

THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY



CHAPTER FRATERNITY

It's not just the singing

ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS

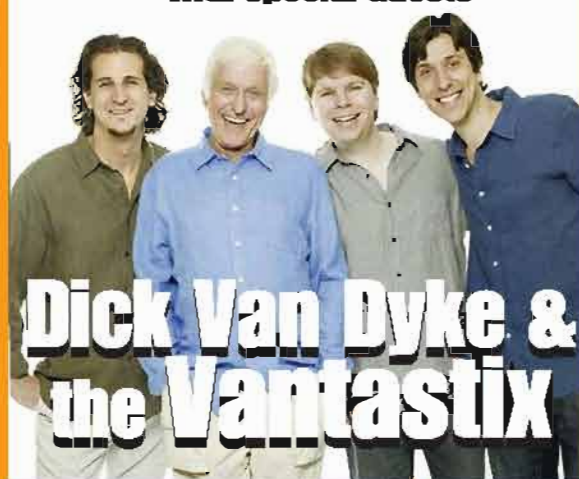


PRESENTS

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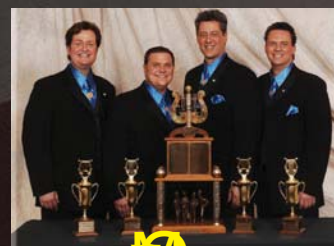
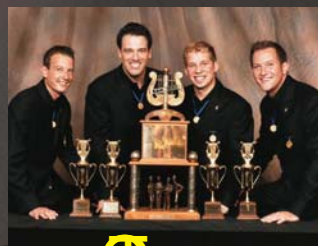
A history-making event!

Saturday, July 4, 2009, 2:00pm, Honda Center, Anaheim, California

Celebrate the Foundation's 50th Anniversary with this **gold** medal cast.



Also appearing:



A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
OPPORTUNITY!

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Saturday, July 4, 2009

2:00 pm

Honda Center, Anaheim, Calif.



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Don't let economic uncertainty deprive you of the best vacation opportunity around—hotels are cheap, airfares rival the cost of driving, Disneyland is across the street and the only heat will be coming from the contest stage!

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Crossroads has the momentum and the Vocal Majority has the history, but there are plenty of bona fide contenders vying for gold in 2009

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No way—you've got to have plenty of one to really enjoy the other! Readers comment on the balance between fellowship and singing needed for a fulfilling chapter experience

TOM WOODALL, LEE ROTH, RICK KENNER, BARBERSHOPHQ.COM

26 Best seniors on the planet

Fraser Brown, a three-decade fixture on the international stage, wins it with Audacity on the international seniors stage. See them and the other medalists and competitors who "still got it"

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Co-director Matt Swann rehearses in Pasadena with Denver-area youth chorus 52-eighty. Catch the pictorial recap of a convention that is now annually topping itself as the "Best Midwinter ever!"

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Barbershop fraternity
Vintage fraternities blend in with
Hunterdon, N.J. and Coles County,
Ill. chapters. Cover and mock
fraternity crest by Lorin May



Why competitions, why a Society, why youth?

Why the winners aren't the only winners

Have you ever been to a state or county fair? In between the Ferris Wheel and the Fun House, I hope you have visited the displays of blue-ribbon quilts, pickles and dioramas and the ambience created by all the heifers, sheep and chickens. I don't know when or where the judging happens, but there are obviously certain characteristics that make one entry better than another. Of the hundreds of recipes used, it's the blue-ribbon ones that will most likely be emulated, remembered and passed on to future generations. It's the winning livestock that will become the breeders, the winning quilt that others will try to top next year.

Much—if not most—of what we eat, wear and own came as the result of some sort of competition. Sometime the judges have credentials, sometimes the judges are the marketplace. Being acknowledged as *the best* is great, but the rest of the field benefits as well. Everyone learns from the winners, and everyone else's best gets better over time.



Youth don't always think of you as a bunch of old fogies. Be proud of your experience, welcome them and they'll reward you greatly.

Can you raise livestock or quilt quilts without going to a competition? Sure, and you don't need competition or an international society to sing barbershop. You don't even need a local chapter or a chorus, nor registration or dues—just three other guys

and someplace where the neighbors won't shoot you. It may be the greatest, it may be the worst, but no dues, no entry fees, no copyright worries, and nobody judging you. No rules and regulations, no barriers like “men only” or “a cappella only.” Hmmmm ...

Why a Society?

Why does SPEBSQSA (dba the Barbershop Harmony Society) exist, then? Why did we form it? At minimum, to preserve, protect, and encourage; to have something to pass on to future generations.

Among other things, we (the international organization) provide standards to make sure the best characteristics of Barbershop are recognized and passed on to the next generation. We protect those style markers with schools, arrangements, conventions, publications, and adjudicated competitions. We encourage the singing of Barbershop by those same methods—all to ensure that we pass on the characteristics of the Barbershop style well into the future.

Where would barbershop harmony be if we weren't organized? These days, most people who sing our art

form do so within organized barbershopping ranks, or they got their music and encouragement from us. Because we're organized, outside of classical and religious music (perpetuated by organizations much larger than ours), barbershop is the biggest player in the world of a cappella. **The Vocal Majority's** introduction of barbershop to thousands at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) convention in March (more on that next issue) was one of many steps to ensure that barbershop harmony endures as a classic part of the singing landscape. Thanks to the VM and our excellent Music staff for making that happen. We're working on strategies to ensure more people outside our ranks hear and sing our music, and more men and boys know about and want to join your chapter.

Please don't misunderstand regarding competition—we must also promote the joy of singing barbershop as an end to itself. Next time you're at a convention, please listen to the top quartets on stage and compare them to four guys woodshedding in a corner. Each quartet has value, one more for its contribution to preservation and one more for its participatory fun. I hope we can enjoy and appreciate both.

American Harmony

As you read this, the movie *American Harmony* is in release around the country. Please talk to your chapter about getting involved if you are not. Want potential members coming through your door? Want more people to see the singing you love? Then promote this movie. www.barbershop.org/americanharmony

We need you in Anaheim

Isn't it nice to be needed? We need you to come to Anaheim. If you can't come to Anaheim, we need you to watch the convention on the web cast. A large share of the revenue that drives this organization comes from the international convention. We need your support. It's your hobby, you decide.

Succeed with youth by being yourself

The following section is from one of my first posts on *barbershopHQ.com*. (Learn more about our new blog on page 2.)

Not all youth enjoy only the company of other youth. Most greatly respect older men and want to be accepted and even liked by the “establishment,” the existing cadre of men in an organization (in this case a chapter) who represent what these younger folks want to be some day. Pictures of a very young Cory Hunt, Jim Henry, or Rick Spencer

singing with or without their dads reveal big smiles and enjoyment of both the youngster and the oldsters around them.

One solution to attract more youth is to create youth choruses that sing to their own muse and encourage their members through like-minded activities. **Westminster** is a shining example of this strategy, and this post is not meant to disparage that approach. Certainly that is one good way to encourage growth in our Society. It's just not the only way.

When I joined the Society many years ago, I was young. I was just recently married, had my whole life in front of me, and wanted to establish certain behavior patterns that would last a lifetime. (No, honey, I can't get home any earlier on Tuesday night, I have to sing tags at the afterglow!) I looked to the older guys in the chapter to stand as examples, to help me get to and stay at conventions in JAD, and reveal some pieces of my future in Barbershop. I enjoyed the company of my fellow chapter members and remember thinking what a great hobby this was

(is); they admired my youth, vigor, and abilities, and I admired their success, experience, and, (oh my!) the stories they told. I shamelessly took their assistance, slept on many floors and couches during contest, and rode in many carpools to practice or to convention, because I needed help and they needed voices. What fun it was.

In many chapters, we know little about the guys singing with us other than that they sing. But there's one thing you can bet on: most young singers can use help with things like food, lodging and transportation. And they'll never forget it.

It is critical that chapters welcome younger singers, put faith and confidence into dealings with them, recognize them for what they are, and deal with them at that level. They might not universally meet every challenge, but they also won't universally let you down. And they don't always think of you as a bunch of old fogies. Be proud of your experience, and overcome your tendency to ignore the young—welcome them and they'll reward you greatly.

Don't try to be them, just be yourself

and help them as you can. They'll look up to you and admire you for your skill and experience, and you'll both be better off—and so will the chapter and the Society.

Thanks to our new Associates

To the women (more than 135 of you) who have already joined the Associate program of the Society, thank you. We hope that this program gives you some sense of your importance to us. Although we are constrained in what we can return to you in services, we love you for helping us preserve and encourage the Barbershop style. Whether you are a director, a spouse, a widow or a friend, you are a treasure and your contribution has touched us. If you want a hug in Anaheim, or anytime, just show me your pin.

How am I doing?



ewatson@barbershop.org

LETTERS

harmonizer@barbershop.org

Last issue's corrections, large and small

Credit where credit is due

Regarding the "New Rule Clarifies ..." piece that appeared on page 8 of the January/February issue. The arrangement of "Sitting on Top of the World" that the **Second Edition** recorded was first woodshedded and recorded by **The Boston Consort** (Tom Spirito, Eddy Ryan, Larry Tully, Terry Clarke.) Had you known all this, I'm certain you would have referenced "The Second Edition's rendition of The Boston Consort's arrangement of 'Sitting on Top of the World.'" "

TERRY CLARK
Boston Common,
Boston Consort, Our Town



Rumors of death greatly exaggerated

For reasons still not clear, Thomas Howell of the **Hemut Harmonizers** was reported as deceased in Chapter Eternal in the previous issue of *The Harmonizer*. Rumors of his death have been greatly exaggerated! ■

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Complete contact info: page 38

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The coming strategies to get us growing again

Brothers in song, As your president, I'm working every day to marshal all the forces of our Society to find the solution—or solutions—to the membership decline we've experienced for the last 25 years. I started this process in early January by sending out a request for your thoughts on the issue and, so far, I've heard from more than 450 of you. All of your messages were sincere, most were helpful, and many were thought-provoking. Consider my thoughts provoked. Wanna chime in? E-mail me at bbiffle@barbershop.org.



The Task Force's job will be to create an overall strategy for membership growth—our “north star” that will lead us, eventually, to the solutions to this intractable problem.

The Membership Growth Task Force

In late January, the Society Board of Directors authorized me to appoint a task force to develop an overall strategy to accomplish this vital task—a strategy against which every decision we make, every program we develop, every policy we create, and every dollar we spend can be measured. A strategy that will always make us ask, “How will this grow our membership?”

I don't want to rush into appointing and charging this crucial task force—this situation didn't develop overnight and we're not going to solve this problem quickly, either. So, the next step was for me to think and talk a lot about it with many of you. After a couple of months of very productive discussions, I have decided on step three. I've invited 20 of you who expressed

special interest—or who sent me the most provocative posts—to join a few board members and staff at a summit meeting the end of April. (Since this will already have happened by the time you read this, check out our new blog barbershopHQ.com for my report on the meeting and the subsequent discussion.)

