been. There are lots of opinions, of course, and it's too early in the process to draw final conclusions, but one thread that keeps reappearing is the importance of having fun on chapter meeting night. To woodshed, to gang sing, to quartet. To have fun. On chapter meeting night. Every week. The very thing that Dave and the boys in Columbus decided to try.

For a very long time we have wedded two important aspects of barbershop life together – musical achievement and fraternal bliss. And we've done that pretty successfully, too. In our healthy chapters, we've done it in spades. How about your chapter? It is, after all, *your* chapter. Is the balance right? Are men coming back week after week? Are they inviting friends, neighbors, co-workers, fellow church choir members, strangers on the street to come see what happens every week at their barbershop *chapter* meeting? If so, quit reading now and go spread the word to others. If not, maybe, just maybe, your chapter life may be a bit—just a bit—out of balance.

If you think *your* chapter meetings could be more fun, why not open a dialogue with the leaders of your chapter about changing things up just a little? If we're going to grow, our "product"—the quality of life in our chapters every week—has to be satisfying enough—fun enough—to justify men spending valuable time away from the other things in life there. It's working for The Alliance. It will work for you, too! (Where's that phone number of my chapter's Program Vice President?)

Those are some of my thoughts. Let me have some of yours.

Bill

bbiffle@brgcc.com

It's settled: Have Mike Rowe write in every issue

Kudos to Mike Rowe and Fred King

This was the best issue of *The Harmonizer* that I have read. It might have been the Mike Rowe story about Freddie King or the whole upbeat tone of the magazine. The President's Page, Straight Talk, Harmony How To, It's Your Chapter, Tempo, Stay Tuned and the great article on Bill Biffle were all well written and inspiring. I know the dedication it takes to put together a magazine with this much input from all the different sources. So congratulations to you all. It's a magazine such as this issue that can be used in our recruiting efforts.

Keep up the great work.

RALPH LEROY

The Livingston Lamplighters

The wonderful article by Dirty Jobs' Mike Rowe was such a grand tribute to Freddie King, and it was written so well that Rowe's wry sense of humor came through along with his obvious reverence for Freddie and our wonderful shared hobby. Gotta admit, this ol' bari's cheeks got wet more than once.

RALPH PECKHAM
The Villages, Fla.

The article "Fred, this is all because of you" is the best written, most heartwarming article I have ever read in *The Harmonizer* in my 41 years of barbershopping. I met Freddie King many years ago at an Ontario District COTS and never forgot this most engaging

man. What a wonderful legacy he has left for us all. I'm sure great stories of this legend will follow in his wake for many years to come.

ROD SHEPHERD
Oakville Chapter

Open letter to Mike Rowe: Your cover story has got to be one of the best pieces I have ever seen in 32 plus years of reading *The Harmonizer* religiously. From the opening paragraphs I found myself laughing hysterically and crying uncontrollably over the stories of the Freddie King we barbershoppers have all known and loved for years turned loose on unsuspecting students, you included, at Overlea Senior High School. My heart was also warmed by the effects of the "borrowed" album of the Oriole Four, and the men of Dundalk on the life of the

impressionable young man who was to become, how did you term it, a B-level celebrity. No way, Mike. You've moved from sewer rat to King Rat status. Thank you, Mike, for the opportunity to reflect on how much Freddie meant to me, to all of us.

BOB CALDWELL

FRiDAYS! Quartet/Alexandria Harmonizers

"Let's fix ourselves" a great tip

Regarding Ed Watson's last column ("Don't get low, it's a perfect time to grow!"): I've attended several chapters in my area and all are primarily chorus chapters and nothing else. Frustrated, I wrote to our district president about the lack of quartetting and woodshedding. He suggested that if I wasn't finding what I wanted in the other chapters, I should start a chapter in my area. I decided to do just that and he offered substantial support, I soon discovered that Director of Membership Charlie Davenport is a gold mine for chapter development. I was able to find a great meeting place in our city's musical center, the Jackson Symphony Orchestra Building, and tons of support from its director, Stephen Osmond. After almost two months of preparation, we are finally having our first meeting tonight. I can now say we, as Jessica Thompson, our new chorus director, has been working with me almost from the beginning. Ed's "Let's Fix Ourselves" was a perfect description of what has happened to me.

DEL SPARKS

Jackson, Michigan



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Complete contact info: page 38-39

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Make American Harmony our Music Man

Sometimes the columns you *don't* see are as interesting as the ones you *do* see. I had over 650 words written about the parallels between my Navy job and my current career, including Landing Signal Officers, judges, landing systems on the ship, contest venues, big loud jets, smoke, mirrors, and much, much more. But something really exciting has caused me to stop that column (maybe another time) and start this one, all about *American Harmony*, the movie. *American Harmony*, the experience that could (will, with your help) spread Barbershop like Meredith Willson's "The Music Man" did in the 1950s and early 1960s. *American Harmony*, the documentary that features **Vocal Spectrum, Reveille, Max Q, OC Times**, and many more members and quartets in several International competitions to be #1.



American Harmony takes you backstage at our conventions, where you can watch the anxiety, the coaching, the thrill and the agony as men attempt to be the best in the world.

Our own Music Man

One of the things that attracted me to the Society in 1973 was the chance to sing like **The Buffalo Bills**. (I know, I know, but I was much more naïve at that time!) I was completely enamored of *The Music Man* movie and never failed to smile and even choke up a bit when Robert Preston's Harold Hill showed the school board how to sing together. When I found out there was a Society of singers who worked to perfect that kind of harmony, and the Buffalo Bills were actually a part of that Society, I was hooked. I wanted to learn to sing like them. Of course, that movie/play was a work of fiction, and endearing for many, many things, but few would disagree that the music presented, and especially the barbershop harmony presented, made that film great.

Now we have a film coming out in distribution all over the country that features nothing but that harmony. It is a documentary film that takes you backstage at our conventions, where you can

watch the anxiety, the coaching, the thrill and the agony as men attempt to be the best in the world. We helped that movie get made, and now we *must* help it get shown to as many people as we can.



Valentine's Day is over and you and your chapter have finished delivering love treats to sweethearts. I hope you prospered, and I hope the Valentines sent were well received. Probably didn't help your membership any, though. Singing to women usually doesn't do much for adding members. Remember, President Biffle has designated (and we all agree) membership growth as job #1. So, now that Singing Valentines are behind you, and through the spring season, we want to get the movie shown *everywhere*, because it will help grow our membership.

See my article on page 26 for more details.

This and that

We had a great Midwinter (again!) Wish you were there in Pasadena where the weather was beautiful every day. Next year—Tampa, please mark your calendars now—it's Jan. 26-31.

It is not too late for you to make plans for International in Anaheim. Make it a vacation and do your part to stimulate an economy that needs it. We're teaming up with Disney to make it a special treat. Come Tuesday and get a Disneyland Park discount and you'll see Barbershop throughout the park! Dates are June 30 (Tuesday) through July 5 and we'll be bombarding you with details through all our information channels. Please consider coming, we *need* you there.

Thanks for reading this. I hope someday to finish the Navy/Barbershop column. For now, if you have questions or comments, or just want to tell me how I'm doing, please e-mail.

How am I doing?

ewatson@barbershop.org



The real heroes, singing next to you on the risers

Three barbershoppers got recent national media attention for their off-stage heroics

Stuck his neck way out for a friend. Fifty-five-year-old Ralph Hanahan, president of the **Spartanburg S.C. Chapter**, learned that layoffs were expected at the school where he worked and surmised that either he or co-worker Mike Camp would soon be targeted. The men held identical IT positions, but Ralph knew that his 20 years of state seniority meant his own job was safe. What he did next was soon the talk of the school and the whole town.

As a national audience on *Good Morning America* learned, Mike and his wife and four children, including a severely autistic son, were already burdened with worry and high medical bills. Around Thanksgiving, before any layoff plans had been announced, Ralph approached his superiors regarding his friend's situation and insisted, "If you have to do this, you should take me," reported Bruce Halverson, president of the Governor's School of the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, S.C., where both men worked.



Soon Ralph was indeed collecting \$326 a week in unemployment benefits and looking for work. Around Christmas, the Camps enlisted Ralph's wife in a ruse that ended when a surprised and tearful Hanahan found himself watching a video tribute to himself in front of a live television audience.

Mike's wife Lorrie told the program that Ralph's generosity comes naturally to him, comparing him to the main character of *It's a Wonderful Life*.

"I feel like I've met a real life George Bailey and that's Ralph Hanahan," she said. "Words really can never express adequately what I feel in my heart, gratitude, and I know I'll never really be able to repay him how much it's meant to me and my family."

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/894bam> for the full story and video. Ralph can be reached at HANAHANR@yahoo.com.



Defeated Nazis and racist arguments with his wings. Cal Moret, an active member of the **Mardi Gras Chorus** (Greater New Orleans Chapter),

was among VIP guests at the recent inauguration of U.S. President Barack Obama as a surviving member of WWII's famed Tuskegee Airmen. The all-black squadrons that trained in Tuskegee, Ala. shot down more than German planes. Their legendary performance and success disproved the racist arguments of their many detractors, leading to the integration of the U.S. military and sending out shock waves in the strengthening fight for equal opportunities. Moret, now 83, earned his wings at age 19 in 1944. The surviving airmen, of which more than 100 pilots and 200 ground crew are still alive, were honored at the inauguration for their influence that helped make the election of a black president possible. All had received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2007.

See Cal in a television news feature story at <http://tinyurl.com/bucsqh>.



Recently revealed as historic, top-secret figure of WWII.

When Robert Furman died Oct. 14 at age 93, the heroic portraits that followed in the

national media sharply contrasted the prior 60 years, when friends, family and fellow barbershoppers had no clue about his historical importance. Just a few years ago it was revealed that the 34-year Society member and past president of the **Washington, D.C.**

Chapter had between 1943-45 been the legendary "Mystery Major," the top-secret chief of U.S. foreign nuclear military intelligence efforts. Furman had directed espionage against the German nuclear program, snatched scientists and uranium from Axis control, then stole German nuclear scientists away from Soviet hands after the war—all before age 30. So powerful and sensitive was his position that his name had been kept from official documents for decades.

Furthermore, Robert was revealed as one of the senior-most directors

of the day-to-day construction of the Pentagon from 1941-43. Later, as key assistant to the director of the Manhattan Project, Robert personally escorted half the uranium to Tainan, where the Little Boy bomb received final assembly before devastating Hiroshima. To Furman, the "biggest miracle" of the past 63 years was that no other atomic bombs had been used. After the war, his construction company completed hundreds of important projects far and wide.

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/6968ox> for his *Washington Post* obituary.



Presenting "Off Key," a partially serious collection of Society clippings

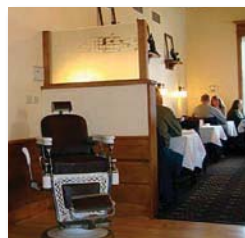
There's simply no magazine space to share all the stories that come flooding into Society headquarters. Somehow, we've found enough room for our punch lines.



