May/June 2014

THEHARMONIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

INTER-CHAPTER COLLABORATION AT ITS FINEST





Love to sing? Join us at Acappellooza Summer!

July 8-11, 2014

REGISTRATION
\$310 by June 6
\$345 after June 6

\$35

For more information and to register, call Diana Rehagen at (314) 516-6590 or online at: acappelloozasummer.com

Like us on Facebook – search "Acappellooza Summer"

Limited partial scholarships available

Housing at Oak Hall on the UMSL campus, featuring 4-bedroom suites with shared full bath

T-shirt, drawstring bag, professional instruction and fun activities included

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner included in camp registration

"Acappellooza Summer" is an a cappella music summer camp held July 8–11, 2014, at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL) for students in grades 9–12. For four days students will be immersed in singing led by some of the world's most prominent names in a cappella music, including three-time international champion chorus the AMBASSADORS OF HARMONY, two-time gold medalists DR. JIM HENRY and DEBBIE CLEVELAND, and International Mixed Quartet Champions DOUBLE DATE.

In addition to the intense rehearsals, there will be opportunities to just have fun with a pool party, karaoke party, a movie night and more!



Jim Henry Men's Choir Director



REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

Debbie ClevelandWomen's Choir Director

May/June



Why are Jack Sparrow and Captain Hook (Adam Scott and Steven Dugdale) teaching a tag to more than 2,000 fans at Midwinter in Long Beach? It's hard to explain, because you really had to be there. No, really—from the moment we stepped on the Queen Mary Thursday night to the last 5 a.m. tag Sunday morning, you really had to be there.

Features

- 12 First Chorus College to take off at Harmony University
 Four choruses will spend a week in Nashville in
 - 2014, with 2015 slots already starting to get filled.
- 3 choruses from 3 districts combine for 3 shows in 3 days While logistically complex, the rewards of working with other chapters were well worth the effort.

MIKE LIETKE, MIDWEST VOCAL EXPRESS

- Seniors and Youth Chorus We saw 29 Seniors competitors and 20 Youth Choruses in Long Beach. See them one more time.
- Who wins it all in Vegas? You! A wild quartet draw, auspicious qualifying scores and an epic chorus contest set the stage for an incredible week of contests and more in Vegas. LORIN MAY, EDITOR, THE HARMONIZER
- Form, storm, norm & perform 2013 will be remembered as a year with significant moves toward a new "normal" for the Society. MARTY MONSON, CEO



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MEMBER SERVICE DIRECTORY

Where to find answers

THE TAG

"I've Been Working on the Railroad"

Shannon Elswick, Society President • shannon@rareblendguartet.com

The deeper meaning of 'Shop 'Till You Drop

mmediate Past President Alan Lamson once told me to just stay focused on the task and my two years as president would be over before I knew it. At the time, I thought those were just comforting words in the face of what appeared to be a long term. Now, as we are preparing for my last convention in this role, I know Alan was not just trying to make me feel better. The last year and a half has just flown by and, before it runs out, there is something I need to tell

It is tradition for the Society president to have a motto for his term. Can you remember some of them? Alan set the bar really high by not only having a great motto, "music is love and love is music," but by having a whole song arranged to commemo-



In addition to what

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fident the more we

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apply to everything I

can think of in life.

rate it. And what about those "I Sing" buttons? I don't know how many were sold or given away during his term and afterward, but I imagine it must have been in the thousands. Bill Biffle's motto was "Together in Harmony" and Noah Funderburg's was "Harmony 4 Life." Perhaps the

> one most similar to mine was from Roger Lewis, "Singing is Life ... the rest is just details."

I didn't come up with 'Shop 'til you drop on my own. I first heard it in a verbal report from Gary Parker regarding an external focus task force back when I first got on the board. It surfaced a couple years later on the back of T-shirts worn by the **HD Chorus** when they sang in the Youth Chorus Festival at the 2010 Midwinter in Tampa.

I didn't promote or even explain it last year, as it was important to keep the focus on the 75th Anniversary. The team that developed the plans for our big anniversary did such an outstand-

ing job of creating and marketing the collateral materials, we needed to capitalize on their outstanding work. Now that April has passed and we are into our 76th year, its time I explained myself.

The singer gets the most out of singing

Marty Monson has been a great evangelist for focusing more on using singing to change lives. He also wants us to get our audiences singing instead of just watching us sing. This is important, because I believe barbershop is most fulfilling for the participants. Sure, our audiences enjoy what we do and everyone loves to experience great performances, but the real thrill, at least for me, is in the singing. And I don't mean just competition.