The task force will brainstorm the problem from every angle and, with a healthy dose of determination, abundant good will, and a fair amount of luck, agree on a way

forward. Following this meeting, I will appoint and charge the Membership Growth Task Force—a few men whose job it will be to create an overall strategy that will lead us, eventually, to the solution to this intractable problem.

But they won't solve this problem—you and I will!

Creative thought, deep discussions, summit meetings, and task forces are all vital steps in the process. But none of these will solve this problem; that will ultimately be our job—yours and mine. There simply can be no “top down” solution to reversing our membership decline. Ford Motor Company doesn't sell cars—the salesperson on the floor in the dealership sells the cars. Our excellent staff, our committed volunteer leaders, our district and chapter officers—even though they are fully engaged with this problem now and will work even harder in the future—can't increase our membership. They can create better ways to support our efforts, better programs to help us create the most attractive chapter meetings, better ideas for us to try, but they won't bring in a single member. Only you and I can do that.

I'm anxious to learn what changes I need to make to help our Society grow again; I know you are, too. Our mission as barbershoppers is to “bring men together in harmony to enrich lives through singing.” Each of us must fully embrace that mission if we are to succeed. I want my grandchildren's grandchildren to have the opportunity to have their lives enriched by this wonderful hobby as mine has been. I know you believe in that vision, too. I believe that the Membership Growth Task Force will help us chart a course to a growing future. Will you join me on this journey? Together we can make it happen.



Bill

bbiffle@barbershop.org

Dick Van Dyke & The Vantastix

Put on a Happy Face

Order The CD
www.vantastix.com

In the year 2000, three talented and very lucky young men struck up a friendship with acclaimed actor Dick Van Dyke. A mutual love of singing and performing led the foursome to form a quartet.

Dick Van Dyke and The Vantastix has performed throughout the Los Angeles area at hospitals, charity events, and benefit concerts.



After years of requests, the group has released an album of beloved standards and children's songs called "Put On A Happy Face".

Filled with memorable tunes like Pick Yourself Up, Bare Necessities, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate The Positive, and High Hopes, this is an album you will love to share with your children and grandchildren.

Download mp3's
www.acaTunes.com

We'll see you in Anaheim!

Bryan, Dick, Mike, and Eric





Join informed discussions at *barbershopHQ.com*

Visit the Society's new blog and stay better informed while letting your voice be heard!

Two-way communication among barbershoppers and Society leadership—if you've visited *barbershopHQ.com*, you've seen plenty of it going on.

barbershopHQ.com is not a replacement for but a vital supplement to *barbershop.org*. Written by top Society leaders and Society professional staff, the most current information is always at the top of the page. It is designed to be the easiest way for barbershoppers to stay up to speed with what's going on right now, to understand and influence the thinking of Society leaders in a public forum. Here's a sampling of topics that provoked a lot of member feedback during the first two weeks since the blog's April 15 launch:

- "Escape TO your chapter meeting," a discussion on making them more inviting, fun, warm and friendly
- Bill Biffle's reports on the Membership Growth Task Force's activities
- The latest data on who is actually joining the Society and what that may tell us about recruiting strategies
- "Are our 20 percent most devoted members unwittingly the barrier to growth?" Unintended messages we may be sending potential members
- "If membership is Job 1, why aren't we teaching marketing and PR at all our schools?"



- Polls and solicitation of ideas regarding music to publish, the feasibility of electronic delivery of music, and whether one chapter should be able to have more than one competing chorus

Get the latest information and news directly from the source, and then join in on the discussion while it's fresh. Please visit *barbershopHQ.com* regularly, become better informed and let your voice be heard!

Half the Harmony Sweepstakes a cappella contest finalists are barbershoppers

The Harmony Sweepstakes is the biggest a cappella contest in America—or at least the biggest that isn't devoted exclusively to barbershop harmony. This year, four of the eight regional winners are barbershop quartets (two male, two female).

Best of luck to perennial international semifinalist **3 Men & A Melody**, representing the Chicago region and congratulations to **Road Show**, representing the Boston region. (2008 NED champ **Our Town** actually won the region but second-place Road Show took their place because Our Town would not cancel or send

another quartet to a scheduled chapter show that weekend. How's that for priorities!) Also, congratulations to Sweet Adelines quartets **LoveNotes**

Many other barbershoppers competed in this year's regional contests, and mixed barbershop quartet **Ready, Willing & Mabel** judged the L.A. Regional, which is annually

hosted by the **South Bay** chapter. Society quartets **Metropolis** (1998), **The**

Perfect Gentlemen (2002) and **Hi-Fidelity** (2006) are all past national champions. By the time you read this, the winner will have already been crowned at the May 16 national finals.

harmony-sweepstakes.com



Ed Watson announces important change in Society headquarters staffing



As with most non-profits, our Society has always been challenged to do more with less. The challenge is especially urgent this year due to the disappointing

level of international convention registrations for Anaheim. The resulting shortfall has put our annual budget over \$330,000 in the red, requiring quick action. We have cut many expenses but cannot make up this deficit without taking personnel actions. At the same time, we must continue to serve members and chapters while we work to reverse the 20-year membership decline that is at the root of our economic circumstances.

We are realigning our staff both in response to these economic realities and to better position us for future opportunities. This restructuring is designed to help us leverage one another's expertise with the limited number of employees demanded by a sound economic model. This streamlining means reducing the number of departments, and therefore department heads. While I'm excited about the efficiencies and opportunities we've identified, I'm devastated on behalf of the dedicated employees who have just learned that their posi-

tions will be eliminated.

Other details will follow, but following are the major alignment changes:

- The number of directors who currently report to the Executive Director/CEO will be reduced from six to three.
- A new position, "Director of Operations," has been filled by Rick Spencer, formerly the Director of Music Education. He now oversees all staff working in the Communication, Membership, Music Library, Events and Merchandise areas.
- The Director of Music Education position has been renamed simply "Director of Education." The position now encompasses Leadership Development and Training, Music Education and Youth in Harmony. In the interim until this position is filled, these responsibilities will fall under Operations.
- The Director of Events position will be eliminated after John Schneider's announced retirement this August.
- Our new Chief Financial Officer will begin on June 1. Retiring CFO Frank Santarelli will assist in the transition through October. One part-time position in the financial department has also been eliminated.

The above changes also mean we

must say goodbye to some exceptional employees:

- The Director of Membership position has been eliminated.
- The Director of Marketing position has been eliminated.
- Ebony Davis (Merchandise) will continue her duties until May 31.
- Amanda McCowan (Accounting) will continue her duties until May 31.
- Dorene Santarelli (Receptionist/Secretary) will continue her duties until her retirement in August.
- Charlie Davenport and Todd Wilson will assist with this transition for a short while, to be determined individually.

We are saddened by the economic necessity of these steps, but confident that the new staff structure will put us in a better position to handle the challenges and opportunities ahead and give our members the service they deserve. It saddens us that we will lose the full-time contributions of great employees who have given so much. A list of current staff and contact information can be found at barbershop.org/contactus.aspx.

— Ed Watson, Executive Director/CEO
Posted at barbershophq.com/?p=745

A new headquarters contact list will be included next issue of The Harmonizer



Sports Illustrated cover curse over? New web manager Eddie Holt a keeper.

Forget the longevity of those previously announced in the role, Eddie Holt is staying on board as our in-house web manager

and graphic designer. He's already made huge strides toward a coming 100% overhaul to improve the look and utility of barbershop.org. Eddie brings a decade of experience in web development plus an MBA in information systems management from Baylor University. He sang with 2007 Buffalo Bills Classic Quartet Contest winner **Great Honk**, sings lead with 2007 Dixie champion and 2008 international semi-finalist **Lunch Break**, and sings with Nashville's **Music City Chorus**. He and his new bride live in Nashville. Reach him at eholt@barbershop.org or 800-876-7464 x4140.



Spring, 2009 BQPA Quartet Festival is history.

The Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA) hosted 150 attendees for its April gathering, this year in Phoenix. A highly participatory

event, most of the entertainment was provided by the attendees. Early golfing gave way to chord ringing and a large poolside contest among 18 pickup quartets and an appearance by 2009 Senior Quartet Champion **Audacity**. Luminaries in attendance included Teddy Bradshaw and Paul Graham of the **Western Continentals**, John Erickson of **Chords Unlimited** fame and Bill Meyers of the Citations and **Revival!** Wall to wall casual singing all weekend and pickup contests were supplemented by performances by eight organized quartets from the surrounding area. The BQPA, an official Society subsidiary organization, has experienced a substantial growth in membership since its September, 2008 gathering in Chicago. Negotiations are underway with the Grace Inn Resort in Phoenix for the second weekend of April. Another festival will be held this Sept. 10-12 in Chicago. www.bqpa.com



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

TBD

2015

PITTSBURGH
June 28–July 5

2016

NASHVILLE
July 3–10

2017

MINNEAPOLIS
July 2–8

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

Free tools to promote your chapter

Audio. Go to barbershop.org/audiopsa.aspx to download free radio public service announcements plus instructions to get free air time. The new 2009 Radio Toolkit's professional audio files will help you promote membership, shows, community service and activities, and build awareness for barbershop in your community. You may also order the \$5 CD from Harmony Marketplace.

Video. Visit barbershop.org/videopsa.aspx to download promotional barbershop videos to embed on your website.

Print. Go to barbershop.org/documents.aspx and go to the Marketing and PR section to download newspaper ads, posters and flyers.

Coming next issue: Year after year, a remote patch of eastern Idaho puts on two barbershop events unlike any you've seen before. During January, the choral programs for 10 regional high schools and for two large university choirs are dedicated to nothing but barbershop harmony. And the crowds? They're so enthusiastic that **Storm Front** flew a video crew out to Rexburg to shoot their DVD before the best audiences they've ever found. It's all thanks to one man, Phil Ricks, who used a well-timed Society staff visit to quietly turn overcommitted choral directors and skeptical music professors into lifetime barbershop fans.



Society briefs

Vocal Spectrum/Lunch Break albums win CARA awards. The annual Contemporary A cappella Recording Awards (CARAs) recognize the best of recorded a cappella music. Our 2006 champion **Vocal Spectrum** took best barbershop album (*Vocal Spectrum II*) and best barbershop song ("Go the Distance"). 2008 international semifinalist **Lunch Break** was runner up in the same two categories (*Out to Lunch*, "Mr. Potatohead," respectively). If your group releases a high-quality album during 2009, be sure to submit it for consideration. www.casa.org

Get 64 great, free arrangements! The *Heritage of Harmony Songbook*, a great collection of Public Domain music compiled and arranged by the Society in the late 1980s, is free for download at www.barbershop.org under the "Get Music" button. They're free for Society members. (All other rights reserved.) Enjoy classics like "Beautiful Dreamer," Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Moonlight Bay," and many more. The full songbook is still available for purchase at the Harmony Marketplace. As always, ask a judge before performing these or any song in contest.

College students/snowbirds, use eBiz and never miss a Harmonizer.

Changing addresses? Go to eBiz.barbershop.org and update your membership information anytime you like. It's fast and easy!

American Harmony in your town. If you didn't catch the cover, two features and full-page ad in the last issue, here's the news once again: non-barbershopper audiences love *American Harmony the Movie*! You can get it shown in your town at barbershop.org/americanharmony. Don't miss the most important media event in many years!