Music may have helped save the life (or at least the toes) of Marty Mendro, 94-year-old lead of 1949 international champions and comedy legend **Mid-States Four**. This past December, his car went off a rural road near his Twisp, Wash. home and 30 feet down an embankment. He suffered no major injuries but was unable to climb the snowy slope to the road. With three broken windows and poor clothing and shoes, he ran the engine for heat until the gas ran out and honked for help until the battery expired. Before friends discovered him four hours later, he intermittently prayed, stomped his feet and sang "I Want a Girl" to keep lucid and boost his circulation. Had he thought to sing "Jericho," maybe he could have pushed the car up the hill.

Dan Jordan of **The New Tradition** (1985 champ), **139th Street Quartet** and **The Perfect Gentlemen** fame, is now also singing lead with yucksters **Hi-Fidelity** quartet. The FCC is investigating whether he's breaking anti-trust laws by singing lead with virtually every barbershop quartet that's appeared on national television in the last 20 years.

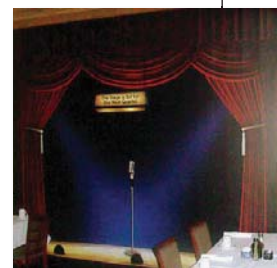
The **Princeton Garden Statesmen** chorus prepared six songs for MAD fall district competition so they would learn all at competition level. The astonished judges randomly drew the set moments before the chorus performed, pondering how they would now approach the subject of "song choice" in post-contest evals.



Midwest Vocal Express worked closely with owner and barbershop fan Roy Reiman (who wants to establish Greendale, Wis. as the barbershop

capital of the Midwest) to create a barbershop theme restaurant in suburban Milwaukee. "Harmony Inn the Village" is liberally decorated with barbershop-themed memorabilia, and quartets can come in and sing for their supper. Patrons and MVE fans say that no matter what else you order, you'll always remember the fish.

Nashville Singers used killer overtones to win the 2008 Dixie district quartet championship while performing four mildly-tweaked arrangements straight out of the Society's Barberpole Cat book. Their back-to-basics package only narrowly out-scored **Extreme Fundamentals** quartet, which woodshedded impro-



CONVENTIONS

2009

ANAHEIM

June 28-July 5

2010

PHILADELPHIA

June 27-July 4

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 28-July 5

2016

NASHVILLE

July 3-10

MIDWINTER

www.barbershop.org/midwinter

2010

TAMPA

Jan. 26-31

2011

TUCSON

Jan. 18-23

HARMONY
UNIVERSITY 2009

St. Joseph, Mo.

July 26-Aug. 2

Seven steps to get free air time on your local radio stations

We've recorded 51 PSAs for chapter PR. Browse them at www.barbershop.org/audiopsa.aspx. Many can be easily "tagged" with information on your chapter. Everything on the page is legal for Society use. (Video membership PSAs are also available at www.barbershop.org/videopsa.aspx.)

1. Contact Society HQ at 800-876-7464 x4137 or PR@barbershop.org to get a list of media outlets in your community. Then target stations such as news, talk, oldies, easy listening.

2. Call each station's public service or public affairs director. State that you are submitting a PSA on behalf "XYZ Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony

Society, a nonprofit organization." (If needed, provide our tax exempt letter, available at the document center at www.barbershop.org.) From each station, learn whether they want the MP3s on CD or via e-mail. Always provide copies they can keep, not "loaner" discs.

3. Download the MP3s and burn as many copies as needed or order from www.harmonymarketplace.com (product 004203) for \$5. Download and use the authorization form (same web page as the audio files) if required by the broadcaster. Label CDs clearly and cleanly.

4. For stations with the capability to add your chapter's info, use the "local tag" PSAs and

provide the verbiage. Otherwise, use the national PSAs.

5. Send the audio files to your contact at the station along with a letter stating why the station should air the PSA. Ask the public affairs director to let you know when the PSA will air. When PSAs have aired, send thank-you notes.

6. Be prepared for guests at your meetings with the "You Can Sing Too" membership recruitment brochures; packages of 50 cost \$14.99, plus shipping. (item # 201864)

7. Report on your results to PR@barbershop.org or Barbershop Harmony Society, c/o Marketing & PR Dept., 110 7th Ave N., Nashville, TN 37203.

vised melodies to passages from Chaucer.

With a second change in personnel, the Big Apple's long-time comedic fixture in international competition, **Reveille** quartet, has changed its name to **Bigtime!** Their new bass is Ontario beanpole Chris Arnold, dashing any hopes of shtick that links the quartet's new name to its average girth.

SEP (formerly **Saturday Evening Post**), after nearly a decade as a fixture in the quartet finals, has officially retired from competition but continues to book chapter shows for no fee—expenses only. You still have to pay a premium to get them to wear their legendary year 2000 “robe pants.”

Jim Henry, director of the **Ambassadors of Harmony** and bass for **Crossroads** quartet (2008 silver medalist), suffered a severe ankle sprain between Saturday performances of the chorus' Christmas show. Assistant directors David Wright and Jonny Moroni stepped in to conduct and **Crossroads'** set was initially cancelled; but Jim came back from the hospital in the middle of the show and performed against his doctor's advice. (Bonus: Sitting on a stool actually raised him closer to the mic!) At one point, Jim told the audience: “I'm on serious drugs right now. And the next song will be ‘Strawberry Fields Forever.’” (His joke, not ours.) He directed and performed in two shows the next day as well.



Darryl Flinn was recently named the Johnny Appleseed District's “Barbershopper of the Half Century.” A great honor for a great man, but isn't it about time the district start offering an annual BoY award as well?

International quartet competitor **Voce** quartet has been joined by tenor Stephen Wilde, stage name of Steve Iannacchione, tenor of 1994 international champ **Joker's Wild**. Steve, a Broadway performer, joins a quartet that features another gold medalist and elite arranger, plus a professional opera singer. Check out page 33 of the Sept./Oct. '08 *Harmonizer* and think up your own update to our prima donna joke.

The **Yale Whiffenpoofs**, still the gold standard of collegiate a cappella, are 100 years old this year. Congrats to our fellow travelers, but shouldn't they have all graduated by now?

Redline quartet, 2008 international bronze medalist, has retired from competition and has stopped booking new show dates. Lead Chris Vaughn cited the need to spend more time with his family. His three quartet mates cited the need to spend more time with their otolaryngologists.

Society briefs

Music educators are paying attention! A piece called “Educational Appeal of Barbershop Music” appeared in the January issue of the national magazine for MENC: The National Association for Music Education. Part of a larger article entitled “Workshop” by Joanna DeGroot, the barbershop angle was initiated by MENC after many of their 120,000 readers asked for help in understanding barbershop harmony and how to implement it into their programs.

“This is a tremendous sign that our Youth in Harmony efforts are working,” says Society Director of Music Rick Spencer, who notes that Society members have authored past pieces for educators magazines. “This is one of the few times we've been approached unsolicited by one of these publications.”

Spencer recently gave a presentation at the National ACDA (America Choral Directors Association) convention this March, where **The Vocal Majority** filled a highly prestigious slot before the entire convention audience. To all chapters working with your local schools, these are the result of your own successes—educators are listening and want to learn more!

New insurance agency info. Chapter officers: the Society's new insurance agency is now: Crichton, Brandon, Jackson & Ward, 3011 Armory Dr, Suite 250, Nashville, TN 37204. Direct inquiries to Rita Davila at 615 986-6234 or email to rdavila@cbjw.net.

100 percent legal barbershop on YouTube. Check back frequently for new content at www.youtube.com/barbershopharmony38, the Society's official Youtube channel. Everything legally cleared and perfectly fine for chapters to embed on their own sites, including international convention performances, tags, education videos, and other resources for you and your chapter.

It takes more than a heart attack to slow down Joe Liles. Through the power of music (what else?) legendary Joe Liles was back at work only 10 days after a serious heart attack that happened shortly before Christmas. The Society's music publications editor had a real scare, but is recovering better than his doctors expected. After greenlighting an update on his health for *The Harmonizer*, Joe added, “Oh yeah ... and tell those nice folks who sent me e-mails wishing me a ‘get well soon’ that I say ‘thank you,’ and I am sorry I did not have time to respond to all 3,000 of them.”

Listen before you buy! When you visit harmonymarketplace.com and browse through the audio records area, you'll discover almost 150 audio samples are now available from over 30 of our most popular recordings. More samples will be made available soon.

Check out *barbershopwiki.com*. Check out the most comprehensive barbershop encyclopedia in the world. The Barbershop Wiki Project contains a wealth of information about barbershop, past and present, contributed by singers and fans across the globe. Read, write and edit posts and any barbershop topic you can name. The more eyes, the better the fact-checking and the better the resource. Have some history that you don't want to be forgotten? Add it to the Barbershop Wiki Project and it will be organized and kept forever, on display to the world. This not-for-profit venture was founded by Casey Parsons (bari of **The Allies**) with major contributions from Grady Kerr, Alan Gordon, David Calland, Daryl Meek, and Doug Maddox.



Promote barbershop while saving lives.

The 2008 Singing for Life campaign featured 176 chapters and close to 6,000 performers while collecting 3,000 units of blood. Many chapters got great media coverage and formed alliances with other area performing groups. The 2009 project allows more schedule flexibility by encompassing the entire month of May. Chapter leaders: decide now how SFL can enhance your community and your chapter roster. Radio spots, posters, newspaper ads and other information can be found at www.barbershop.org/blood.

Westminster Chorus competing to become "Choir of the World."

Thick on talent, thin on funds, the 2007 international champion **Westminster Chorus** will compete against contestants from 50 nations in the prestigious Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod. Few in the audience of 5,000 will have heard a world-class barbershop chorus, but millions of BBC viewers will if Westminster reaches the finals. They plan to leave right after our own international contest ... but they need our help! Make tax-deductible donations at www.westminsterchorus.org/donate or contact the Westminster VP of Operations, Lane Aikin, at operations@westminsterchorus.org, 509-230-5830.

Barbershop harmony in Spin Magazine.

The February 2009 issue of *Spin* magazine has a feature article on **OC Times** and barbershop harmony. Written by Kevin Roose, son of Akron, Ohio chapter chorus director Kirk Roose, the full article can be found at <http://digital.spin.com> on page 64.

Catch American A Cappella broadcast online.

Jamie Jones, President of the Narragansett Bay Chorus, is also owner of Judson Group, Inc. which owns Classical 95.9-FM WCRI & News Radio 1180-AM WCNX in Rhode Island. "American A Cappella" hosted by Jones and Mike Maino, is free at www.classical959.com. They need no donations, but do desire feedback and CDs or MP3s of barbershop music for their weekly shows.

New rule clarifies reductions for style issues

Henceforth, only Music judges will make point reductions for fundamentally structural barbershop style issues. Previously, all three judging categories could assess reductions for such violations as "instrumental accompaniment," "lack of consonant chords," "predominantly homophonic," "melody not predominantly in the lead," "excessive passages less than four parts," and "chorus sub-unit brief and appropriate."

A Spring 2008 study showed large inconsistencies across categories when such reductions were assessed. Rather than train Singing and Presentation judges in the applicable nuances of the Music category description, the decision was to make such reductions exclusive to the Music category. The study also showed that this rule change should not affect overall group placement, but will reduce the confusion caused by prior inconsistencies.