My sons, Aaron and Scott, and I are often up until the wee hours at conventions roaming the halls looking for someone to sing with us. Although we are all baritones (at least at heart), Scott sings bass and Aaron sings tenor on a dozen or so songs and almost any tag you can imagine. That means the three of us are on the prowl for just about any unsuspecting lead or baritone. (And anyone who knows the tenor melody to "It Is Well With My Soul" is especially fair game.)

Sing well if you can, but compete anyway

But competition is also important. We sing in **THX** for a very talented director, Alex Rubin. We are not all excellent singers, me especially, but we are all better singers for the coaching we get from him and the way he inspires us individually to be greater than we thought we could be. We all put a substantial amount of time into learning our music, mostly so we don't disappoint Alex.

In our last convention, I sang in a new quartet that scored in the mid-50s. We decided to form the quartet a week before the contest registration deadline, had one rehearsal and then sang chorus songs that were beyond our collective talent threshold. I have friends who would never dream of such a thing because it might be embarrassing to sing in a C-level quartet. Of course, I would love to sing in a great quartet and be a winner but, apparently, you need to be a much better singer than I am to be in that kind of quartet. But, you see, in addition to what we learn from going through the contest cycle and getting coaching from the judges, we get better and more confident the more we do it. And you know what? That seems to apply to everything I can think of in life.

So, whether you are a chorus singer, quartet man, tagger, woodshedder or gang singer, raise your voice and sing for all you are worth. Ben Zander says we should throw ourselves into our lives like a rock in a pond and watch the ripples. In that spirit, I say, "shop 'til you drop!"

shannon@rareblendquartet.com

STRAIGHT TALK

Marty Monson, CEO/Executive director • MMonson@barbershop.org



Here's a chapter's ongoing story—what's yours?

ait until you hear what the Muskegon, Mich. Chapter has put at the top of each chapter meeting's written agenda. It's more than words—it's why multiple chapter members are out front, directing. This is a smaller, noncompeting chapter that does so many things right, and is beginning to grow and thrive. And I haven't even mentioned their great director!

Instead of writing a column, I've decided to share what I recently told our staff about my visit. (Our great new video guy, Jeremy Gover, got advance notice.) See it at *bit.ly/*

Here's Muskegon's story. I can't wait to learn yours.

muskegonbhs. We have so many stories like theirs happen-

ing in our Society—stories that nobody would know unless they saw it themselves. Too much of our interchapter contact happens only at

conventions and contests. There's so much more going on in our Society that doesn't involve a contest set. We're working to find and share more of these stories, and you'll hear more on

that at another time.

Please watch this short video and think about the good that someone might discover when visiting your chapter. We have a lot of Barbershoppers making not only music, but making a difference. I can't wait to learn your story.

lege Northwest • June 28-July 6 International Convention

What's in Marty's Daytimer?

May 22-26, BABS

40th convention

Harmony Col-

• June 18-21

What is Marty reading?

 Why Quitters Win, by Nick Tasler



Entertainment, and focusing on the new focus

A sharper external focus

ow many men comprise a barbershop quartet? 4+! Everyone hearing the sound, the audience, is part of the quartet. Without the audience, a barbershop quartet would be like a tree falling alone: does it make a sound? As entertainers, our audience participates in our effort. Never forget: we do not do this alone.

> STEVE DIAMOND Laguna Woods, Calif.

Mission before membership? A contrary opinion

Regarding Marty Monson's column, "Mission comes before membership," I respectfully disagree. I believe membership comes first. We cannot fulfill our mission without new members. If every member recruits one man, we survive. If every member recruits two men, we thrive. If every member recruits no men, we die.

> BILL KENDIG Largo, Fla.

Looking good? Yes. Looking to entertain? Maybe

In the Letters section, Joanne Newman decried the use of black or gray outfits by performing quartets or choruses. One of the beauties of a black outfit is that it can help neutralize the imperfect bodies we have at this stage in our lives. If we were all young, fit folks like those in **Westminster Chorus**, other looks would be equally appropriate.

One of the most impressive outfits from a few years ago were the long, black coats that the Vocal Ma-

jority wore to make them all look like old-west sheriffs. Very appropriate. Bottom line: wear what makes you (or your group) look good. If you are confident that you look good, it will help you perform and sing at your best.

> ROBERT HITCHCOCK New York, N.Y.

Joanne Newman decried the lack of fun and diversity in the appearance of our quartets and choruses, especially in contests. My attendance at barbershop conventions goes back more than

60 years, and as recently as 30 years ago, most competing groups would often perform some sort of skit or be in costume that pertained to their songs. A few still do, but, sadly, not very many. This is called entertainment, an element that is almost completely not existing in our contests. As stated by Ms. Newman, our contests are dull, dull, dull. This trend will continue until entertainment is given a prominent place in one of our judging categories (not just talked about, but actually judged and scored).