Reminder: ASCAP fees only due for ticketed chapter shows. Chapters that do not host a show during a given year owe nothing to ASCAP.

PROBE needs a Web VP. PROBE (PR Officers and Bulletin Editors) is looking for a highly savvy geek who understands Java, Flash, PHP, CSS, and all the other ins and outs of web design and who can teach and mentor. This VP would serve a minimum two-year term on the PROBE board, judge web contests and be a major resource to the Society's webmasters. Please contact PROBE President Steve Jackson at sjjbullead@comcast.net.

Increase in price for some published arrangements. Partner music publishers still own the copyrights they obtained to our music before the Society became its own music publisher. Their costs just went up, in some cases so high that we would lose money on every piece sold at regular prices. Sadly, we cannot change their prices. Many *free* songs are available for download (including the entire *Heritage of Harmony Songbook*) at barbershop.org/musicDownload.aspx. Find a list of the affected songs at barbershophq.com/?p=594.

Society is the source for arrangements from our departed legends.

Nashville houses all the arrangements of such legends as Earl Moon, Ed Waesche, Lou Perry, Roger Payne, Buzz Haeger and Freddie King, not to mention living legends like Walter Latzko. Many of these arrangements are already in the Society's catalog and available through Harmony Marketplace. (www.harmonymarketplace.com). Arrangements that contain copyrighted material not yet cleared can be ordered by submitting a completed "Arrangement and Reproduction Permission" form to library@barbershop.org.

Magical moments at Harmony U: magical words about a life-altering event

In July 2008, I attended Harmony University for the first time. It was not only my peak barbershop experience ever, it was a life-altering event as well.

Imagine hearing **Max Q** perform a David Wright ballad that is beautiful beyond description and you get to lean over to the guy behind you and say "Great arrangement, Dave." Or chatting in a cafeteria line with Joe Liles. Or singing tags with a bunch of guys wearing gold medals and the chords seem ring into the heavens.

There are some things I did for the first time. I heard harmonics. Not kinda sorta heard them, but *really* heard them like there was an extra person or two singing along an octave above. It was startling. I learned to woodshed. It would takes pages to recount all the memorable moments. However, one series of events transcended everything

else that happened.

A transcending moment: It started with Sound Management, when Stephen Tramack taught us how to sing the "new" way (the proper way), with proper posture, alignment, sustained breath and a relaxed, open throat. He made it so simple. It unlocked a voice in me I didn't know I had. Later that day, I sang with 140 directors under the baton of Royce Ferguson. He was a combination of Tony Robbins and the Dalai Lama who created extended Zen moments where the rest of world falls away, all thoughts are absent, and all that matters, all there "is," is the music. The harmonic resonance was so much more than the physics of sound, it was the convergence of souls. This may sound a little hippy-trippy, but you really had to be there.

As we were singing "Lover Come Back to Me," a feeling welled up inside of me over which I had no control, accompanied

by an overwhelming gush of gratitude and thanks that I was in that spot at that moment. Whatever it was, it washed over me with feelings for which there are no words. What came out of my mouth for the rest of that song wasn't notes and words, it was raw emotion pouring from my heart. The song finished and I thought I was going to faint. Tears were in my eyes, and many people on the risers had tears rolling down their cheeks. After the final notes stopped ringing in the air, we all stood in silence, totally in awe of the moment. Everyone felt it, everyone shared it. Barbershop don't get no better than this.

I have informed my family that no one is allowed to die, get married, get born, get Bar-Mitzvahed, or anything else during HU week in 2009. If you love barbershop, this is something you have do before you die. Put it on your bucket list. Or better yet, just go. It's magic.

— Lance Lubin, Asst. Director/
Music VP, Florida Suncoast Chorus



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For those who grieve, Harmony Foundation introduces “Family Voices”



Every now and again I answer my phone to learn the sad news that one of our Barbershop family members has passed away. No matter what I was doing, that call becomes my first priority. To the bereaved, calling to arrange memorial gifts in lieu of flowers might feel like one task on a long checklist of plans and preparations. To me, however, those few minutes offer a small glimpse into someone else's life, and what is really important in this world.

Barbershoppers are more than just friends—they're family. As a family, there are many times when we could do a better job of taking care of each other in times of need such as these. And I'm not alone.

Within the past year, a group of recently widowed barbershop wives have found a way to better help the recent widows or widowers during this critical time in their lives. They have been extremely successful in building a support network while speaking to those in grief and responding to whatever is needed in the moment. It was the voice of a barbershop family member, so we called the program Family Voices. Hear the message from them and listen to their hearts.

“When each of us woke up one morning as a widow,” one woman recalls, “the overwhelming support from the Barbershop community came flowing in. Barbershoppers and their wives were at the house, on the phone, letters, notes, e-mails, all wanting to be there to ease the heavy burden. They stood beside us through tough decisions and tears and always with music in their hearts. It's impossible to express in words how much it meant to us. Having received

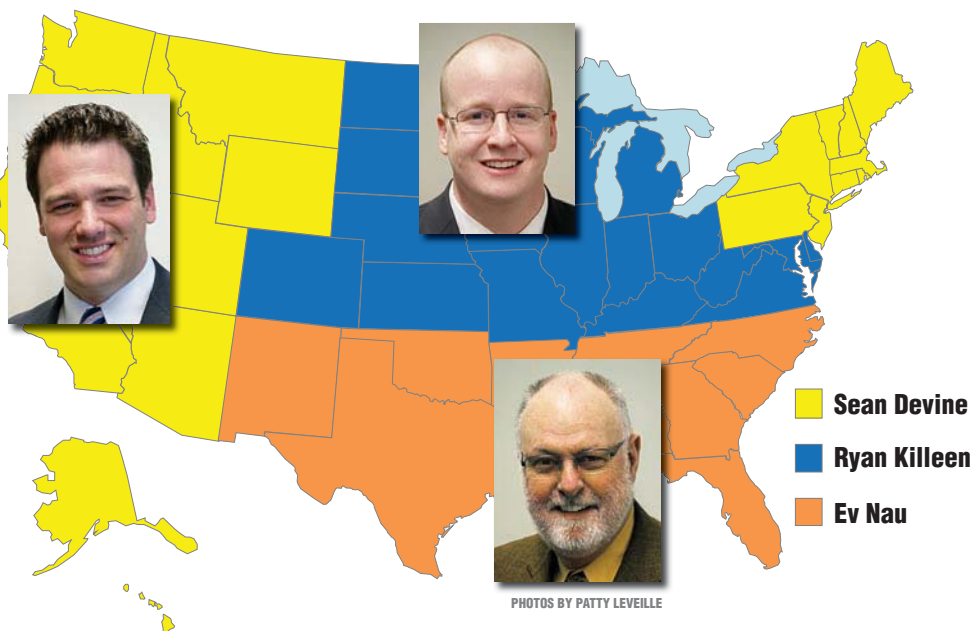
so much in our time of need, we want to show our heart and share our voice to others as a way of giving back. For us, that means being there for the members of the Barbershop family left behind.”

Family Voices exists not only to provide support and a listening ear, but also to equip our grieving widows and widowers with any information they need for continued involvement within the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Foundation International. “How do I continue to receive The Harmonizer?” “How can I make donations in my loved one's name?” “Can I still come to the conventions?” “Do you have a minute to talk?” The Family Voices members will be there with some answers but most of all to be with you.

— Clarke Caldwell, president/CEO,
Harmony Foundation International

Harmony Foundation's new regional structure

Harmony Foundation now has six defined regions, each representing roughly the same number of Society members and donors. The Major Gifts Directors are each responsible for two regions. These regions will allow the Foundation to make changes easily as each constituency develops a regional culture that is uniquely Foundation.



Ryan Killeen is the Foundation's newest Major Gifts Director. A Nashville native, Ryan graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with degrees in physics and geographic information systems. He has served

in the U.S. Air Force and remains an officer in the Tennessee Air National Guard. He has worked in sales and marketing since 2000 for The Gear Company and most recently a regional account executive for Dell

Computers. An eight-year barbershopper, he sings with the **Music City Chorus** and sang with **Great Nashville Singout** and **Smackdown**. He and his wife, Cindy, live in Hermitage, Tenn. ■

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Unleash “The Power of Presentation”

Think about some of the most memorable barber-shop performances that you have witnessed as an audience member—you know, the ones that gave you goose bumps, brought a tear to your eye, made you laugh or maybe even allowed yourself to recall “the good old days” in your life. In all of these special moments, it was the performer’s believable delivery of the song that allowed you to turn that into an emotional experience. As performers, we have the opportunity to give that gift to our audiences every time we perform.

A connection with the audience is achieved when they are able to “buy in” to the believability

Step 2: Determine the location of the person to whom you are singing. Are you going to imagine that the person you are communicating with is in the room with you? Are there other people around? This decision will determine your focal points as well as help to shape the dynamic plan of the music.

Step 3: Choose a posture that is believable. In a situation where you are hanging around with your buddies, your posture would look different than if you were having an intimate conversation with a loved one.

Step 4: Picture what their reaction might look like for each phrase of the lyrics that you are delivering and play off of that. If you are singing a love song to your sweetheart, picture her face as you perform the song and continue to communicate to her as if she is there communicating back to you.

Step 5: Eliminate any non-verbal communication that isn’t genuine. The easiest way to do this is to speak the lyrics as if it were just spoken word. What type of gestures would you use to most effectively communicate to this person? You will probably notice that you aren’t bringing your hands up for no apparent reason or doing artificial resets with your body. On a positive note, you may discover that a hand gesture at an important moment in the lyrics helps you effectively communicate that line of song.



LORIN MAY

Realtime’s semifinals “Rat Pack” set solidified their status as the audience’s gold medal favorite in 2005. Every gesture and facial expression came across as a natural extension of the lyric and melodic line, creating an uncontrived believability for a transcending package. This article, which addresses many of those principles, is based on Dusty’s coming course at Harmony University 2009.

of the performer’s message. The audience is then able to draw upon their own past memories and experiences to translate our music into a personal, emotional experience for them.

Practice makes permanent. The more we rehearse our music while conveying real, believable emotion, the easier it becomes to duplicate those efforts in a performance situation. Conversely, if we rehearse week after week with only “technique” on the forefront of our minds, the more difficult it becomes to turn on an emotional delivery come performance time.



Dusty Schleier
Presentation
Judge, Harmony
University
2009 Faculty
dschleier@
barbershop.org

Believable delivery is the key
Step 1: Determine with whom you are communicating. Are you singing to your sweetheart, mother, father, your best friend, a person you just met, or someone else? There are an unlimited number of possible answers to this question, but finding the answer will shape the emotional and vocal delivery of the song.

Incorporate emotion into your rehearsals
The left and right hemispheres of your brain process information differently. The left side processes information in a linear, sequential manner and is very much engaged during a technique-oriented warmup. The right side processes information holistically and is engaged during emotional, “from the heart” communication. The learning process is dramatically enhanced when both sides of the brain are participating in a balanced manner. Engaging the right side of the brain early on during the rehearsal will allow for easier progress on the technique side of things as well. Give it a try!