This rule change does not mean Singing and Presentation judges must sit on their hands when a questionable contest vehicle is presented. For example, only a Music judge will assess a reduction for structural style violations such as a song built around a lead solo with trio accompaniment (e.g. **Second Edition's** "Sitting on Top of the World" or **Bluegrass Student Union's** "Darkness on the Delta"); however, Singing and Presentation judges would assess appropriate reductions for the lack of "lock and ring" or other resulting deficiencies pertaining to their category descriptions. ■



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SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL



Harmony Classic - Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Rising Star Contest - Saturday, October 24, 2009

Music City 2009

NASHVILLE

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Convention & Competition

OCT. 20-24, 2009



Develop musical leadership within your chapter

Chapter growth and success can be traced to the excellence and depth of both the musical and administrative leadership teams. In successful chapters, the out-front leaders are individuals willing to share the spotlight, encouraging and empowering others, realizing that a team approach achieves more success than one leader alone. You'll achieve full potential and sustain chorus excellence only as you use and develop as many leaders as possible. There are four key elements:

1. Assess the leadership potential within the membership.
2. Create opportunities for leaders to experiment and practice being a leader.
3. Recognize effort as individuals develop.
4. Make possible training and education in the barbershop setting.

Assessment of leadership potential

Leaders can be identified by:

- The talents and skills of chapter members as shown by a survey of previous life and work experience, current work situation and desire to be involved
- Their ability to relate to others in a positive meaningful way
- Demonstrations of their skills in situations that are nonthreatening and of short duration

Leadership strategies for showcasing potential new talents

Ask volunteers to accept simple tasks that are clearly defined and of short duration. "Bob, would you come

down front and find the most active face in the chorus and invite him to come out front and demonstrate for the chorus" or "Jim, you are singing that lead line so well, would you please demonstrate that for the rest of the lead section" or "Bill, would you listen to this quartet and tell them three things that they are doing well?" Always thank them for their contribution and skills in being observant and skilled with positive feedback.

Survey a section and ask them who they would like to have as their section leader. Being selected by our fellow singers is always an honor, developing trust and confidence on the part of the one identified. This opens a door to developing leaders.

Invite a member of each section to come down front and listen to the section in rehearsal to identify the positive value that the singers are bringing to the chorus. A director can then identify those who can encourage men to be better singers.

Recognition and development of individuals

- A director can invite a member with potential to come down and say: "Barry would you direct this phrase so I can just listen to the smoothness of the line." Those who can work with others to achieve a common goal are those who can lead.
- A section leader can invite a singer to prepare for next week's rehearsal the line in the difficult key change. Those who take on challenges are those who can lead.
- A chapter president can invite an individual to



Dr. Paul Tamblyn

Past chair,
Chorus
Director
Development
Committee
paul.tamblyn@
kos.net

Do you have the skills to become a chorus director? Add up your abilities

Our Society features hundreds of successful directors who range from formally trained musicians, products of Society schools (Harmony University, Directors College, HEP schools, Director Education programs, etc.), or they may just have a natural gift. However, we still have a shortage of qualified directors and in many cases, chapters are without a director. Here's a quick way to determine whether you or someone you know may have the inherent skills to become a fine director.

Identify your skills in each area

Place the number that most correctly corresponds to your level of interest/expertise next to each of the following skills, then add up your score at the bottom:

1 = Limited skills in this area

2 = Emerging skills, eager to learn more

3 = Solid skills, limited experience using them to help others in a musical setting

4 = Strong skills, have successfully used them to help others in a musical setting

Performance skills

- ☐ Solid understanding of the barbershop craft
- ☐ Ability to sing multiple parts
- ☐ Interpretive skills, instincts, and a hunger for hearing performances of all types
- ☐ Inquisitiveness about what arrangers and composers may have wished to communicate in their music and a fundamental ability to relate that intent to musicians and audiences
- ☐ The capacity to invoke a range of emotional responses, and the skill to create drama, contrast, and well-defined gestures in music, from the smallest detail to the overall shape of a song

Technical skills

- ☐ Aural skills to deal with problems of intonation, balance and color
- ☐ Skills in sight-reading
- ☐ Knowledge and understanding of the voice
- ☐ Skills in musical analysis based on competence in harmony, composition and musical structures
- ☐ Knowledge of the available repertoire, or at the very least, knowledge of where to find songs you want to review
- ☐ Knowledge of the history of barbershop music

Conducting skills

- ☐ Ability to maintain continuity of rhythm, line, structure, and interpretive integrity in the overall performance of a work while evoking and control-

organize a one day workshop for quartets, a Chorus Director Workshop Intensive, an Outstanding in Front workshop or an inter chapter meeting. These are high-impact events and short term providing opportunity for lots of positive results and celebration for all. Those who can plan and organize can lead.

- The program VP can invite a strong lead to sing a melody line next week so that men can woodshed to a new melody. Those who prepare in advance are those who can lead.
- A chapter president can invite a member to monitor the length of time he spoke during the business meeting. Those who can give clear feedback can lead. Those who seek feedback are great leaders.
- A director can invite each man to listen to the voices around him and then be prepared to tell those two or three what he liked about their voices. Those who can resist the desire to be critical are those who can lead.

The bottom line

Leaders can only be found if we are willing to step back, observe, create space and take risks. If we choose unwisely, our mistakes will teach us. However, when we find unpolished gems, think of the possibilities!

Leaders can only develop if we are willing to give them space to grow and learn. If a chorus is a one-person show, that is a disservice to the chorus. Each of us has the responsibility to cultivate and develop leaders for the future. Any director could be gone tomorrow. Then who carries on for the chapter? How can one imagine that he is the only one capable of leading?

Leaders can only grow if we send them to the best training opportunities in our divisions, districts and

Opportunities in your area!

Outstanding in Front. For new directors, assistants, director hopefuls or section leaders, Outstanding in Front is an excellent day-long skill-building workshop for anyone who stands in front of the chorus for a musical purpose. It can be taught at the chapter level, and with plenty of hands-on opportunities will make you more effective in:

- Conducting techniques
- Planning and executing an effective, compelling warm-up
- Vocal techniques and an approach to delivering small group voice lessons
- Developing a section team and holding a productive section rehearsal
- Leadership skills

To schedule a workshop in your District or chapter, contact your District VP of Chorus Director Development, or the Society Chorus Director Development Committee Vice Chair of Outstanding in Front, Steve Tramack, at stramack@gmail.com.

Chorus Director Workshop Intensive (CDWI). An intense one-day workshop for all levels of chorus directors. A process of discovery in which directors are able to discover their particular directing philosophies and then learn to better understand other approaches and their roles as directors of a barbershop chorus. They learn where their skills might be lacking and are given the chance to sharpen those areas under the guidance of highly skilled trainers.

To schedule a workshop in your District or chapter, please contact your District VP of Chorus Director Development or the Society Chorus Director Development Committee Vice Chair of CDWI, Bob Robson at bob.robson@shaw.ca. — Mike O'Neill, Chorus Director Development, Barbershop Harmony Society moneill@barbershop.org, 800-876-7464 x4126

Harmony University, where outstanding programs are available. Find your hidden gems, bring them into the light, and then polish them.

Directors and music team: True leadership means letting others bask in their success and watching them shine. The director and music team is then the mentor, adding value and making a lasting difference. Your men, chapter and the Society will be always grateful because you shared the spotlight. ■

ling response using gestures at all levels of musical detail

___ Ability to recognize, diagnose, and correct musical, interpretive, rhythmic, balance, and intonation problems in an efficient, sequential, and creative manner

___ Awareness of how the conductor's body language enhances the quality of music-making, as well as how it affects the physical and emotional well being of the singers

Discipline and integrity for artistic leadership

___ Ability and willingness to assume a creative leadership role within the chapter's complex structure of relationships

___ Confidence and integrity to make difficult decisions

___ Ability to communicate effectively with the singers of the chorus, both in and out of rehearsal

___ Ability to gain respect by leading through an example of creativity, knowledge and dedication

___ Adherence to principles of fairness and sensitivity in all personnel matters such as auditions, riser placement, etc.

___ Ability to advance chorus needs over personal ego

Ability to establish a vision

___ A passion for the chorus and its music and an ability to translate that passion into well-coordinated programs and activities that carries out the chorus' mission

___ The judgment, imagination, and practical sense to create balanced programs of significance to the ensemble, the occasion, and the community

___ Must have an alignment of the vision of the chapter and seek similar goals

___ Knowledge of current performance practices

Administrative skills

___ Functional knowledge of and respect for the chorus' administrative operation

___ Ability to work collaboratively with management, boards, volunteers, and members of the chorus

___ Thorough grounding in professional ethics

Add up your score

112 - 98: What are you waiting for? Find a chorus and direct!

97 - 77: You are an excellent candidate to direct a chorus. Start out as an assistant or section leader. Sign up for classes at HEP Schools, Directors College, etc. that will boost areas of limited skills or experience

76 - 57: Becoming a musical leader in your chapter is within reach. With some basic instruction, concentrated efforts on your weaker skill sets, and more time and experience, you could emerge as a strong musical leader.

56 or below: Keep being a great singing member of your barbershop chapter!

— Mike O'Neill



What did my contributions to Harmony Foundation accomplish through the Barbershop Harmony Society in 2008?

Program	Description	Program Expense	*Salary/ Fringe	Program Cost
Harmony University Scholarships	Music Educators 80% (24 on scholarship, 30 attendees) Directors College 42% (78 on scholarship, 186 attendees) Quartet College 25% (22 scholarships "Bring Your Baritone for Free") Harmony College Lou Perry Arrangers Scholarship awarded to one individual	66,875	18,346	85,221
Youth Harmony Workshops	13 events (first 3 quarters 2008) 2600 students, 85 teachers 7 events planned in 2009	17,440	7,421	24,861
Youth Chorus Festival	2008 Midwinter Convention 2008: 185 students in six choruses from U.S. and New Zealand 2009: 325 students in 11 choruses (registered) 100% increase	77,250	34,107	111,357
College Tour	Two College Quartet Tours 2008 Road Trip San Antonio, TX Men In Black Minneapolis, MN 1050 students, 14 teachers participated On Demand North Carolina Music Educator's Conference, NC Presentation by James Estes	8,037	3,960	11,997
CBQC	25 Quartets competed - Ringmasters won gold	46,065	17,803	63,868
College Chapter Support	Develop and work with youth chapters		3,960	3,960
MENC Convention	Exhibit/Present seminars	10,000	3,960	13,960
Youth Music Education	Travel to 150 schools, 3,000 students, 150 chapters	12,000	15,049	27,049
Music Published for Youth	Develop arrangements for youth	8,500	15,806	24,306
Harmony Explosion Camp	12 events (first 3 quarters 2008) 1045 students, 34 teachers 3 events scheduled so far (2009)	71,000	7,421	78,421
Music Educator Packets	Marketing materials for Music Educators	5,000		5,000
Barbershop Sheet Music	35,000 pieces distributed to high school music educators/students			
Total		\$322,167	\$127,833	\$450,000

*Direct expense of BHS implementing the program.