Back when this type of two-song set was the norm, members came to the Division and District Contests because they were entertaining and fun. Now members rarely come unless they are competing. Could it be that even our members desire to be entertained? Just maybe, putting entertainment into our contests could be a shot in the arm for attendance at conventions. After all, shouldn't we be entertaining our audiences whenever we are performing, whether in a competition setting or not?

> DENNIS WOODSON Fullerton Chapter, Calif.



On page 27 of the March/April issue, the above photo was incorrectly cropped. Australian Barbershopper Ian Miller (left) receives his Barbershop Harmony Society Certified Director certificate from Barbershop Harmony Australia Secretary Kevin White.



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Complete contact info: pages 38-39

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 $\hbox{@}$ 2014 The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. dba The Barbershop Harmony Society. Printed in the USA





IS THERE A BETTER WAY OR DAY TO CELEBRATE THE NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD?

The MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Thursday July 3 2014, 4.15 PM - 6.30 PM Ticket pricing: \$39 only! Get your tickets NOW!



Celebrity City Chorus - SAI TLA quartet - BHA

Vocal FX - NZABS

Reckless - BABS

Epic - Harmony Inc

Cottontown Chorus - BABS

Musical Island Boys - NZABS

Sounds of Aloha Chorus - BHS Hawaii

Gold Rush - LABBS

Double Date - Intl. Mixed Champions

The EntertainMen - SNOBS

Zero8 - SNOBS

Ringmasters - SNOBS

Lemon Squeezy - SNOBS

Masterpiece - BHS

Toronto Northers Lights - BHS



Hal Leonard arrangement could spell much wider distribution

al Leonard Corporation, the world's largest publisher of songbooks, has agreed to jointly market more than 100 additional arrangements to educators in its extensive worldwide network. This comes in addition to Hal Leonard's popular Close Harmony for Men and Sing in the Barbershop Quartet series, which have been published since 2007.

Marketing will include Hal Leonard's national Joy of Singing workshops and reading sessions at select music retailers. Hal Leonard plans to reach the growing international market through its operations in Europe, Australia/New Zealand and Asia.

Doug Lady, senior VP of sales for Hal Leonard, says, "Thanks to shows like *The Sing-Off*, the a cappella format is becoming increasingly popular and reaching a younger audience. There are great opportunities that the Barbershop Harmony Society and Hal Leonard can realize, making the hits of yesterday and today available in great barbershop arrangements."

Barbershop Harmony Society CEO/Executive Director Marty Monson comments, "Barbershop harmony is vocal music in its purest form. It provides not only a creative outlet, but also an incomparable sense of fraternity. We've loved working with Hal Leonard, and we're thrilled to be expanding our relationship with them to bring barbershop harmony to an even larger global audience."

For more information or to place an order for barbershop publications from Hal Leonard, please call 800-554-0626, email sales@halleonard.com or visit www.halleonard.com.

Oscar winner Kevin Spacey recently guest starred; the guartet (without Spacey) later performed at a Billy Joel concert.



Three leads, four champs, five icons pass away in 6-week span

Only four men a year become international champions, yet there was a six-week period in March and April in which the bad news never seemed to stop. Here's to the four champs and another icon who recently passed away (L-R):

- March 13: Jerry Fairchild, tenor of the Sidewinders, 1964 champ.
- April 7: Bruce Conover, lead of **Vikings**, 1953
- April 8: Dick Chacos, lead of the **Four States**men, 1967 champ.
- April 29: Keith Houts, bari of The Side Street Ramblers, 1983 champ.











March 30 saw the passing of Tommy Spirito, lead of The Four Rascals, considered one of the best non-champion quartets of all time. The next day, NED Barbershopper Tom Shillue, a professional comedian, frequent Fox News personality, and bass of Jimmy Fallon's The Ragtime Gals quartet, made a tribute to Tommy on The Five. See it at bit.ly/TSpirito.

The latest from The Ragtime Gals

The Harmonizer herewith inaugurates a new standing column: "This week on *The Tonight Show* Starring **The** Ragtime Gals Barbershop Quartet." Jimmy Fallon's team has concocted an unbeatable comedic recipe: take a traditionally garbed barbershop quartet (brilliant stripes and straw hats), add superstars like Oscar winner Kevin Spacey or Grammy winner Justin Timberlake, and blend with incongruous hip-hop lyrics. These mash-ups are crushing on YouTube and bringing the audience screaming to its feet. Barbershop the hits: bit.ly/ragtimegals.

Newfangled Four in Pittsburgh help launch an impactful approach to convention cities

Collegiate champion The Newfangled Four raised the roof at an April press conference in Pittsburgh, as CEO Marty Monson told the community that the Barbershop Harmony Society intends to "make a lasting impact" when its annual convention comes to Pittsburgh June 28-July 5, 2015.