Determine the precise emotion. Often you have probably been told to “sing with more emotion” or “more love.” But is that specific enough to create believability? To demonstrate, perform “Heart of My Heart” several times with different emotions:

- As a wedding proposal to your sweetheart
- To your mother on her birthday
- To your sweetheart on your anniversary

Note that all of these are emotions of love, but

the subtext is extremely different. Be sure everyone in the group knows the precise emotion very early in the rehearsal process for each song, and demand that emotion each time the song is rehearsed—both sides of the brain—every time.

Perform the song without any sound. Eliminate any vocal variables by just mouthing words as you perform a song or section of a song. This forces you to express yourself using only non-verbal communication.

This technique can be used during a ballad or even an uptune that is full of choreography. Now that you have isolated the non-verbal communication, add the singing back in and strive to keep all of the nonverbal elements in the performance: believable posture, facial expressions, body language, gestures, etc. Audience members tend to believe what they see rather than what they hear if the verbal vs. non-verbal elements are inconsistent.

Videotape as much as possible.

Record yourself performing the song and watch it back. While watching the video, put yourself in the shoes of the person with whom you are communicating. Are you effectively getting the message across that you intended? Have you eliminated all of the non-verbal communication that isn't genuine? Repeating this exercise on a continuing basis will keep your visual communication skills sharp.

Give your gift to the audience

We all have the ability to communicate effectively. We do it every day while interacting with our family, friends and co-workers. By incorporating our natural communication skills into a musical performance, we have the ability to create those special moments for our audience members and touch their lives every time we perform. Is this a great hobby, or what? ■

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It's never too late to join us!

Chuck Smith of the **Greater Phoenix Chapter** may be the only barbershopper going to Anaheim for free (he won the "Free Trip to Anaheim" drawing), but there are some great consolation prizes for the rest of us:

- **Low hotel rates.** They start at \$89 per night. For guests in the Society block (all in walking distance of each other), buses to and from the Honda Center are included with the cost of the room. For others, bus passes for the week will be \$50.
- **Hotels all together = tagging heaven.** It will be easy to reach the critical mass that leads to tagging whenever you want, as long as you want!
- **Airlines are slashing prices.** Some members on the eastern side of the continent have reported that they can fly to Anaheim at close to the same price they drove to Nashville with last year's high gas prices. Check the rates and remember there are five airports that serve the Anaheim area
- **Discount coupons.** Check barbershop.org/anaheim for discount coupons to get from the airport to your hotel.
- **Vacation before and after.** Make it a full vacation for you and the family. You'll never run out of things to do in Southern Cal!
- **Great weather.** Summer weather is great in Anaheim—expect some of the best for any convention!
- **Greatest show lineup ever!** It ain't bragging if it's true: The "Harmony Foundation Presents ..." show

is an historic first. **The Vocal Majority, Masters of Harmony, Ambassadors of Harmony** and a chapter quartet from each of those chapters (who just happen to be **Max Q, OC Times** and **Vocal Spectrum** respectively) as well as past Sweet Adelines chorus champ **Harborlites**. All will be performing show sets on the same stage!

- **College quartet contest is free.** This year, the ticket is included with registration.
- **Sing with the champs.** Get your learning tracks ready! Limited slots are available on Saturday morning, July 4 from 9:30 to 12:30. Groups participating:
 - OC Times (9:30)
 - Max Q (10:00)
 - Vocal Spectrum (10:30)
 - Realtime (11:00)
 - FRED (11:30)
 - Happiness Emporium (12:00)

Disney is right across the street!

- **Barbershop day at Disney-land!**

The park is across the street from our hotel block! Tuesday, June 30 will feature performances by some of your favorite barbershop performers and great park discounts.

- **Mickey Mouse** will greet attendees at the Honda Center at the beginning of the first quartet quarter-finals session on Wednesday
- **The Dapper Dads of Disneyland** will perform on Saturday when the Society presents them with a Lifetime Achievement Award. (More details at barbershopq.com/?p=299.) ■



Webcast: a great consolation prize

\$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 coming details in *Livewire*, barbershopHQ.com and barbershop.org, or contact info@barbershop.org.

Did we mention the contests?

Quartet contest

Gold medal buzz. Can anyone beat **Crossroads**? After winning the final two rounds in Nashville, Crossroads posted huge qualifying scores for Anaheim and has momentum. But



Crossroads, Old School, Stateline Grocery



pre-contest buzz is often unreliable, especially when the competition includes the Sultans of Smooth **State-line Grocery** (third in 2008) and the Kings of Ring **Old School** (fifth in 2008, now with tenor Kipp Buckner). 2008 finalists **Storm Front**, **Glory Days** and **The Allies** all have a great shot at the medals and possibly the top spot as well.

Four open top 10 slots. It's incredibly tough to break into the top 10, which is why the



Men in Black, Lunch Break, Ringmasters



competitive retirements of

Redline, **Metropolis** and **Rounders** are music to the ears of 2008 semifinalists **Men In Black** (11th

in 2008 and steadily improving each year after taking college gold in 2005), **3 Men and a Melody** (12th in 2008), **High Definition** (debuted at 13th place in 2008) and **Lunch Break** (tied for 13th in 2008). Don't forget 2008 collegiate champ **Ringmasters**, who had the Midwinter audience abuzz.

New to the stage and ready to do some damage. **Masterpiece** is just another quartet ... consisting of four past champs and posting medalist-level scores. **McFly** combines singers from **Ignition!** and **Nexus** and tenor Brian Fox. **Lucky Day** features Roger "Tenor to Joe Connelly"

Ross, Paul "Bari to Joe Connelly" Gilman, Eric Bell (lead of **Vantage Point** and **Sibling Rivalry**) and Brian Ziegler (of, uh ... well, he's an awesome bass!)

Chorus Contest

The Vocal Majority returns to the international contest stage after two years off looking to keep their 30-year-old perfect streak intact against a super-talented and very hungry **Ambassadors of Harmony** chorus that has finished within a rounding error of gold in its last two tries, with director

Jim Henry gunning for both quartet and chorus gold in Anaheim. This will be the contest of contests, but a few other groups might also have something to say about the outcome.

Voices in Harmony, the new-ish Bay Area chorus with master director Dr. Greg Lyne, is another year better. **Great Northern Union** comes back from a two-year contest break larger, more energized and with this year's third-highest qualifying score. **Northern Lights**, which also took last year off, medaled from 2000-07 and boasted the fifth highest qualifying score.

Who else is ready to make waves?



Vocal Majority, Ambassadors of Harmony, Northern Lights



Sound of the Rockies, The New Tradition, The Alliance, Atlanta Vocal Project, Kentucky Vocal Union and a new **Westminster**-like chorus from Sweden named **zero8**.

Directed by Doug Harrington (yes, that one), these youngsters may have a medal in their future! ■



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YOUR CHAPTER AS A FRATERNITY



BALANCING FELLOWSHIP, SINGING & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

COLES COUNTY, ILL. CHAPTER

We were chartered in 1970, and some 41 years later, two of the original members are still active in the group which began for one purpose—to have fun and musical fellowship. There were no goals or written mission statements; however, because the motives were pure, most of the decisions were good ones.

There are many ways to achieve success and significance for a small volunteer group, but in retrospect, this group relied on three basic principles: fraternity, service and singing.

Fraternity

Certainly some basic singing ability is necessary, but the traits of responsibility, work ethic and unselfishness are especially encouraged and promoted. We have men from all walks of life: Salesmen, farmers, construction workers, physicians, teachers, etc. but we respect each other. We pray for each other and regularly intervene when a man or his family is experiencing difficulty.

True caring and concern. We had four members die within 18 months: Three of them had pitch

pipes in their hands as they lay in the casket; the other had a picture of his quartet. These men exemplify the love of barbershop harmony and the love we have for each other. We're usually invited to perform, and flowers are always sent to funerals of members and families.

Families are very important to us.

Each year we plan to have the ladies involved, not in some organized "auxiliary," but they sing with us, attend programs, installation dinners etc. Annually we invite wives/daughters to sing several numbers with us on a major concert. Sometimes it is father-son-grandson ensembles, but the family gets involved whenever possible.

We stay informed about each other. Members get weekly news, short- and long-term plans/announcements pictures/short articles about current and former members, and the 40-year history/tradition of family, successes and community involvement. We also send a lot of news releases to newspapers, churches, service clubs, so others also know what we are doing.

We're little but we're

PART 2

LOUD!

Community service

What's a fraternity without giving back to its community?

- YIH Festivals—we've hosted six of them: last year, 365 boys and girls from 18 area schools.
- We are *not* organized as a religious group, but we enjoy singing in many many church venues every year, giving us a very well-respected position in the community.
- We host Christmas and Lenten benefit concerts (all sacred music), which net nearly \$5,000 each year for homeless and food pantry programs.
- Singing Valentines profits go to area schools. Last year, nearly \$2,000 was presented to vocal music programs to support their efforts.



When Coles County says they involve their families in chapter life, they aren't just talking about a dinner or an auxiliary: Wives and daughters frequently join them on stage for several major numbers, with sons and grandsons getting the invitation in other shows.

Singing and performing

Chapters don't survive—or they have lots of turnover—if they don't get out and perform. Our population base is small, therefore we have men from more than 18 communities who drive in to sing with us each week.



THE ROANOKE, VA. CHAPTER HAS GROWN 40 PERCENT IN TWO YEARS, thanks to a visibly enthusiastic membership, a charismatic director, a visible public presence, and guest nights designed to inspire and inform new members. A healthy social structure has helped as well, with regular off-stage social activities strengthening the rehearsal-time atmosphere that helps guests feel they've walked into something special.

Wives and significant others are included in the social life, boosting at-home support for regular chapter activities.

ARE WE SINGERS WHO FRATERNIZE OR A FRATERNITY THAT SINGS?

READERS RESPOND AT BARBERSHOPHQ.COM

I recently received an unsolicited e-mail from Todd Ramirez, until recently of the **Boise Chordsmen**. (He recently moved to the Salt Lake City area.) Todd is an experienced singer, but he forgot to discuss the musical prowess of his chapter in his e-mail. You won't wonder why:

I am a newbie of just over 1 year. I have sung most of my life in church and college and in touring and honor choirs. I kind of got sick of it though. The standard choral music was interesting some of the time, but seemed to lack something. So, I dropped out of singing for about nine years. I just couldn't place what it was that

was missing in my musical life. I had been in choirs and even the lead in a musical, but I still didn't get any enjoyment out of it.

No, this isn't leading to a "why I love the Barber-shop style of music." I saw a public service announcement for the Chordsmen one day in late fall. It sounded interesting, but I was hesitant. Well, my wife practically threw me out the door and one member of the chorus saw me wandering around outside of the church where we practice and brought me in. The Barbershop style actually

confused me after so many years of choral music, but I warmed up to it. After a couple of practices, I finally figured out what had been missing all those years: True camaraderie.