Harmony means the world to us.

Your support makes it possible for Harmony Foundation to bring music to life for kids—each and every day.

We couldn't do it without you! 🎵 One by one, Barbershoppers and enthusiasts are coming together to fund life-changing, proven education programs for young people. 🎵 Your support instills values and confidence, and ultimately, a life that lives up to it's full potential. 🎵 It's never been so easy to bring so much joy into a young persons life. 🎵 **THANK YOU!**

You deserve a real summer vacation!

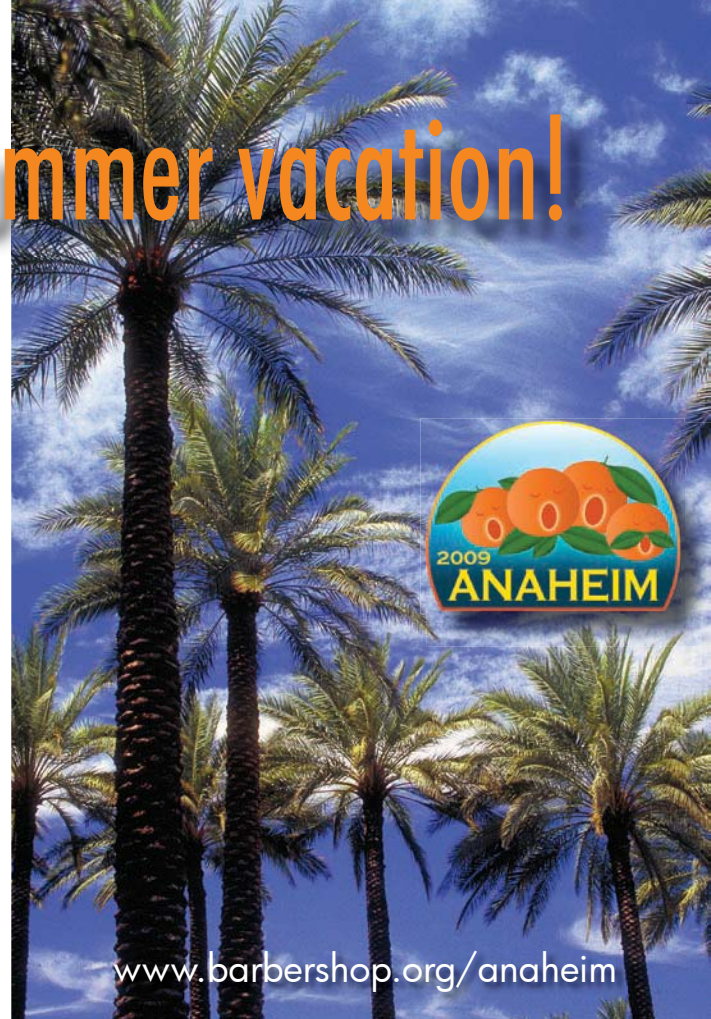
We've got the perfect time and place in the middle of California's playground. We've got the cheapest hotels in years (and prices dropping), air fares are great, and you'll get to experience a fantasy meeting of the champions that may never happen again!

Wanna get away? What a perfect time for a family vacation to one of the best vacation places in the country. And we can make it a whole lot more fun. There's no better way to spend your time, and no better place to spend the vacation you know you'll need!

You will be within walking distance of Disneyland, where we have arranged for a Tuesday "Barbershop Day at the Park" with discounted admission, lots of singing and lots of friends. You and your family can get away from the stresses of the day and go have *fun*. If you prefer, you can take one or more of the tours that have been arranged during the week—the Getty Museum, a trip to Catalina Island, or other relaxing opportunities. Or you can just lounge in the beautiful weather and visit with long time friends.

A drawing for free everything in Anaheim

How does free sound? Everyone registered by March 31 (not just postmarked, but purchased registrations with assigned seats) will be entered into a drawing for up to five *free* nights in one of our convention block hotels, *free* economy airfare for two from your



home city (not to exceed \$400 each) to Anaheim/Los Angeles, two tickets to the AIC Show, two tickets to the Harmony Foundation Show and two tickets to the World Harmony Jamboree show.

We really want to see you there, and *now* is the time! ■

The world's best three barbershop show choruses together in one historic event

Since 1990, barbershoppers have debated who would be tops if 7-time champion Masters of Harmony and 11-time champion The Vocal Majority went head-to-head. At the next "Harmony Foundation Presents ..." show (Saturday, July 4) you'll have your answer. Then again, the 2004 champion Ambassadors of Harmony, who have finished within a rounding error of winning the past two international championships, believe they hold the answer! All will perform full show sets rather than contest sets and there won't be any judges in the pit—but the 400+ guys on stage will wink when they say it's no competition! And wait until you hear all the voices combine! Vocal Spectrum, Max Q, OC Times and Sweet Adelines Champs The Harborlites also appear! Go to www.barbershop.org/anaheim to get your tickets for this historic occasion, with all proceeds going to Harmony Foundation to fund the Society's youth programs.

Webcast: \$99 includes 30 hours audio/video and delayed viewing. Watch in full-screen mode for \$99 or catch just the audio for \$10. Watch for details in coming issues of *Livewire* and *The Harmonizer*. Contact twilson@barbershop.org or call 800-876-7464 x4136 for more info.

Major events

All events at the Honda Center unless otherwise noted

Tuesday, June 30

7:30 p.m. Larry Ajer Show
(Hilton – California Ballroom)

Wednesday, July 1

11:00 a.m. Quartet Quarter Finals Session # 1
6:00 p.m. Quartet Quarter Finals Session # 2

Thursday, July 2

11:00 a.m. Quartet Semi Finals
4:30 p.m. World Harmony Dinner Show
(Hilton – California Ballroom)
7:45 p.m. AIC Show

Friday, July 3

10:00 a.m. Chorus Finals Session #1
6:00 p.m. Chorus Finals Session #2

Saturday, July 4

9:00 a.m. Bank of America Collegiate
Barbershop Quartet Contest-
Harmony Foundation Presents ...
2:00 p.m. Quartet Finals
7:15 p.m. Quartet Finals

Great tours available—sign up at www.pra-tours.com/barbershop by June 15

A professional tour company has contracted with the Society to provide tours to attendees at Society conventions, with bus pickup from the headquarters hotel included in the cost. A short summary of the the tours follows below. Go to www.pra-tours.com/barbershop to see all scheduled tour dates and costs. A minimum number of attendees is required for each tour to operate, so please sign up early to guarantee the success of each tour. Deadline for sign-up is June 15.

Cruisin' The OC. Explore Southern California's most popular beach communities—Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Corona Del Mar and Laguna Beach. Guests may enjoy wandering through the many art galleries or window-shopping at the stylish boutiques.

A Presidential Peek. The Richard Nixon Library & Birthplace includes 22 high-tech galleries, movie and interactive video theaters, the spectacular First Lady's Garden, the President's faith-



fully restored 1910's birthplace and The Watergate Gallery, which is the largest exhibit dedicated to a single subject.

Mission San Juan Capistrano. The second most painted venue in California, the Mission also contains the Serra Chapel (oldest building in California), remnants of an 18th-century Spanish encampment, and other historical points of interest.

The Glitz And Glamour ... An Inside Look. The Historic Hollywood Tour is a one-hour walking tour with inside looks at some of Hollywood's most well known movie palaces, including Disney's El

Capitan Theater, Grauman's Egyptian Theatre, and Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Then it's on to Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills.

Best Of Orange County. Visit Roger's Gardens, a 7-acre landscape display, nursery, and interior design studio; Sherman Library and Gardens, then Balboa Island. Includes one-hour cruise of Newport Harbor.

Catalina – California's Fantasy Island. Only 26 miles away and two hours by boat, enjoy a European village atmosphere, stroll the waterfront, or take a glass bottom boat tour!

The Getty Center. The J. Paul Getty Center is a 110-acre, six-building art complex in the Santa Monica Mountains. European roots are joined by ancient and modern works of Latin America, Africa and the Far East.

Sign up at www.pra-tours.com/barbershop or call 619-849-6290 and leave a voice message.

Exhibitor space still available! Contact Dusty Schleier, Assist. Director of Events at 800-876-7464 x4116, dschleier@barbershop.org



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



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

TYPE	RATE	QTY	TOTAL
Starting January 16, 2009	\$ 165.00		\$
On-site in Anaheim	\$ 175.00		\$
Child (12 & under) Starting January 16, 2009	\$ 82.50		\$
Child (12 & under) On-site in Anaheim	\$ 87.50		\$
Convenience Fee (per ticket)	\$ 4.75		\$
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: _____ ☐ AISQC - Year Champion: _____
☐ President's Council - Membership Level: _____ ☐ Society VIP/Position: _____

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/anaheim

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

Email: events@barbershop.org

Special Requests: _____



GENERAL HOUSING HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____
Guest Name (first) _____ (last) _____
Share with _____
E-mail _____
Daytime Phone _____ Fax _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____ ZIP/Postal Code _____

HOTEL PREFERENCE

(see list at right)

**MAXIMUM 2 ROOMS
MAY BE REQUESTED**

1st _____
2nd _____
3rd _____

ROOM TYPE

Number of guests ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4
Number of beds ☐ 1 ☐ 2

SPECIAL REQUESTS

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

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder Name _____

Signature _____

ANAHEIM HOTEL INFORMATION

Because all the hotels are in very close proximity to the headquarters hotel, there will not be regular shuttle bus service to the Hilton. Plan on walking to the Hilton to get to Registration/Marketplace/Exhibitors and also for riding the bus to the Honda Center. Special needs will be addressed on a case by case basis.

HOTEL	Sgl/Dbl	ExPer	Suites	Parking
Anabella Hotel	\$112	\$15	none	\$10/none
Clarion Hotel	\$109	\$0	none	\$2/none
Hilton Anaheim Hotel*	\$141 \$131	\$30	\$250/\$450	\$15/\$18
Anaheim Marriott Hotel	\$121	\$20	\$470/592	\$20/\$27
Red Lion Hotel	\$116	\$10	219/none	\$14/none
Sheraton Park Hotel	\$121	\$10	\$250/TBD	\$14/\$18
Travelodge Hotel	\$ 89	\$ 5	\$119/\$159	Free

*The Hilton Anaheim Hotel is the headquarters hotel. The Hilton also has other room types at slightly higher rates.

Room tax for all hotels is 15% per day plus \$0.40 local fee plus \$.06 per night occupancy tax.

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

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

Reservations can be made by the following methods:

INTERNET: Hotel reservations can be processed online after March 1, 2009, at www.barbershop.org/anaheim. *This is the quickest and most effective method.*

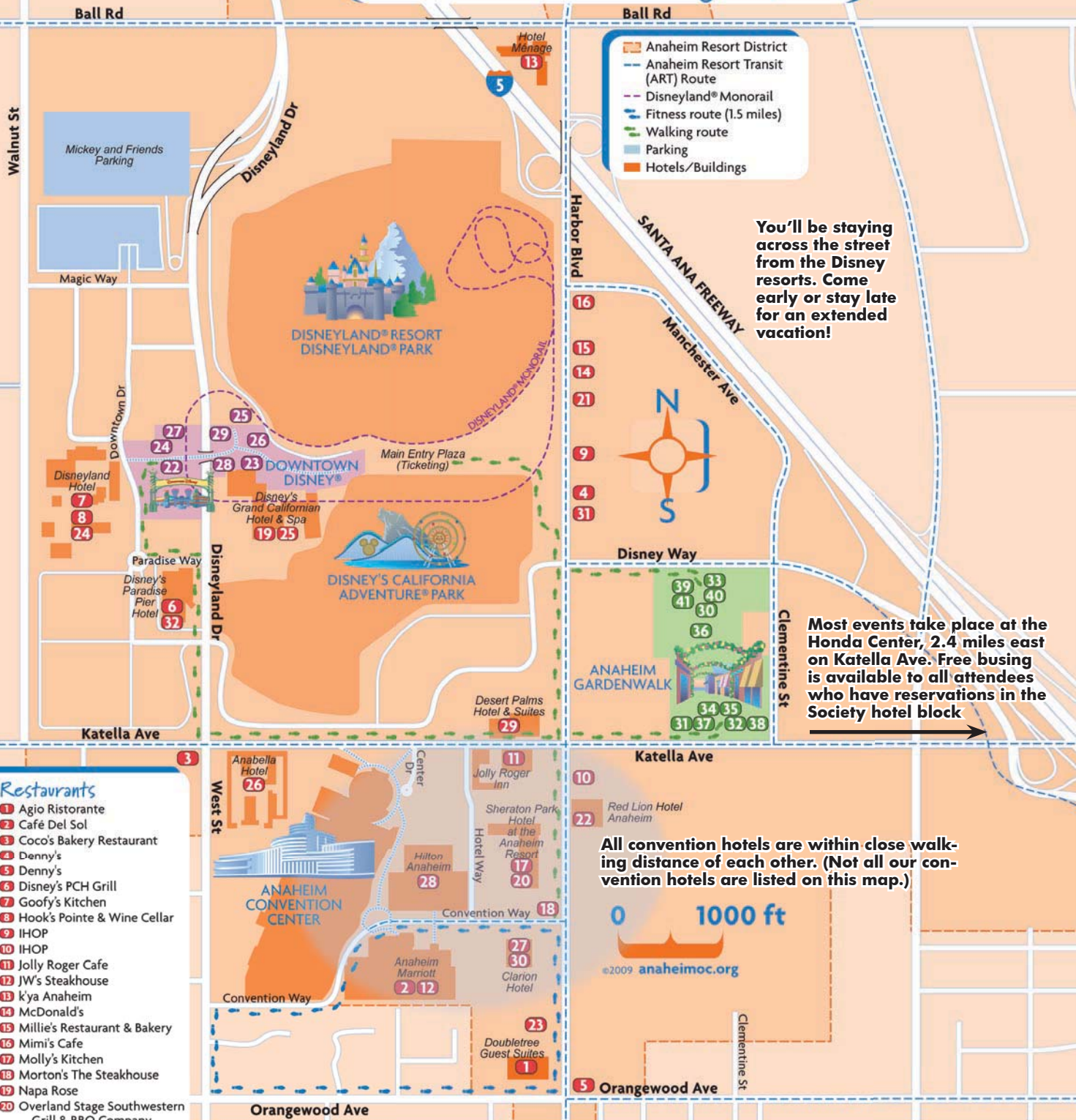
PHONE: Call the AOCVB Housing Bureau Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (PST) at (714) 765-8868.

FAX: Fax completed form to (714) 776-2688.

MAIL: Send completed form to Barbershop AOCVB Housing Bureau, 800 W. Katella Ave., PO Box 4270, Anaheim, CA 92803.

DEADLINE: June 12, 2009. After June 12, please contact hotel directly with all new reservations, changes, and cancellations.

Anaheim Resort® Walking Map



Restaurants

- 1 Agio Ristorante
- 2 Café Del Sol
- 3 Coco's Bakery Restaurant
- 4 Denny's
- 5 Denny's
- 6 Disney's PCH Grill
- 7 Goofy's Kitchen
- 8 Hook's Pointe & Wine Cellar
- 9 IHOP
- 10 IHOP
- 11 Jolly Roger Cafe
- 12 JW's Steakhouse
- 13 K'ya Anaheim
- 14 McDonald's
- 15 Millie's Restaurant & Bakery
- 16 Mimi's Cafe
- 17 Molly's Kitchen
- 18 Morton's The Steakhouse
- 19 Napa Rose
- 20 Overland Stage Southwestern Grill & BBQ Company
- 21 Quiznos
- 22 Pickford's Restaurant
- 23 Ruth's Chris Steak House
- 24 Steakhouse 55
- 25 Storyteller's Cafe
- 26 Tangerine Grill & Patio
- 27 The Mexicana Cafe & Cantina
- 28 The Mix
- 29 The Sandbox Bar & Grille
- 30 Tivoli Gardens Café
- 31 Tony Roma's
- 32 Yamabuki

Downtown Disney

- 22 AMC Theatre
- 23 Catal Restaurant & Uva Bar
- 24 ESPN Zone
- 25 House of Blues
- 26 Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria
- 27 Rainforest Cafe
- 28 Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen
- 29 Tortilla Jo's

Anaheim GardenWalk

- 30 Bar Louie
- 31 Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.
- 32 California Pizza Kitchen
- 33 Heat Ultra Lounge
- 34 McCormick & Schmick's Grille
- 35 P. F. Chang's China Bistro
- 36 Pop the Cork Wine Bar

- 37 Roy's Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine
- 38 The Cheesecake Factory
- 39 Cinemafusion 14/IMAX
- 40 24 Hour Fitness
- 41 300 Anaheim Bowling & Entertainment Center

All locations within approximately 20 minutes walking distance.



WORLDHARMONY JAMBOREE THE DINNER SHOW

**ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA, JULY 2, 2009, 4:30-6:30 PM
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PART 1

We're little but we're **LOUD!**

We asked chapters with fewer than 30 members what they do that keeps members fulfilled and coming back every week. See if you get any ideas!

Apple Valley Chapter (California)

Making a big difference in their community

Located in the high desert area of Southern California, the **Apple Valley Chapter** is among the smaller chapters in the Far Western District. Our current membership is 18, composed mostly of retired men ranging in age 41 to 87. Every member is an active part of our chapter chorus known as the **Hi-Country Harmonaires**.

Meeting variety. Our chapter meetings are organized to teach and practice the Barbershop style of singing. Typically we have a warm-up period prior to the chorus practice session, which lasts about an hour and a half, followed by a business session and a break. After the break we have a program of about an hour, consisting of pick-up quartets, round robins, and various other activities involving quartets. During the program portion, every member is encouraged to participate and every guest is invited to take part if he chooses. When organized quartets are present, they are always given time to “do their stuff.”

Found the right director, trained her in barbershop.

Our chorus director is Kristen Taylor, a professional musician trained as a classical pianist, with many years' experience directing church choirs. Since joining our chapter in 2004, she has attended Director's College twice, FWD Harmony College twice, and two CDWIs. Although she had no prior exposure to the Barbershop style, she quickly fell in love with the sound. Kristen has an engaging personality, great sense of humor, and an easy-going temperament. In a relatively short time, she has changed us from a bunch of guys sort of “gang singing” to a well-trained chorus, in demand throughout the high desert.

Community involvement. We provide regular entertainment for civic groups, service clubs, schools, churches and private groups. In the first nine months of 2008 we had already logged 27 performances in addition to 34 Singing Valentines.

Building music in schools. Our charity is the distribution of the “Get America Singing ... Again” songbooks with assistance from Harmony Foundation. Only a few of our local elementary schools have vocal music programs, so we decided to encourage more through the distribution of this great resource. So far, we have provided more than 400 music books to our local schools at no charge.

We don't measure our success by the number of men in the chapter, our competitive position in the district, or the amount of money we receive in donations, but by the number of smiling faces we see among our audiences and by the enthusiasm of the members in performing for our friends and neighbors.

— Buford Strange,
hicountryharmonaires@yahoo.com



Soundworks (Richmond, Va.)

Structured more like a large quartet than a chorus, success came immediately

When you watch Soundworks perform, you'll see a directorless, riserless chorus, not something commonly seen in the barbershopping community. But the **James River Chapter** chorus **Soundworks** has won the Mid-Atlantic District chorus division title for three years running. Established in 2004, the 20 active members wanted something different from what they had experienced in traditional barbershop chapters. They have enjoyed immediate success by choosing to work at their craft in pursuit of performance excellence.

The chapter subscribes to the principles championed by Chuck Greene the need for new and creative barbershop chapters that are relevant to today's performers and audiences alike—the need to have different kinds of chapters where everyone is getting what he wants for his time and where everyone has an important role other than a spot on the risers.

Focus on the music. After all, isn't that why we're here? When choices are made among competing chorus demands, music quality always wins. Song selections must match the group's ability and must match the relaxed, unforced vocal style that produces a rich resonance that is naturally consistent from singer to singer.

Distributed leadership.

Is Soundworks truly directorless? Maybe to the audience, but behind the scenes, Soundworks relies upon six talented chorus

members who guide each song. Each guides the group toward realizing a coherent vision for his assigned song, assisted by open feedback. The challenge is to make the song "directorless," the point when chorus members take



complete ownership of the phrasing, dynamics and vocal quality. All chorus members are encouraged to lead the development of other pieces, a practice that fosters ownership and raises the overall musical quality of the chapter and its members.

Outside coaching. Soundworks brings in coaching whenever possible, believing outside perspectives continually "grow" the group. The chapter is pleased to have formed a partnership with the **Alexandria Harmonizers** and their director Joe Cerutti. Their work with Joe over the past 24 months has been extremely valuable and challenged Soundworks, individually and collectively, to strive for musical excellence and accept nothing less.

Philosophy of careful member selection. Members are selected not only for their vocal ability but for their commitment and ability to learn rapidly. It is not uncommon for new songs to be rolled out bi-weekly or even weekly. There is always a new song in the queue, keeping the repertoire fresh and providing a wanted challenge. Words and notes are learned on the members' own time with rehearsal time dedicated to interpretation and vocal production.

Focus on the quartet. The chorus operates like a large quartet, with chorus members learning and executing their responsibilities as one would in a quartet. The lead section truly leads the song, both melodically and in interpretation. The group relies on physical and vocal cues for starts and stops. The chorus uses their bodies to guide the dynamics and breath marks. As in a quartet, there is a high degree of trust that other members are filling their responsibility. Quartet-style balance and respect for the



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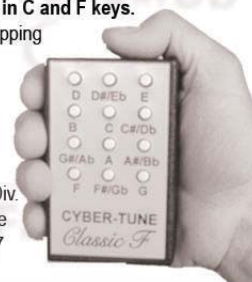


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“featured part” are emphasized.

Always ready to innovate. Soundworks performs many music styles, keeping the music relevant for members and audiences alike. In addition to barber-shop, they feel equally at home with seven-part jazz arrangements and Biebl’s eight-part “Ave Maria.” This flexibility challenges and satisfies chorus members while making them stronger barbershoppers, and has proven to be quite a crowd pleaser.