It wasn't the music that was the problem; it was the people I had been with. Oh, don't

get my wrong, the other choirs were all nice, but there was no real connection like I have with my brothers of the Society. I suffer from heavy depression and social anxiety, but I can be with the Chordsmen and not have
continued on page 21

barbershopHQ.com

HANG OUT AND CHAT AT NASHVILLE'S WATER COOLER

Read the whole post at barbershophq.com/?p=108



"HAVING FUN EVERY WEEK ON MEETING NIGHT IS IMPORTANT. One of our big assets is our Sheriff, who actually wears a badge at meetings and makes an official appearance after our break. The Sheriff, 40-year member Wendell Heier, thrives at creating

light-hearted fun without stepping on any toes. That's good, because his job is to fine people who are not wearing their badges, fine them if they or a family member appeared in the news, or for any miscellaneous reason, which sometimes he invents. Fines range from 25 cents to a dollar, but the person being fined determines an appropriate amount. Proceeds go into our entertainment fund to pay for the brats and burgers at our annual family picnic."

— Rick Keener, Bureau County (Illinois) Chapter

Contest is important to us, but not an obsession.

The chorus rarely declines competition and typically places in the top 10 in Illinois—several times as high as 4th—and is known for creative packages: Bums, prisoners, soldiers, clowns, cavemen etc. We have

limited qualification requirements for chorus singers. Chapter quartets are always active. Two years ago, 20 of the attending chorus members sang in competitive quartets.

We perform for audiences of all sizes. From 47,000 at a Cardinals game to a dozen folks at an Alzheimer's home and everything in between. Each year we sing for at least a dozen church worship services and perform for ten or more Nursing or Assisted Living Homes in the area.

We put on creative theme shows (College Days, New Orleans, Rural Rhythm, etc.) with at least 90% of the members singing in a show quartet. We always invite outstanding headliner quartets (10 International finalists and six international champs).

— Tom Woodall, founder and director



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IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT. We try to treat every member as part of a family that we are all part of. We get together for a family picnic. We go to contest together and usually have a dinner somewhere to which all are invited, including family members of our singers. When a member dies, or the spouse of a member dies, we appear at their service, and if asked, we sing at the service. We have done so two times this year. We maintain an anonymous fund from which a past president draws as needed to assure that no member is left behind when we do anything or go anywhere—it covers the cost of the guy who is out of work or otherwise might not be able to afford to sing with us.

— **Lee Roth,**
Hunterdon Harmonizers (New Jersey)



those problems affect me. One time when I had missed several weeks with family and health problems, members of the chorus called me worried about where I was and if they could help. I get coaching from some of the best singers I've ever known and people go out of their way to compliment and drive you to be better.

Barbershop music is great and I love it, but I go for the people and the friendships. The music is just a bonus.

Doug Maddox. A wise man once said of barbershopping, "people join because of the music but stay because of the friendships."

Roger McClelland. I am a few months short of 60 with only 5+ yrs as a member of the Society. I wish I'd started this 50 years ago! Without a doubt, participating in making sweet harmony is pure enjoyment for me BUT the caliber of fellowship within the membership is the true glue that holds it all

together for me. I, too, wonder how we can demonstrate this concept to new and prospective members. This IS a fraternity in which harmony thrives and is a lifestyle.

Wendell Glass: The fraternity is very important for me, but what brings me back each week is the singing. There's nothing that beats hearing men sing in harmony together. When the guys get those chords to lock and ring, everybody in the group has to smile. It's the singing that bonds us.

Shelley Herman: When Barrie Best was executive director (the first one) he said, many times and very emphatically: We are a fraternal organization that sings.

Pierre Debbaudt: The **Pasadena Crown City Chorus** had declined from a once 100+ member chorus to eight or 10 members about eight years ago. We recruited director John Minsker, and through sheer persistence, he increased

the membership to around 25 in 2005. However, the chorus was struggling in their craft. He challenged them to go to contest. The chapter accepted the challenge. After more than 20 years of not competing, we came in 11th in the Southern California Division of the Far Western District.

Our chorus's motto is "Sing Well, Have Fun." If we are singing well but not having fun, something is wrong. If we are having too much fun and not singing well, something is wrong. We have achieved a balance between the two. We do not sing as a competition chorus, but rather as a performance chorus. Our morale is high, our singing has improved exponentially since our first competition, and we are now almost 45 strong on the risers, and proud to say that we have almost 100% participation in contests. We owe this to a consummate director who directs us with great craft skill and fabulous humor, a great music team, and ever more efficient chapter board of directors.

And we love each other. Not bad for a chapter that was stagnant around five years ago!

Roger Millnitz. I joined because of the “high” that I got singing tags with really good singers when we created overtones. *And* the smiles on their faces! It was a rush. I’ve also met some of the nicest, most genuine people at chorus. But I also have those kinds of friends at church and Kiwanis. It’s the singing (hopefully with quality!) that makes things special.

Daniel Endy. I joined about 3.5 years ago. I am so glad I found barbershop. I love the new challenge of singing a cappella four-part harmony, but I also love the people. It was the singing that originally got my attention, but it’s the quality of the people that sealed the deal.

Asking which is more important, singing or fraternity, is like asking which of your vital organs is more vital. I need both my brain and my heart to function fully and productively! We need to balance the two. It’s the combination of singing with great people that really makes it a pleasure.

Bob Caldwell. Todd mentioned the chorus members who called to follow up when he was ill. Another longtime barbershop friend commented to me that he had recently stopped attending his rehearsals, my former chorus, and after several weeks he had not heard from any of them wondering where he was. Obviously the fraternity is missing from that chapter and consequently the singing lacks. Do *not* let this happen in your chapter. *You* be the one to check up on missing members.

Murray Phillips. I saw the **Montreal Chorus** singing in a mall at Christmas and recognized our veterinarian, and I asked him, “Do you ever look for new members?” He replied, “Sure, give me a call sometime.” Well, guess what ... I didn’t call, and neither did he. I missed out on 17 years of barbershopping because somebody didn’t follow up. If somebody shows the slightest interest, pick him up and take him to your next meeting! ■

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Welcome new members! Thank you recruiters!

New members who joined between Dec 1, 2008 and April 1, 2009. Each recruiter's name follows in italics.

Cardinal

Norman Aich
John Stegner
Rod Barkley
Larry Hansen
Alan Bettler
John Stegner
Steve Bryant
Michael Harp
Osiris Calloway
Mike Ehringer
Mark Cary
Barry Rysler
Loren Durnal
Warren Chafin
Gerald Egger
John Conn
Jonathan Enari
Bob Thrasher
Timothy Farkas
Colin Craig
Jake Farkas
Timothy Farkas
Roger Ford
Waldo Leimer
Marc Hagan
Paul Hammond
Tad Heminger
Allen Distler
Mark Holm
James Rosenau
Phil King
Randy Roccia
Mark Lindgren
Dave Fouts
Paul Martin
Kyle Kitzmiller
Rex Martinez
Bart Lovins
Stephen Massengill
Randall Freeman
John Pusich
Terry Wence
John Robinson
Stephen Cline
Frank Schwab
Richard
Timmerman
Ben Yentes
Larry Hansen
David Zimmermann
Kyle Kitzmiller

Central States

William Blake
Lynn Wegehaupt
Aaron Brewer
Jake Purdy
John Bvedehoef
Kenneth Kerber
Tom Chandler
Walter Reichstadter
Michael Cottrell
David Haas
Kevin Currier
Joel Sult
Carrell Day
Gayle Edmondson
Matthew Dwyer
John Chapin
Richard Freeman
Glen Larsen
Timothy Fulbright
Dick Kimball
Marin Garcia

Gerald Peterman

Jerry Garrard
Grant Hunget
Bronson Garrard
Jerry Garrard
Jeffery Garrard
Jerry Garrard
Joseph Greenleaf
Ron Flock
Austin Hagedorn
Luke Miller
Trevor Halder
Michael Scott
Ryan Hoskins
Jayson Ryner
Michael Hubbard
Ryan Boyer
Steven Hutchcraft
Andrew Buchanan
Theodore Inman
Donald Kready
Kevin Keppel
William Keppel
Thomas Kierski
Glen Larsen
Brent Kinghorn
Michael Hillenburg
Kyle Larsen
Glen Larsen
Brian Lesniak
Joseph Quince
Nick McKeag
Joshua Marshall
David Montgomery
Stacy Williams
Dane Montgomery
Craig Wilcox
Casey Montney
Jeremy Albright
Ryan Nelsen
Dallas Fenster
Naoki Nemoto
Steven Thompson
Henry Onken
Roger Nelson
Edward Overy
David Haas
John Overy
David Haas
Richard Rannels
Jeffrey Campbell
Kolten Rasmussen
Jayson Ryner
Daniel Salsman
Edward Lovan
Mason Scott
Chuck Bay
Brandt Shields
Ted Scott
Jim Tanis
Jimmy Rothe
Alexander Tate
Don Fuson
Eric Temte
Walter Reichstadter
Matthew Vaughn
Marv Roberts
Jason Wright
Jeremy Albright

Dixie

Kent Atkins
Charlie Prickitt
Stacy Baldree
Charles Villier
Benjamin Baldree

Stacy Baldree

James Baldree
Stacy Baldree
John Baldree
Stacy Baldree
Frank Ballard
A Sherwood Platt
Wally Bigbee
Fred Jesse
John Bolding
Steve Pace
Joseph Brown
L. Richard Millard
Gary Chambers
Gerald Roberts
Nathan Daniel
Richard Towns
Arthur Davis
Robert Tweed
Russ Deats
L. Richard Millard
Richard Donnelly
Brian Giersch
Jerry Dukes
Clyde Satterwhite
Steve Foster
Charles McCann
Lary Hill
Steven Tremper
Joe Hockett
James Foote
Damian Jones
Ed Williams
Richard Jones
Josh Moore
James Knight
Wayne Derrick
Buist Langley
Bruce Baird
Jesse Laurio
Christopher Sluss
Richard Lee
James Fannin
Chris Malone
Gerald Meisner
Korey
McAleesejergins
Jesse Davidson
Melvin McKenzie
Don Jackson
Josh McKinney
Jess Helton
Doug Miller
Chris Plaas
David Milligan
Bart Franey
Robert Nielsen
Thomas Leonhard
Benjamin Norris
Bryan Norris
Arthur Pemberton
Robert Baldwin
Jerry Peterson
Ronald
Sickenberger
Chris Plaas
Anthony Bowman
Bernard Polentz
John Dembrosky
James Preston
James Preston
Robert Price
W. Rufus Massey
David Reynolds
Michael Maetz
Marc Robinson

Barry Hearn

Richard Rucker
Richard Geiger
Robert Sasser
Alan Langley
Stephen Shivers
III
Michael Prokop
Doug Susong
Cleon Reece
Timothy Tarpley
W. Rufus Massey
Richard Thomason
Ron Montgomery
Joseph Thompson
Juan Russ
Jason Welis
Jay Wells
Raymond
Westmoreland
Jesse Davidson
Floyd White
Mel White
Guy Willetts
Michael Prokop
Alexander Wilson
Chester Alexander

Evergreen

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Del Thompson
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Keith Bohlken
Robert Robson
Phillip Brewer
Albert Fogle
Sidney Brown
Kenneth Leonard
Sean Cahill
Richard Huber
John Campbell
Roy Boad
Gary Cocca
Dale Collins
Michael Cummings
William Bush
Jan De Baat
Michael Wilcox
Cloyse Drake
David Murali
Loren Erpelding
Richard Davies
Michael Fleck
Robert Martindale
Steve Gny
Josh Honrud
Bill Graham
Sherwood Sage
Glenn Harvey
Gary Carlson
Tony Joyner
Walter Stoeffler
Colin Kershaw
Steve Webb
Andrew Lisitsky
Will Elliott
Thaddeus Marks
Steven Rimer
Wilfred Martin
David Jones
Robert McVein
Bill Sansom
Jeff Meigs

William Bush

Ron Morris
Daniel McMasters
Brian Mulholland
Peter Gasparrelli
Edward Pearson
Pierre Yans
David Poll
Donald Ferguson
Phillip Ratzlaff
David Wegenast
Robert Ross
O Robinson
Grant Scott
Gordon Nott
Randy Speiser
Daniel Bragg

Gordon Harris

Rex Allen
Theodore Sayle
Doy Antognazzi
William
Edmondson
Al Borland
James Blomster
John Brock
Dan Wilson
Jark Burden
James Burden
Roger Burrows
Robert Swearingen
Lucas Cantin

Far Western

Gilberto Cuevas
Jason Dougherty
Gary Davis
William Scofield
Dewey Dumers
William Spencer
Paul Dykes
Fred Merrick
Steven Fordyce
Steven Rollins
Tom Forsythe
Samuel Kier
Bond Francisco
Harry Paretchan

Quin Gustason

Jonathan Friedman
John Haddock
Lawrence Leek
Joseph Hammann
Rodney Brandt
Brian Hansen
Philip Cook
Stephen Henry
Douglas Wolven
Johar Hernandez
Carr
Richard Reed
Ricky Higashide
Robert Syppowicz
William Hill
Sam Stimple
Jared Hurley
Donald Lahr
Steve Huskins
Robert Dunn
Jacob Hutchinson
Harry Sundquist
Sean Kidder
Don Kidder
Joe Lira
Richard Reed
Juan Lopez
Richard Reed
Max Lorenz
James Blomster
Thomas Lowerre
David Lowerre
Jack Mann
Harold Ogren
Rogelio Marquez
Jason Dougherty
Gary Maxwell
Arthur Clayton
Tim McDonald
Leslie Dergan
Kent Melville
Jason Dyer
Andrew Meyer
Randy Meyer
Steve Morris
Doyle Doss
Keith Oberg
David Kilpatrick
Gary Olson
Jerry Orloff
Steve Pansulla
James Burden
Ted Pickell
Jason Dyer
Gerald Pierce
William Holden
Douglas Pike
Robert Maurer
Jason Poyner
Charles Haleky
Chris Prudhomme
Randy Harmon
Jeff Pulice
Norman Bernier
Dennis Pumford
James Blomster
Earl Ravid
Mike Clancy
Kory Reid
David Livingston
Jeff Reimer
David Yamell
Eric Reininga
Don Salz
Adam Rice

More new members are joining! Quick stats:

- In 2009, through April 15 we recruited 647 new members, 174 more than 2008's same period
- We're on track for 2,200 new members in 2009 (3,000 is the goal)
- New member average age: 46
- New members over age 70: 79 (12%)
- New members age 25 and under: 177 (27%)

Recruiter of the year: Gary

Logsdon, Alvin, Texas chapter.

With 11 Man of Notes in his chapter (among other big accomplishments), Gary wins the Jerry Orloff Recruitment Award for Outstanding Achievement.

1,155 men earned a Man of Note in 2008. Six of them brought in five or more members: Gary Logsdon (11), Alvin, Texas; Manny Lopez (10), San Marcos, Texas; Walter Anderson (7), Oldham City, Kentucky; Brooks Harkey Count (5), Dallas Metro, Texas; Darin Drown (5), Denver Mile High; Orval Wetzel (5), Carson City, Nev.

New chapters

- Wichita Falls, Texas (SWD)
- Alvin, Texas (SWD)
- Orange Ridge, Fla. (SUN)

Where to find recruiting tips and tricks. Go

to barbershop.org, click Documents Center and go to the Membership area. Have a tip to share? Send to membership@barbershop.org.



Edmund Springgate
Steven Rimer
Michael Stewart
Craig Runyan
Arthur Taft
Scott Hall
Wood Weiss
Robert Lundquist
Eric Wiesen
Al Lovik
Daren Wilson

Joseph Pedota
Cristian Carbajal
Richard Reed
Ed Carey
Richard Moore
Stephen Chrisman
Richard Shuman
Clinton Cole
Mac McIntosh
David Cook
William Pearson
Robert Cortez

Jason Franklin
Adam Kitt
Tracy Frederickson
Jan Roston
Alan Freedman
Fred Bolte
Judge French
Ivan Mahaydik
Alex George
Howard Straus
Richard Guidas
Albert Wright

Alan Gordon
Richard Roelofs
Harry Bell
Christopher Rossio
Chris Peterson
Robert Schumann
John Minsker
Raymond Schultz
Joseph Samora
David Schumm
Richard Baumann
Dave Schwalm
Daniel Wilson
William Spencer
Jordan Spencer
Curtis Thornton
Dwayne Delong
Henry Trenda
John McCallum
Denis Van Loan
James Blomster
Luther Wheat
William Holden
Laurence Whelan
John Minsker
Charley Williams
James Blomster
Jim Winningham
Al Leuthe

Illinois

Craig Clough
Mark Buckrop
Don Davis
Tom Woodall
David Freyling
Joel Winick
Jim Intagliata
Allen Munneke
Jonathan Miles

Raymond
Schwarzkopf
Ronald Parrett
Carl Swanson
Donald Perkins
Dale Perkins
Barrie Scott
Howard Schmidt
Gary Shirk
Mike Johnston
Jim Sindt
Robert Alexander
Andy Smith
Thomas Smith
David Walker
F. Joseph Tomecek
Kenneth Witowski
Tom Weidenhoefer

Johnny Appleseed

Jeffrey Anderson
James Sams
Samuel Bartley
James Sams
Cody Cimo
Robert Cochran
William Crisman
Jay Brannon
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Scott Eickhoff
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Walter Lorence
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Brian Loshbough
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Walter Mitchell
Billy Edwards
John Mohr

Larry Curl
Jacob Moon
David Nies
Erich Nischan
Stephen Patrick
Marlin Oldaker
Dick Worner
Fred Pixler
George Telle
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James Sams
Destin Richardson
Michael Hopper
David Siddle
Jack Stevens
Joey Spirito
Michael Keene
Jeffrey Stephan
Don Benson
Mark Stober
John Fritz
Casey Walters
James Butler
Don Wang
Bertram Gross
Justin White
Larry Goodwin
Peter Wright
David Smotzer
Michael Young
Corey Schildkamp

Land O' Lakes

Richard Baumann
Cliff Turnbull
Ryan Beardmore
Derek Glenna
Joe Berkley
Richard Mich

Welcome new associates!

Alexander, Kim
Anderson, Lori
Asmus, Chelsea
Ayers, Susan
Bernies, Carolyn
Berlin, Sheryl
Biffle, Lillian
Bourbonnais, Barbara
Bredesen, Sherrie
Bricson, Stephanie
Britt, Kathleen
Brooks, Dianne
Brown, Susan
Brueckman, Carol
Bureau, Anne
Burnett, Janet
Bustamante, Debbi
Byrne, Lucienne
Calland, Kimberly
Carney, Aileen
Casad, Roz
Cathaway, Jeanne
Chamberlain, Kathy
Chapple, Nancy
Cleveland, Mary
Anne
Conrad, Eleanor
Cormier, Michelle
Cox, Deborah
Davis, Laura
Deacon, M.
Debretsky, Dorothy
Dingle, Stephanie
Dunbar, Bev

Elswick, Becky
Evans, Janet
Feeney, Kathleen
Felicetti, Marlene
Findlay, Dorothea
Foris, Nancy
Frerichs, Karen
Funderburg, Mary
Galloway, Judith
Gantz, Bobbette
Gaspari, Jennifer
Grant, Betty
Gray, Jacquelyn
Greene, De Anna
Guy, Jinny
Hansen Ellis, Cynthia
Hansen, Katheen
Harbers, Holly
Hardy-Mills, Sharon
Hasty, Kristin
Heise, Patricia
Henderson, Carolyn
Hendricks, Sharon
Hole, Claudia
Hulbert, Kimberly
Hutchings, Ann
Iannuzzo, Liane
Jackson, S. Diane
Jaeger, Carol
Jett, Pamela
Jurcevic, Annette
Kennett, Dixie
Keys, Carrie
Kurek, Mary

Langdon, Diane
Leveille, Patricia
Lindeman, Lauren
Lord Bellis, Anne
Ludlum, Lori
Maclin, Dale
McAlexander, Ann
McGee, Rose
McTigue, Susan
Mendenhall, Dolores
Mendenhall, Kathleen
Merrick, Cheryl
Merrill, Polly
Merz, Laura
Michalak, Diane
Miller, Connie
Miller, Sharon
Mosley, Sandy
Muise, Linda
Nelson, Susi
Newman, Joanne
Nicholson, Diane
Noble, June
Nolan, Anne
Northup, Janet
O'Connor, Jeanne
Odell, Erin
Oglesby, Bette
Penkul, Adele
Perry-Edwards, Jennifer
Powell, Roxanne
Puffe, Ellen
Quinn, Raisha

Randall, Lynn
Randolph, Elizabeth
Rapp, Pat
Robichaud, Judy
Rourke, Karen
Ruddell, Rebecca
Salz, Rosye
Sauls, Susan
Schaefer, Karen
Schlinkert, Marianne
Schumacher, Stacy
Schwob, Bobbie
Silverstein, Renee
Smith, Rebecca
Speta, Jarmela
Stefan, Barbara
Stevens, Sharon
Stone, Kathleen
Sutton, Jean
Swanson, Jeanne
Taylor, Edna
Thomas, Delores
Thompson, Kristen
Trapp, Joona
Tucker, Susan
Walker, Joy
Walrafen, Renee
Ward, Jean
Watson, Catharine
Weatherbee, Theresa
Whitehaus, Lori
Wolf, Jean
Wolfe, Sally
Young, Janice