A learning organization. Constant growth and chal-

lenge means making last year’s new techniques become this year’s baseline. Techniques learned in one song must transfer to the other songs. For example, Soundworks struggled with achieving directorless end-phrase synchronicity last year. Now that it has become second nature new challenges await. Members have had to learn to become comfortable taking feedback, which is not as easy as it sounds.

— Brian Chopp,
bchopp@cox.net

Kaskaskia Trail Chorus (Waterloo, Ill.)

In every thing they do, camaraderie is king

While rehearsing a song, director Mark Heise cuts us off at measure 15 as the parts start to syncopate. As he explains with an exhausted smile, the problem is the song does not call for syncopation ... one part is a beat late!

As we muse on which part was the culprit, the stillness is broken by Ray Bense as he cracks a groaner of a joke as only he could. His baritone partner, Glen Lutz, rolls his eyes with a grin as an anonymous Ray impersonation of “don’t worry about it!” comes from one of our 21 members. This is met with rousing laughter, including Barry Hoffmann’s signature guffaws that could be heard through a Midwest tornado siren. After reveling at our amusement, we return to measure 15.

This is a typical meeting of the **Kaskaskia Trail Chorus**, where a few jokes, ribbings, and town news are intertwined with the harmonizing sounds of rehearsal. Beyond the rehearsals, there are the

sing-outs at the nursing homes, churches, county fairs, baseball games, and community nights at the courthouse. The chorus’ program of donating to and visiting



the local high school choral departments begins with the start of school. As our annual show in November gets closer, the stoppages lessen as we concentrate on memorization and Glen’s infamous “choreography.” However, through all of this, the camaraderie remains.

All the members share connections

with one another, whether it be Mark and Derek Heise joking with their dad, Jim; Dwight Asselmeier and Barry singing in the same church choir; Bob Baltz and

Bob Weis exchanging stories on their ride from Millstadt; Rick Steingrubey sharing a story with his father, Rich ... the list goes on. The chorus also takes pride in the fact that Rich, George Ziegler and Wilbert Kohlmeier are charter members from 1966.

For the Kaskaskia Trail Chorus, passages are not marked with time but with members. The annual fall picnic finds our children and grandchildren playing together as we woodshed and reminisce. We’ve sung “Heart of My Heart” at Don Doerr’s wedding, “Always” at Ray’s children’s weddings, and sadly “Precious Lord” at too many of our brothers’ funerals.

The formula is easy, but hard to replicate. A 40+-year bond of friendship and community service woven with a love for music is what makes the Kaskaskia Trail Chorus successful.

— Mark Juelfs,
mjuelfs10@hotmail.com

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Mark Twain chapter (Elmira, N.Y.)

Growing older can include growing larger

Although presently small in numbers, members of the **Mark Twain Chapter** are extremely proud of the fact it has been in existence for 54 continuous years! An active core of stalwart members includes two 50+ year members, Al Dalrymple and Jim Cole. Al also claims the distinction of being the only active charter member. Both Al and Jim are baritones, which further proves their selfless dedication ...

New and returning members. Within the past year we have gained two new members and a now-retired former member. Most recently it was our good fortune to celebrate the return of former chorus director Nick DiLorenzo. Nick turbo-charges the chorus with a mixture of hard work, fun, and most importantly, enthusiasm.

Consistency in hard times. Even through difficult times, hard work, fun and enthusiasm have typically been the cement that has held the Mark Twain Chapter together. With few exceptions, the chapter has held

The Mark Twain Chorus joined with members from the Painted Post, N.Y. and Hornell, N.Y. chapters for a combined Christmas program.



an annual show. The chapter's 2008 show featured the **Troubadors** from Binghamton, N.Y. The chapter is also very active in Singing Valentines, and earns extra money in the summer working in race sponsors' hospitality tents at Watkins Glen International. The chapter has had as many as four

registered quartets at one time. There is presently one registered quartet, **Exchequer**, and a novice quartet that we hope will soon become registered.

Charitable work. On the local level, the Mark Twain Chapter helps support two important charitable organizations. The first is the Arctic League, founded in the early 1900s to distribute toys to needy children at Christmas. The name was the brain-child of a "hot stove league" of local businessmen. In addition to financial aid, the Mark Twain Chorus also performs during the Arctic League's annual Christmas Telethon. The second charity is the local Children's Miracle Network, which also results in print and/or TV publicity for the chapter and the Society.

Maintaining organization and a sense of purpose. In addition to hard work and fun, we have always maintained a slate of officers and regular board meetings. Although there is some overlapping, we also have working committees such as a show committee and music committee.

The hard work of an outstanding chapter member is recognized each year with a BOTY award presented at our annual Installation of Officers dinner. In 2006, member Butch Talada was also awarded the Seneca Land District BOTY. His major efforts at the district level have included Chairman of the Seneca Land Endowment Fund, and VP of Membership Development.

This is how we continue to succeed. We all love our wonderful singing hobby and we work to keep it alive! ■

— Bob Kelchner,
jaybobb35@aol.com

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Pictured are 16 of the 28 members of the Western Hospitality Singers who will be attending Harmony University this year, learning together in the all-week quartet track



Entire chapter going to Harmony U!



The idea had been percolating since Harmony College 1971 at Dominican College in Racine, Wis. Wouldn't it be nice if all of our **Western Hospitality Singers** chorus members could have been here? How can this total barbershop experience be taken home intact? The thousands of Harmony College attendees over the years know the answer ... it can't.

The thought never went away for our Calgary, Alb. chapter, then in 2007, Jim Henry's keynote address gave it legs. Jim spoke passionately about our music as a ministry of love and about how we are able to give out and receive the most precious gold medal: Sharing our gift of music in ways that elevate both listeners and performers. Our quartet, **Timelines**, went home with a bag full of those gold medals and we may have handed out a few as well. What if *our* chorus could experience this sharing with the kind of intensity the quartet-coaching track offers at Harmony U? "What if?" became "Why not?"

We learned that indeed our entire chorus could take the week-long quartet track. Our performance development team gave the idea the thumbs up, the board unanimously approved, and after family consultation, 28 of 29 members committed,

with two more new members possibly joining us. What do we hope to gain? Beyond the obvious desire to perform at higher levels, we hope to go back home with wheelbarrows full of Jim Henry's gold medals to relish and to hand out with impunity to audiences of all kinds. We hope to spread the love for what we do to new singers. We expect to grow.

Our chapter has an active membership of about 30. We operate with a high level of trust and love. Our administration places music ahead of money. The chapter paid the tuition for all, and we find our own way to Missouri. We've supported Sing Canada and they kicked in with substantial support. We are excited.

Look for us at Harmony University this summer. We'll be the guys probably shouting some cowboy tunes over ice cream! ■

— Randy Peters, Director, Western Hospitality Singers, Calgary, Alb.

Harmony Brigade is back at Harmony U!

If you can learn and quartet challenging arrangements made famous by medalists—and would love to quartet them all day and into the night with equally prepared singers—get ready for Harmony University's Extreme Quartetting Brigade's return to Harmony U.

2009 Repertoire (as sung by ...)

When My Baby Smiles At Me (Michigan Jake)
I Can't Give You Anything But Love (PLATINUM)
My Honey's Lovin' Arms (Bluegrass Student Union)
The Way You Look Tonight (Platinum)
I Told Them All About You/You Dear (Bluegrass Student Union)
Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams (Michigan Jake)
Old Cape Cod (Chiefs of Staff)
Sold (OC Times)
Dinah (Michigan Jake)
When I Lift Up My Head (Nightlife)

Participation is by application only. Link to the application form at www.barbershop.org/musicEdHarmonyUniversity.aspx. The sooner you apply, the sooner you can start learning if accepted!



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Get American Harmony to your town!

What's all the hubbub about *American Harmony*? See for yourself? Go to americanharmonythemovie.com and turn up your speakers. Click on "View Trailer" and get an absolutely thrilling couple of minutes of fun and music. Barbershop music. Audiences that have seen the movie agree it is exciting and full of our music and fun.

How to get it to your town

There's *no financial risk* to your chapter and selling regular-priced theater tickets will be an easier sell than selling your shows or Singing Valentines. The film producers have a distributor who will work with the local theaters to get the film shown in your local cineplex, just like *Star Wars* or *Gone With the Wind*.

The distributor just wants a general idea of the market for the film in your area, and so needs to have you tell him a "rough estimate" of the tickets you can sell. If your chapter says it can sell 300 tickets, he will design a marketing plan that is much different than if your chapter says it can sell 1,000 tickets, but in either case he will get the movie to the market and shown. This is a good-faith estimate you should work hard to meet. If you don't meet the number you estimate, there is no penalty.

So, again, here's what we're doing, and asking you to do:

1. Get excited about the movie—we are!
2. Estimate how many folks you think will come see it through your efforts—members, friends, family and patrons.
3. Tell us how many that is at www.barbershop.org/americanharmony.
4. The distributor will do

all the rest—find a date, book the theater, advertise locally. (They plan to distribute in Canada, too!)

5. You get your folks to buy vouchers for the show at prevailing theater prices in your area—the distributor will help you. And some proceeds from the movie will go back to Harmony Foundation to fund the Society's youth programs.
6. The movie will come to your town. Maybe you can get the chorus or a good

quartet to sing in the lobby. Put up posters advertising your chapter, upcoming show, etc.

7. Hundreds of non-barbershoppers come to the show, due to both

your efforts and the distributor's advertising efforts.

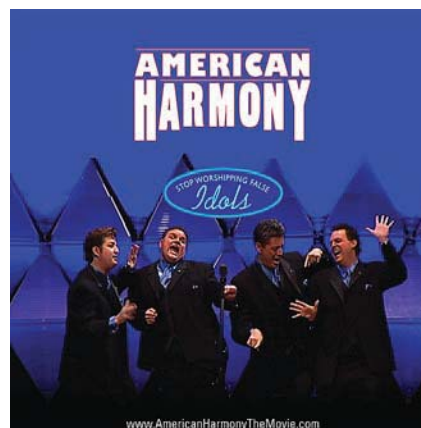
8. You get great publicity, sell some show tickets, get your name out in the community, get some free publicity.

9. Everyone goes home happy and you begin to see guests showing up at your shows and (if you made a reasonable PR effort) at your

chapter meetings, asking how they can join. Sounds like a great idea to me! ■



Ed Watson
CEO,
Barbershop
Harmony
Society



Unsolicited plug from film critic Chris Gore

The son of famed Vagabonds lead Denny Gore knows of his father's barbershop background but has never so much as been to a barbershop contest. But the independent film author and on-air personality recently saw *American Harmony* at the Boulder Film Festival and couldn't wait to call his father about it. "He talked about how the film followed three quartets' fortunes in contest and how exciting it was to watch what they went through," Gore reports. "He said it was the best film at the festival. And he's not easily impressed. He can't wait to have a copy of the movie in his collection."

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This is a great film and is fun for the whole family!

Here's what we're asking you to do:

1. Watch the trailer at www.americanharmonythemovie.com
2. Talk to members and leaders of your chapter to estimate how many folks you think will come see it through your efforts – members, friends, family, and patrons
3. Register your chapter to participate at www.barbershop.org/americanharmony; tell the distributor your preferred screening date and projected attendees
4. The distributor will do all the rest, including booking the appropriate venue

The icing on the cake:

- A portion of the proceeds will now be shared with Harmony Foundation and Sing Canada Harmony, benefiting the Society's youth outreach activities
- Your chapter can raise some funds and awareness for barbershop in your community



Youth in Harmony Challenge 3

Easy but meaningful tasks to help youth start singing barbershop harmony

Spring is almost here! Music festivals and theater performances are in full swing, and many school music programs are gearing up for their final concerts and graduation ceremonies. Some teachers have even begun planning for next school year already. What has your chapter done to assist your local school music programs? Many school districts are facing budget cuts that have decimated—in some cases, eliminated—their music programs. We can help them! Remember, to complete the Youth In Harmony Challenge you only need to accomplish one of the tasks below by May 1. Send an e-mail to youthchallenge@barbershop.org once you've completed the task to have your chapter listed in an upcoming *Harmonizer*.

- Write a letter on behalf of your chapter, and send to your local school district board in support of school music programs.
- Donate sheet music (or funds for sheet music) to a local school to help them with music for next school year.
- Attend a spring concert with several of your fellow chapter members. Be sure to send a "congratulations" letter on behalf of the chapter to the school music teacher. ■

James Estes
Society Music
Specialist,
Student
Activities
Development
jestes@barbershop.org



Congratulations to the chapters below who reported back after completing the first "Challenge" from the Sept./Oct. 2008 issue!

- Ocean County, N.J.
- Central Alabama, Ala.
- Bucks County, Penn.
- Placerville, Calif.
- Sterling Rock Falls, Ill.
- Palomar Pacific, Calif.
- Cornwall, Ont.
- Zanesville, Ohio
- Lorain, Ohio
- Greendale, Wisc.

Text of January's Membership task force appeal by Society President Bill Biffle

The following letter was sent in January to all Society members with known e-mail addresses:

Gentlemen, your Society needs your help. It is obvious that if we are going to survive as a Society and if barbershop harmony is to continue to enrich the lives of men all over the world, we must identify, confront, and solve—once and for all—the issues causing the membership decline that we are experiencing. As your president, I'm making this my first priority for 2009 and beyond.

Our staff and Society committees are hard at work on this problem—and they're making good progress toward an eventual solution. But I want to see what we—you and I—can do to help them succeed even sooner. To that end, I'm asking the Society Board to authorize the creation of a task force to create an



overall membership growth strategy—a strategy against which every decision we make as members, as a board, as district and chapter leaders, as musicians, as volunteers, and as paid staff can be judged—a strategy against which every program can be assessed, every communication can be compared, every marketing effort can be examined. The task force will examine the factors that are contributing to our decline (market conditions), assess the current state of our chapters and their product (what we're selling), scrutinize our marketing efforts (how we're selling it) and recommend what more we can do to turn our membership decline around.

I know that we have over 27,000 committed, experienced, knowledgeable, creative, and smart barbershoppers out there, a few of whom should be involved

in this process. Should you? Do you know of someone else who should? If so, let me know who you—or they—are and tell me why you or they should be involved in this vital, transformational project.

I intend to have this task force hard at work by the end of February and receive their report before the end of the year. So send me your ideas and your suggested task force members as soon as possible at bbiffle@barbershop.org.

We are privileged to be members of the greatest fraternal musical organization in the history of the world—an experience that has enriched our lives immeasurably. Let's make sure that our grandchildren's grandchildren will have that chance, too.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this. If we work "together in harmony" we are sure to succeed! ■

— Bill Biffle, President,
Barbershop Harmony Society

District Quartet CHAMPIONS



65 South (CAR)

Will Daniel Mudd-Simmons (T), Aaron Dale (L), Chris Gregory (BS), James Pennington (Br)

Contact: James (859) 539-3644, 65southqt@gmail.com



The Nashville Singers (DIX)

Ryan Killeen (L), David Carden (Bs), Dusty Schleier (Br), Rick Spencer (T)

Contact: Rick, (860) 305-0539, thenashvillesingers@gmail.com



Crossroads (CSD)

Fred Farrell (T), Mike Slamka (L), Jim Henry (Bs), Brandon Guyton (Br)

Contact: Fred Farrell, 239-590-0498, crossroadsquartet@gmail.com
www.crossroadsquartet.com



3 Outta Four (EVG)

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

Contact: Ian (503) 312-0070, ianmchristensen@hotmail.com
www.3outtafour.com



Masterpiece (FWD)

Alan Gordon (Br), Brett Littlefield (Bs), Mark Hale (L),
Rob Menaker (T)
Contact: Rob, (310) 327-3788, robmenaker@gmail.com
www.harmonize.com/Masterpiece/



Cadillac Jack (JAD)

Steve Kovach (Br), Richard Brooks (Bs), Michael Harrison (L),
Carl J. Cash III (T)
Contact: Steve (330) 419-1863, skovachjr@gmail.com
harmonize.com/cadillacjack



Rushstreet (ILL)

Pat Henders (Br), Steve Woods (T), Mike Woods (L), Duane Fenn (Bs)
Contact: Mike, (847) 415-2821, laura_mike@comcast.net
www.rushstreetquartet.com



Our Town (NED)

Scott Brannon (L), Larry Tully (Br), Terry Clarke (Bs), Jamie Carbone (T)
Contact: Terry (617) 872-6282, tclarke@clarkecommgroup.com



Old School (MAD)

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



X-factor (LOL)

Keith Olson (T), Seth Fetzer (L), Tim Milbrandt (Bs), Brent Graham (Br)
Contact: Tim, (507) 990-2605, tmilbrandt@gmail.com



Nitro (ONT)

Lee Sperry (L), Erik Deland (Br), Jean Sauve (Bs), Stephen Picky (T)
 Contact: Erik (416) 225-0053, info@nitroquartet.com
www.nitroquartet.com



Something BIG!! (PIO)

Don Terpe (T), Jason Kerschke (L), T.R. Gerard (Bs), Steve Warnaar (Br)
 Contact: T.R. Gerard (517) 256-1093, trgerard@usa.net



McPhly Quartet (RMD)

Ryan Wilson (Br), Curtis Terry (L), Travis Tabares (Bs), Brian Fox (T)
 Contact: Curtis (720) 364-5800, curlymt@comcast.net



Bravo! (SLD)

Dan Driscoll (T), Don Drake (L), Dave White (Bs), Rob Hopkins (Br)
 Contact: Don (315) 822-6435, dondrake@windstream.net



Speakeasy (SWD)

Justin Oxley (T), Bret Morris (L), Brett Howell (Bs), Ronald M. Rogers (Br)
 Contact: Justin (210) 481-1054, joxley5@sbeglobal.net
www.myspace.com/speakeasyquartet



On Demand (SUN)

Tristan St. John (T), Paul Saca (L), Amos Velez (Bs), Jamie Breedon (Br)
 Contact: Jamie (904) 497-2774; jmsvocalist@yahoo.com



Aloha Chapter hosts the Pacific Rim

Barbershoppers from all corners of the Pacific Ocean converged on Honolulu this October for a major convention hosted by the 60 active members of the **Aloha Chapter**. Starting after the Sweet Adelines convention on October 30, the fifth Pan-Pacific Convention lasted four days and featured 17 choruses, 25 quartets and three mixed harmony groups representing New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Alaska, Vancouver, Hawaii, and the California west coast. More than 850 attendees registered.

In 1994, the **Sounds of Aloha** chorus traveled to

PHOTOS BY JOHN WOOLDRIDGE



Pride of Auckland Chorus



Northern Regional Chorus



Sydney Harmony Chorus

Auckland, N.Z. and co-launched the first Pan Pacific hosted by the **City of Sails** chorus, which was held concurrently with the NZABS national convention. The second convention was held in 1998 in Honolulu, then Melbourne in 2001 and Christchurch, N.Z. in 2004.

The 2008 convention was the first year for double panel of judges, multiple Japanese choruses, and

regional choruses made up of participants who were there without their chapters. Web-only registration in five currencies went smoothly and the convention theme song featured Hawaiian, Maori, Japanese and Aussie. All was done without the help of a professional convention planning company.

It was also the first Pan Pacific in which youth played a big role. Many young quartets competed and the **Pride of Auckland**, made up of 19 high school and college youth, was the Pan Pacific chorus champion and the hit of the convention.

Each country had a winner in some category. New Zealand took the gold in the open chorus, small chorus, and large chorus divisions as well as the novice quartet gold. The new chorus from Japan, the **Tokyo Metropolitan Chorus**, took the intermediate chorus gold. **Hi-Fidelity** from the FWD was the Pan Pacific quartet champion and **Vintage Gold** also from the FWD was the Senior Quartet winner. The Mixed Harmony gold went to **Double Shot** from Australia. **The Greater Vancouver Gentlemen of Fortune** from Canada was the bronze medalist chorus.

The final day of the convention attendees were able to get some Harmony College style barbershop training in seminar classes taught by Cindy Hansen, Ron Black, Rob Campbell and Drayton Justus. After four days of fun, fabulous singing, fellowship, and making new friends, the convention came to a close all too soon. ■

— Daniel Tom



Midnight Sons Chorus (Alaska)



Hi-Fidelity



Eight Feet Under



Ready Willing & Mabel



Tokyo Metropolitan Chorus



Y-Not Octet



Over the Edge



Happy Coats

Join your friends for some

Fun, Fun,
Fun

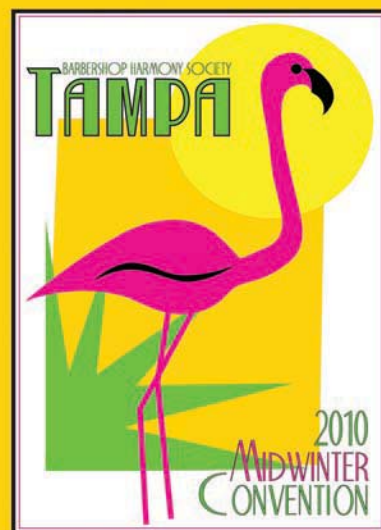


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Travel - In 2009 we are attending the Anaheim International Convention as a mic tester chorus for the chorus competition. We competed at the Far Western District in 2006, finished 6th and

were the Plateau AA champions. In 2004 we attended the 4th Pan Pacific Convention in New Zealand and in October 2008 we single-handedly played host to over 850 attendees for the 5th Pan Pacific Convention. We look forward to competing at the 6th Pan Pacific in Brisbane, Australia in 2011.

We have great annual shows featuring International Champion guest quartets, as well as a Christmas show and numerous community performances for the military, university, civic organizations, and care facilities.



**the
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Chorus**

Mail Resume To:
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Director Needed



Lincoln Nebraska's premier men's
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The chorus is a seventy-member chapter
in the Barbershop Harmony Society
and currently the 2008 Central States
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The new director should be a person
with some music education
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ensemble directing.