Douglas Clum
Don Betts
David Conrad

Peter Puleo
Mike Foley
Roger Eisenman

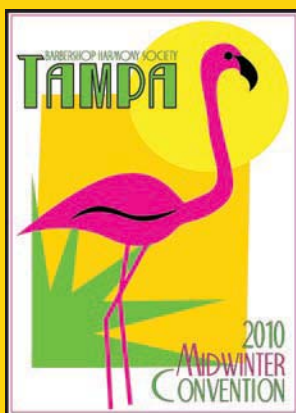
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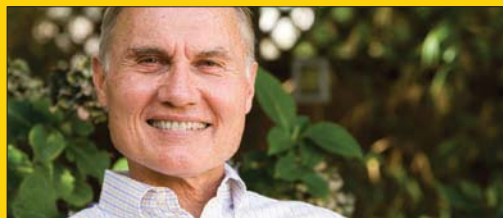
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William Schaick
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Matt O'Leary
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Salvatore Petralia
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Clyde Kreider
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Steven Lingo
David Sande
Steven Lingo
Pinger Saunders
James Siverly
Chuck Sharpe
Richard Powell
Gene Sheskin
George Martin
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Vincent Capaccio
David Stevens
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Jerry TePaske
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Ronald Blair
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Ralph Fishman
James Munroe
Robert Inglis
Kevin Orrell
Harold Higgins
Orin Pacht
Bruce Pacht
James Patton
Ric Tetrault
Mitchell Perrin
Stephen Barden
Todd Pettigrew
John Peach
David Pierce
James Kenealy
Walter Pitts
Robert Pitts
Thomas Pomfret
Richard Nordmeyer
Jonas Rimkunas
Stephen Barden
Sheldon Roberts
John Peach
David Schutt
Robert Gardner
Michael Sorrell
Dave Stonecliffe
Robert Spencer
Peter Sajko
Brian Spicer
John Peach
David Stockton
Jonathan Watson

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Ron Raaphorst
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Ian Wilson
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Robert VanBuskirk
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Ruegsegger
Ludwig Ouzoonian
Owen Shape
Dan Winer
Matthew Small
Kevin Duncel
Robert Stephenson
Marvin Wilson
Gerald Van Wieren
Dennis Grabill
G Webster
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Rocky Mountain
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C Brad Anderson
Kriston Brooke
Pete Peterson

Roy Carson
Loren Roth
Noe Cisneros
Pete Peterson
Kevin Cohenour
Charles Frush
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James Griffiths
Jonathan Griffiths
Matthew Grimes
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Christopher
Jennings
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James Gore
Dale Lange
Dean Crouse
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Woody Woods
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- Networking opportunities with other associates and members
- Vested interest in the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Recognition for recruiting new members into the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Higher inclusion in Society communications and marketing



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Swipes 'n' Swaps

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

DIRECTOR WANTED

The Heart Of Texas Chorus is accepting applications for the position of Chorus Director. Qualifications desired include: outstanding musicianship with directing experience, excellent leadership, communication and people skills, and a driving passion for continuous improvement and accomplishment. Contact: Don@Inbody.net.

The Roanoke Valley Virginia Gentlemen is looking for an enthusiastic male or female director to lead this active 40-man B- level chorus to continue growing numerically & musically. The Chapter has been in existence for 40 years in the Mid- Atlantic District. Check our web site @ www.vagents.org. Email: barbershopper1@jetbroadband.com.

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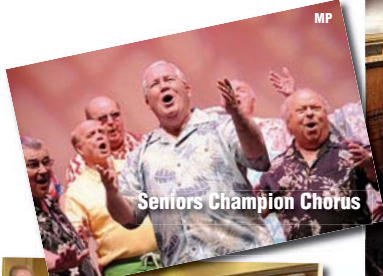
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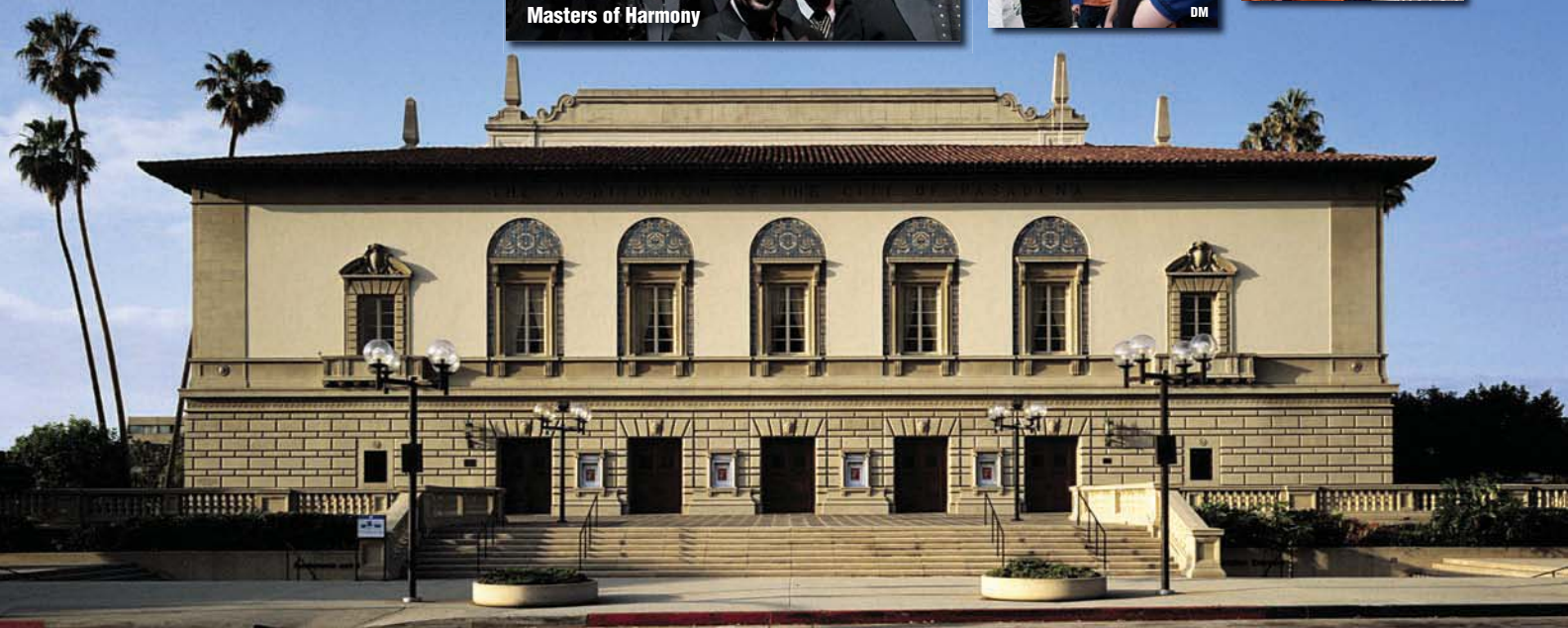
Midwinter in Pasadena

If a picture's worth a thousand words, here's a book on the greatest Midwinter ever (again!)

PHOTOS THIS PAGE BY DAVID MEYE (DM) AND MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY (MP)



You simply had to be there to see why Midwinter keeps getting bigger and better every year. Something special happens when hundreds of young guys, the best of the old guys and the best from the international stage join more than a thousand attendees in one small space. On top of some of the best shows and contests anywhere was the non-stop blending of voices young and old filling every corner of the Civic Auditorium. You'll just have to join us in Tampa to see why our smaller international convention is so big!



2009 International Seniors Competitors



1. Audacity (FWD)

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



2. Resisting-A-Rest

Steven Warnaar (Br), Thomas Conner (L), Phil Haines (Bs), Bruce LaMarte (T)
Contact Steven: swarnaar@yahoo.com

PORTRAITS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY



3. Take Note (ILL)

Steve Coon (T), Ralph Brooks (L), Ed Chapman (Bs), Dick Kingdon (Br)
Contact Ralph: (773) 282-5023; ralphbrooks@juno.com



4. Chordplay (ILL)

Rick Anthony (T), Tom Herrick (L), Lynn Hauldren (Br), Greg Martin (Bs)
Contact Greg: (815) 639-9692; martingraphics4150@gmail.com



5. Test Of Time (JAD)

Clockwise from front: Mark Stock (Bs), Glen Spangler (Br), Don Pullins (L), Gary Wulf (T)
Contact Gary: (614) 793-8864; parkave@columbus.rr.com



6. Over Easy (JAD)

Alan Reese (T), Kirk Roose (Bs), Carl Ondrus (L), Glenn Siebert (Br)
Contact Glenn: (440) 572-5558; glenn@perspectiveview.com

2009 Youth Chorus Festival Competitors



Georgia Spirit

Clay Hine & Tim Brooks, directors

Society members and non-members, formed with help of Dixie YIH VP Jim Moore with Atlanta Vocal Project as major sponsors. Victims of no mic-tester chorus for the festival, they got to (had to?) perform twice!



Northwest Vocal Project

Donny Rose, director
The festival winner also competed last year, returning with help from the Bellevue, Wash. chapter. A chartered Society chapter, they placed third the 2008 EVG fall district contest. They frequently incorporate paintball, cookouts and video games into weekend rehearsals.

Festival winner!

PHOTOS THIS PAGE BY DAVID MEYE (DM) AND MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY (MP)



Pacific Suns • Allan Webb, director

Small in numbers but incorporated Ringmasters (2008 College Quartet Champs) into their ranks, as well as some college graduate students. Almost didn't compete at all until San Diego-area chapters helped out

Carson City, Nev. chapter helped bring one of the largest and youngest choruses to the Festival with little to no cost to the students.



Wissota Voices • Scott Perau, director

Started at the University of Wisconsin, young men from all over western Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota. The Land O' Lakes District and area chapters got them to Pasadena after finances kept them from last year's contest. Great, squeaky-clean sound!



Seneca Land District Youth Chorus

Richard Lewellan, director
With help from the district and many area chapters, went from new group to competitor in a couple of months, with three tricky arrangements at a high level. Spearheaded by Sean Mulligan (age 21), solid young singers + upper-tier director = recipe for unlimited success.



Tri-Star • Neil "Pookie" Dingle, director

Back for its second year, it's the NYC-area chorus most likely to be mistaken for Midwest Vocal Express. "Lullaby – Goodnight My Angel," as part of their Toy Soldier set, slayed the audience. If there were an award for off-stage tagging and enthusiasm, they might have won it.

Heart of Gold • Janet Matranga & Natalie Miller, directors

This high school group (including some alumni), formed thanks to years of local



music education support from the Placerville, Calif. chapter. Midwinter fired up the young guys so much that they're keeping the chorus together with Placerville's help!



52-eighty

Chris Vaughn & Matt Swann, directors
Named after Denver's elevation, the high-end performers were big audience pleasers who came close to winning the contest on their first try. The second-place chorus's opener was a Vocal Spectrum-worthy arrangement of "The Flintstones."



The 505 • Erik Clack, director

The young guys from Albuquerque may have placed third, but their 35 singers put together a rendition of "Innsfree" that was the talk of the Festival. The song also yielded Singing scores consistent with the top half of international competitors.



Carson High School • Jake Linstrom & Phillip Wortman, directors

Jake directed as a high school sophomore!

The International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival, hosted by the Barbershop Harmony Society and sponsored by Harmony Foundation, nearly doubled in its second year with 10 youth choruses. Your donations to Harmony Foundation made this "once in a lifetime" experience possible for 267 young men and their directors at this festival alone. For more information on how you can build the next generation of barbershoppers, visit harmonyfoundation.org.