Apply by submitting a resume to
Lincoln Continentals Director Search Committee
P.O. Box 5472
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505
or e-mail
directorsearch@lincolncontinentals.org
no later than March 31, 2009

For information about the Lincoln Continentals,
visit our website: lincolncontinentals.org

Swipes 'n' Swaps

"New director" ads free in *The Harmonizer*. The first 50 words are free to Society chapters. Uniforms, risers and other chapter merchandise ads are \$50 per column inch. Send text or inquiries to harmonizer@barbershop.org. Find director search resources at www.barbershop.org/directsearch.aspx.

Director Needed

The **Aurora, Ill. Chapter** is small, enthusiastic, competent and has been around for 63 years in Northern Illinois. Looking for a new director with directing experience and strong music skills. Must be friendly and outgoing, equally enthusiastic and willing to work hard while having a lot of fun! Contact John Parker, orclwzrd@yahoo.com.

Wanted: Front-line director who desires to live in beautiful semi-rural San Luis Obispo County, midway between L.A. and San Francisco; direct a competent group of singers who seek constant improvement; and be a member of a healthy chapter with a proud tradition of performance and hospitality. Contact, John Staley, MVP, at (805) 481-8291, jpstaley@aol.com.

The Kansas City Chorus (Sweet Adelines) is seeking a dynamic, positive individual with solid leadership/management skills and a strong knowledge of the barbershop art form. The Kansas City Chorus has 130+ members and has placed in the Top 6 at International since 1990. Contact kcchorusdirectorsearch@kansascitychorus.com or visit kansascitychorus.com if interested in becoming part of an exciting new chapter in the life of this historic SAI chorus.

Pride of Baltimore Chorus (SAI). Three-time consecutive international silver medalist seeks director. The director of POB provides musical and artistic vision, leadership, inspiration and enthusiasm, and possesses the technical skills needed to continue the development of Pride's world-class musical program and unique sound. Email poblead@gmail.com.



¡Sí, cantamos barbershop en español!

SABS, the Spanish Association of Barber-shop Singers, has been formed thanks to a Madrid men's quartet, **The Investigators**, who have worked tirelessly to establish Spain's first official barbershop organization. Quartet member Nicolas (Nico) De las Peñas, SABS' new president, said the quartet took part in a Harmony College hosted by Society affiliate BinG! in Coesfeld, Germany, where 2003 international champion **Power Play** appeared.

The experience bowled them over and they returned to Madrid with the desire to create their own association. Through the Internet, they found other male and female barbershoppers in other parts of Spain—many were retired barbershoppers originally from the UK. SABS launched in December with 150 members, five choruses and four quartets.

On December 20, 2006 International Champion **Vocal Spectrum** performed at the best symphonic hall in the city as part of the Viamagna Festival then later at a private concert for the staff of a financial institution that supports the festival. This inaugural event will be supported by members of the **Spangles**, **Velvetones** and **Torre vieja Harmonis-**



SABS president Nicolas De las Peñas (center) averted near disaster when two members of the featured quartet for SABS televised kick-off events had their flights cancelled by December snowstorms. Fortunately, some phenomenally skilled subs joined Vocal Spectrum tenor Tim Waurick and lead Eric Dalby (right). Pitching in were U.S. barbershopper Mike Slamka (Crossroads, Power Play) and Swedish barbershopper Martin Whalgren (Ringmasters). The four quickly worked out a repertoire that reportedly blew away Spanish audiences.

ers choruses, based in Murcia and Valencia, and they enjoyed a SABS Jamboree with **Vocal Spectrum** before returning home.

"We look forward to forging links with our counterparts all over the world," said SABS public relations officer Lyn Baines. "As they say here in Spain" 'Que no cese de cantar el mundo entero'—Keep the Whole World Singing."

Read press releases, get up-to-date information and view thumbnail photos at www.sabs.es.

Retirees near Guadalajara are building a thriving mixed barbershop chorus

From this unhurried provincial outpost, surrounded by the Sierra Madre Mountains in southwest Mexico near the city of Guadalajara, come the sounds of barbershop singing. It must be **The Lakeside Harmonizers** or **The Quarternotes Quartet** entertaining some of the 40,000 retired citizens that reside near the north shore of Lake Chapala. The beauty, ideal climate, economical living, friendly people, and the incredible array of restaurants, activities and organizations attract many expats.

With this large collection of happy people it was only a matter of time until someone thought of organizing a barbershop group. Last summer, a mixed chorus and quartet were



The Lakeside Harmonizers

formed with an emphasis on having fun. They rehearsed once a week and ended the year with numerous Christmas holiday appearances, and invitations for more in 2009.

As with any retirement commu-



nity, locals do not have full time jobs or young children.

However, they do make trips to see family, they encounter health issues and some people travel from time to time. The loss of a few singers from the chorus is manageable, but it is a different story when a quartet loses members. Thus, they are increasing chorus numbers, have two conductors and are working toward a double quartet. They also plan on forming a Sweet Adelines quartet in the near future.

If you ever travel to Mexico, check them out! Contact Don Lott at tbonelott@hotmail.com or Audrey Hoffnung at abhoffnung@yahoo.com.



Southern Gateway borrows other styles' fans to gain new barbershop harmony fans

When the men of **Southern Gateway Chorus** took on a new project, they didn't just test the waters with one toe, they jumped in with both feet, — exposing a whole new audience to barbershop music in a 2,700-seat auditorium in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Aronoff Center's Procter & Gamble Hall was filled with the unaccompanied voices of five vocal arts groups performing eight diverse styles of music on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008. The a cappella concert hosted by the chapter was the signature event of Cincinnati's 20 Days & 20 Nights Festival of Arts and Culture. Joining Southern Gateway were the **Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers**, the **Christ Church Cathedral Faburden Chamber Ensemble**, the **Northern**



Team Cincinnati

taste as the five groups sang classical, sacred, jazz, pop, gospel, R&B, Broadway and patriotic music. Team Cincinnati performed their contest-winning "Flight of the Bumble Bee."

"I'm thrilled with the results. We exposed a huge audience of a cappella music lovers to a barbershop chorus performance for the first time. We now have an expanded fan base for our shows, and new interest in membership."

The Southern Gateway Chorus, a major sponsor of the Greater Cincinnati Youth Har-

mony Festival, provided complimentary tickets for over 60 students from three local high school vocal music programs. According to Southern Gateway Director Joe Connelly,

"The opportunity to collaborate with other vocal arts groups, and to expose Cincinnati arts patrons of all ages to such a wide variety of musical talent, was just too good to pass up. This event was a Cincinnati first, but we expect it



Christ Church Cathedral Faburden Chamber Ensemble



Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers



Northern Kentucky University Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Kentucky University Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and **Team Cincinnati**—winners of NBC's Clash of the Choirs. The emcee for the performance was local Channel 5 News anchor Sheree

Paolello. The event, titled "Voices Only ... No Stings Attached," took place on the final night of the 20/20 festival.

"We believe this is the first time that an all-a cappella event has been held at the Aronoff Center, and we wanted to make it accessible to everyone by keeping the ticket prices low," said John Byerly, the chapter's VP of marketing & public relations. "There was something for every musical

will not be the last."

If your chapter is considering a similar event and would like to learn more about how Southern Gateway planned and organized this event, contact John Byerly at jbyerly@fuse.net or 513-886-1379.



Southern Gateway Chorus

Surprise Christmas return from Afghanistan for Canadian officer/barbershopper

Both the capacity audience and most members of the **Capital City Chorus** (Ottawa, Ont.) experienced a stunning surprise during the chorus's Christmas show.

One of the chorus members, Canadian naval Lieut. Brendan Ryan, has been posted to Kandahar, in the most dangerous part of Afghanistan, for most of 2008. A recorded video greeting from Brendan had received a standing ovation during the Friday performance as a lead-in to "Little Drummer Boy," complete with snare drummer.

The video was again warmly greeted on Saturday, but when it was time to sing "Little Drummer Boy," director Denis Laflamme was nowhere to be seen. Befuddled but patient, chorus members waited, until a clear fine lead



voice began singing "I'll be home for Christmas ... You can count on me" in the darkness at the back of the church. A distinctive white naval officer's hat became visible as the voice moved forward. The chorus and the audience were overwhelmed together to greet Brendan, who had arrived in Ottawa

only four hours earlier.

He received a standing ovation and first embraced his wife, Dianna, and their two daughters, who were seated in the front row. He then greeted the front-row members of the chorus and stood beside us as we did our best to sing "Little Drummer Boy."

Brendan had managed to book a two-week leave period to Canada that included Christmas Day. But given the vagaries and complexities of the four-flight, four-day journey to Canada, it seemed unlikely he would arrive in Ottawa in time. Only a quiet handful of members had been informed of his potential arrival. ■

— Doug Yonson

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between Nov. 1, 2008 and Feb 1, 2009. E-mail updates to membership@barbershop.org.

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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!!



A doozy from the late, great Bob Bohn

Bob Bohn was the cornerstone of the three-time medalist quartet, **The Easternaires**. Bob sang baritone and bass in different configurations of the quartet. He was the arranger of practically every song they sang in their long-lasting run from 1954 to 1985.

The very popular Easternaires, in their first year of existence, won the then-famous "Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout" television show. They performed on Broadway in *The Music Man*, replacing the **Buffalo Bills** when they left to make the movie.

Bob was gifted with outstanding musical talent. His music education began with his membership in the Society and with what quartetting offered. This became the launching pad for his development. Convinced that he needed some formal training, he attended Montclair State University and graduated with a B.A. in music. After his tour with *The Music Man* troupe, he began teaching in the public school system until he retired. Following a long illness, Bob died in 1993.

There is insufficient room on this page to give you a scope of this man's talent. Every Barbershopper inter-



Bob (second from left) with the 1957 version of The Easternaires

ested to know more about Bob Bohn should Google for "Easternaires." You'll find a number of links, including a bio of Bob and the quartet.

The tag on this page is from his arrangement of "Danny Boy." Look at measure three. The original tag did not have the lead swiping to the C. Bob tied the D from measure two to the D in measure three. Barbershoppers tend to "get creative" with arrangements, but especially tags. I think we should all know what Bob's original creation was like. This tag is worth singing, if for no other reason than to experience the chord progression from measure six to seven to eight. Isn't it a "doozy"? ■

DANNY, MY BOY TAG

Tenor Lead

8

1 2 3 4

Dan - ny, my boy, optional swipe not in original tag Dan - ny, my

Bari Bass

8

5 6 7 8

boy, my boy.

Bob Bohn
sung by the Easternaires, 1955

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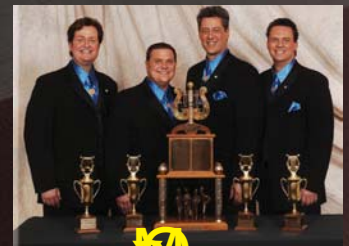
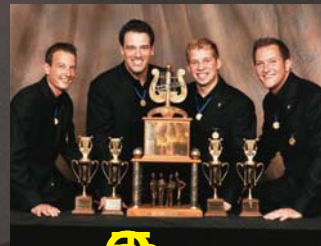
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