2009 International Seniors Competitors



7. Village Green (DIX)

Jim Nappier (Br), Charles Rose (L), Jon Vickers (Bs), Ted Leinbach (T)
Contact Jon: sing4parts@triad.rr.com



8. Revelation (LOL)

Clockwise from front: Frank Kozlowski (T), Bill Griffith (L), Gene Keller (Bs), Darryl Cremer (Br)
Contact Darryl: (262) 884-4826; dbcremer@wi.rr.com



9. Steppin' Out (RMD)

Kim Gilbertsen (T), David Thorell (L), Lon Szymanski (Bs), Tom Roberts (Br)
Contact Tom: (435) 647-0836; troberts@burgoyne.com



10. Chicago Times (ILL)

Ray Henders (T), Dave Boo (Bs), Bob Squires (L), Dave Cowin (Br)
Contact Dave Boo: (815) 838-7950; davidcboo@comcast.net



11. Motley Q (FWD)

Paul Engel (T), David Haedtler (Bs), Steve Bishop (L), Jack Steck (Br)
Contact David: davidhaedtler@hotmail.com



12. Great Western Timbre Co. (SUN)

Jack Liddell (Br), Ron Black (Bs), Dwight Holmquist (L), Roger Smeds (T)
Contact Ron: (830) 557-6563; ron@heartoftexaschorus.org

2009 International Seniors Competitors



13. Perfect Timing (LOL)

Clockwise from front: Robert Haase (Br), Ed Boehm (T), Robert Thiel (L), Robert Lemkuil (Bs)

Contact Ed: (715) 735-6240; eboehm@new.rr.com



14. Metamusical Brothers (CSD)

Dan Clark (T), Gary Drown (L), Fran Wilson (Br), Kent Smallcomb (Bs)

Contact Gary: (308) 236-2083; jdrown@kearney.net



15. Synchromesh (EVG)

Michael Wilcox (T), Gordon Harris (L), Byron Walton (Bs), Bill Findlay (Br)

Contact Gordon: (604) 530-4795; gordonandadrienne@shaw.ca



16. Solstice (ONT)

Clockwise from front: Morgan Lewis (T), Ken Fisher (Bs), Mark Kiely (L), Barry Towner (Br)

Contact Barry: btowner@interhop.net



17. Adirondack Harmony Co. (SLD)

Ron Prutzman (T), Lansing Laraway (L), Stanton Smith (Bs), John Hamilton (Br)

Contact Stanton: (315) 386-3608; ssmith46@twcnv.rr.com



18. Play It Again! (ONT)

Rod McGillivray (T), Bill Vermue (Bs), Jim Whitehead (L), John Wilkie (Br)

Contact Rod: (819) 778-0973; rodmcg@videotron.ca



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2009 International Seniors Competitors



19. Youth Reclamation Project (MAD)

Hardman Jones (T), Vic Owen (Bs), Mike Wallen (L), Roger Tarpy (Br)
Contact Mike: isingbs@yahoo.com



20. Melodies & Memories (NED)

Richard White (T), Frank Frisoni (Bs), Leo Ouellette (L), Guy Haas (Br)
Contact Leo: (207) 646-0907; leolead@maine.rr.com



21. Airborne (ONT)

David Streeter (Br), Bruce Marchant (L), Murray Warne (Bs),
Richard Ackerman (T)
Contact David: davestreeter@powergate.ca



22. Backstage (SWD)

Jon Smith (T), Mike Johnson (L), Don Smith (Bs), Jack Ware (Br)
Contact Jack: (214) 351-3964; jackware@sbcglobal.net



23. Port City Sound (NED)

Clockwise from front: Frederick Moore (T), John Baggs (Br), Mark Lumbard (L),
Jim Simpson (Bs)
Contact Jim: (207) 623-3391; jsimpson@ghi.net



24. Showtime (PIO)

Wayne Hodgson (Br), Allan Smith (Bs), Thomas Weidner (L), James Johnson (T)
Contact James: (616) 364-7183; jamescj@sbcglobal.net



Albuquerque gathers to sing for singing's sake

Society President Bill Biffle puts his money where his mouth is when he says he wants barbershoppers to enjoy more unstructured time singing as an end unto to itself. Here's his report on an interchapter event—expected to become a regular occurrence—that he organized among male and female barbershoppers in his hometown.

The idea for what came to be called “Harmonic Convergence” came to me after learning what barbershop chapter meetings were like in the earliest days of the Barbershop Harmony Society. When O.C. Cash and Rupert Hall gathered men who loved to harmonize, there were no official rules during meetings—just harmony!

Guidelines were eventually created for organizational purposes, and soon, the first contest was held. New standards developed, and the fun—at least the unfettered fun of casual harmonizing—began to slip away.

It took many years for structure to subsume the “freedom to harmonize,” but eventually it did. Chorus rehearsals replaced chapter meetings, and we haven't been the same since. A very wise, very experienced barbershopper once said to me, “All the trouble started when someone said, ‘Let's sell tickets!’” It's hard not to think he had it mostly right.

Inspired by that history, I gathered some fellow barbershoppers in Albuquerque and we organized a night of pure singing. We passed out lyric sheets (no music) for several “community singing” songs. We then broke



PHOTOS BY BECKY WHALEN



into smaller groups and separated; singing tags, woodshedding, and reading

simple arrangements. Most everyone floated between activities. After some more singing by other quartets and the youth chorus in town, I expected everyone to head home, but they actually had to run several of us out around closing time.

It was a great success: it built community, uplifted our hearts, put a smile on every face, and—of course—a song in every heart! It was truly a “convergence of harmony.”



Bill teaches a tag

Spiff up those audition tapes—National Anthem season is in full swing!



Thirteen members of the Omaha Heartland Harmonizers sang before the final game of the 2008 College World Series playoffs, one of 17 groups selected from 175 auditions.

Calliope performed the two national anthems at a Baltimore vs. Toronto game last year, helping celebrate the 25th anniversary of the 1983 World Series with 30 members of the championship team.



RSVP was one of this year's winners in the New York Mets' “Oh Shea Can You Sing” vocal competition, available for view at YouTube. (Search for “RSVP National Anthem.”)



To Russia with love: Festival features Canadian groups, OC Times and Dr. Greg Lyne

A week with Dr. Greg! Peter the Great's capital, Venice of the North! The Hermitage!

These visions excited members of the **MegaCity Chorus** when Lyne issued his invitation—come to the Barbershop Festival he organizes in St. Petersburg.

At Director Chris Arnold's suggestion, the Canadian content increased when **A Cappella Showcase**, five times Harmony Inc. silver medallists and their quartet, **Front and Centre**, joined the team. When **OC Times** came on board with sub (!) Tim Waurick—a dream team!

A whirlwind August week included a cruise on the Neva, two imperial estates, the famed Hermitage, and five shows at stunning venues—the State Academic Capella Hall (Mozart played there), the Peter and Paul Cathedral, the intimate Rose Pavilion in a 1,500-acre estate, and the festival Finale at the Grand Philharmonic Hall before an audience of 2,400 professional musicians, educators, and cultural elite. A cappella director Judy Comeau said, "The concert halls ... where we performed were breathtaking ... more like palaces than theatres."

Arnold, Comeau, Scott McCarthy, and other Canadian coaches led master classes. A Canuck team with a new game to export, led by Lyne and OC Times! Two segments on Russian national TV were icing on the cake.

Megacity featured two Canadian folk icons: the Rankin family's "Fare Thee Well" and Stompin' Tom Connors' "Good Ol' Hockey Game" complete with Stanley Cup. The audience murmured, chuckled, roared with recognition as the chorus unfurled boards, pulled out sticks, and donned jerseys lettered home and away in Russian.

The showstopper at every concert was "Moscow Nights"—done before but never in Russian. (These Canadians knew Russian!)

The festival finale showcased eight young ensembles from across Russia sponsored by their culture ministry.



They wouldn't be true Canadians if they didn't refer to the national sport

They wowed their sophisticated audience with polish newly acquired in master classes.

Finally, the crowd rose in a five-minute standing ovation as the ensemble of two choruses and quartet finished with Arnold's 15-part adaptation of Elton John's "Circle of Life," the concert showpiece. The Ninth Barbershop Festival was history.

Megacity had shared the stage with some of the best talent in barbershop, entertained audiences in beautiful and historic venues, and lived out the dream of being musical ambassadors.

— Don Maudsley & Larry Grupp,
Megacity Chorus



This was Greg Lyne's 9th trip to what has become a major Russian event

CHAPTER ETERNAL

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

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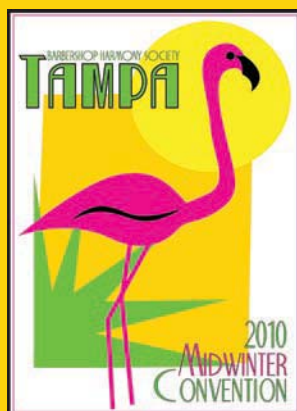
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www.bqpa.com

Ancient and Harmonious Society of Woodshedders
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Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors (PROBE)
www.harmonize.com/probe

Allied organizations

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MENC: The National Association for Music Education
www.menc.org

Harmony, Incorporated
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American Choral Directors Association
www.acdaonline.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!!



Try this condensed Ed Waesche classic

We are aware that more and more, choruses and quartets are being asked to sing for events honoring the veterans of military service. I thought it might be a good thing to use our tag page to make a double play—or should I say double “sing”—song/tag.

Below is an arrangement by Ed Waesche. For newer barbershoppers who didn't know Ed—he graduated cum laude from Princeton University and spent 43 years in the aerospace industry as designer, project manager and strategic planner and was an accomplished jazz piano player. As a barbershopper, Ed played a 49-year leadership role that included creating over 600 (often



a member of the Society's international board, the executive committee, Society president 1998-1999, and a number of very important Society study committees.

Tragically, Ed lost his battle with cancer May 2, 2006 at the age of 73. His wife, Kate, has placed all of his arrangements under the care and oversight of the Society.

It is a condensed version of his arrangement (So-

ciety # 200905) that has all three verses arranged with a key change going into the third verse, and is two pages long. The text of verses two and three are shown beneath the music. You can certainly enjoy singing one of the verses as a “tag,” though.

We continue to be grateful to Ed for providing hundreds of fine arrangements for barbershoppers. He lives in our memories through his music. ■



wildly popular) arrangements, singing in top-20 quartets, coaching, teaching at Harmony College, serving as chairman of the Contest & Judging Committee, Music category judge and chairman of the World Harmony Council. Besides all of those things, he was a stalwart leader as

TAPS

Arrangement by ED WAESCHE

Tenor Lead

Day is done, gone the sun from the lakes, from the hills, from the sky. All is

Bari Bass

well, safe - ly rest, God is nigh. nigh, God is nigh. nigh, God is nigh.

5 6 7 8

x

Fading light dims the sight
and a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise for our days
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky.
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

This Arrangement © 2008 by Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA)

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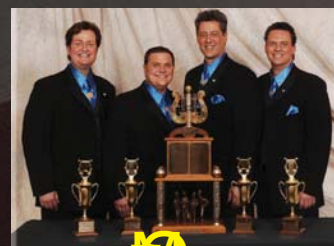
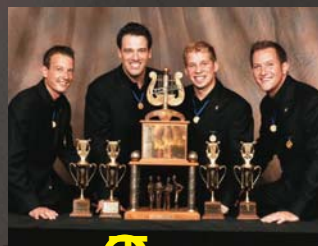
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