Thanks to the Pittsburgh Convention Committee for a great concept for the 2015 logo!

Speaking to more than 400 business and community leaders at the VisitPITTSBURGH annual meeting, Marty outlined a vision of service tied to the "Tourism Builds Community" theme promoted by the convention bureau. "For 75 years, our conventions have swept into town, sung up a storm, spent 10 million dollars in lodging

and hospitality, then disappeared, leaving only an echo," he said. "We want to change that. We want to make a lasting impact in the communities we visit, by helping shine a spotlight on the good that music brings to lives. We want to start making friends and contacts throughout the region with whom we can partner to make a difference not just for a week, but with a lasting impact."



To that end, the Society is actively seeking community partners in the arts and tourism sectors that have needs that Barbershop-

pers can support while visiting. "We hope that vocal ensembles of all stripes will sing with us and allow us to sing with them to celebrate our shared passion for creating something beautiful in community with others," he continued. "We want to be of service, of all kinds—fundraising, supporting music educators, and bringing music resources to all communities."

CONVENTIONS

2014

Las Vegas June 29-July 6 2015

Pittsburgh June 28-July 5 2016 Nashville

July 3-10 2017 MINNEAPOLIS July 2-9

2018 Orlando July 1-8

2019 SALT LAKE CITY June 30-July 7

MIDWINTER

barbershop.org/midwinter New Orleans Jan. 6-10, 2015 Reno

Jan. 26-31, 2016

HARMONY **UNIVERSITY 2014** Nashville, Tenn. July 27-Aug. 3, 2014

Chip Gallent named Society Chief Operating Officer; Jeremy Gover helms A/V department



Chip Gallent joined headquarters staff in April as Chief Operating Officer, with direct management of teams in customer service, Harmony Marketplace merchandise and music publications sales, business technologies and platforms, and project coordination. Gallent comes to the post with more than 20 years of experience in e-commerce and

marketing, including retail, fulfillment, and entertainment business lines. "I'm really excited about bringing Chip's skill set to the organization as we pursue increased awareness for barbershop around the world," said CEO Marty Monson. "Chip brings us strategic and operational skills in critical web technologies that will help us release more music, more media and more value for our global audience."

Ieremy Gover has taken over media production responsibilities, beginning at the end of March. Jeremy comes with extensive background as a daily radio producer and sports blogger, bringing us a strong news orientation, creativity and production sensibility.



Your chapter is fun? **Hurry! Tell the world** in The Harmonizer

What puts a smile on your face and keeps you coming back every week? The way you run chapter meetings? How you reach out to your community? Getting together with other chapters?

The July/August issue of *The Harmonizer* is going to be all about FUN, and we'd love to feature your chapter. Tell us in 300 words or less by JUNE 22 and we just may publish it in the next issue of *The* Harmonizer. Even better if you send pictures! Send text (email or Word doc) and pictures (JPEGs - the originals, in the form they left the camera) to harmonizer@barbershop.org.

Paul Olguin to write 100 tags in 100 days—sing them all for free



Songwriter/arranger/quartetter/ all-around Barbershopper Paul Olguin thinks big: "To celebrate the practice of barbershop tag singing, I'm going to attempt to write a tag every day between

now and the start of Harmony University 2014." Paul is releasing these tags under a Creative Commons license that encourages recording, multitracking, remixing and broadly sharing these little gems. Come grab some tags to share at your chapter meeting this week. Better yet, come to Harmony University and sing them with the master himself. bit.ly/100tagsin100days

Freddie King lives on as the namesake for Mike Rowe's pup

TV star/Barbershopper Mike Rowe recently asked his nearly 1 million Facebook fans to help him name his new puppy. He ended up naming the little guy after a high school music teacher who changed his life, Society Hall-of-Famer Freddie King-an inspiration in many Barbershoppers' lives as well.



Read the story at bit.ly/mikerowesdog, and make sure to check out the end of the post where he pays tribute to

"PS. Fred King was the real deal. He died on Labor Day, 2008. Same day we launched mikeroweWORKS.com. I wrote a eulogy, which turned into a podcast, which turned into a thing. If you've got a half-hour to kill, and ever had a teacher that made a difference, you might like it." Give it a listen at bit.ly/mikerowepodcast.

Read Mike's powerful tribute to Freddie King in the Nov./Dec. 2008 issue of The Harmonizer at www.barbershop.org/harmonizer.



Chinese pop superstar barbershops with family

Chinese superstar Wang Leehom may not be a household name on this continent, but the "King of Chinese Pop" has repeatedly revolutionized the Chinese pop music scene with his evolving blend of pop, rock, jazz, hip-hop, R&B, classical, and traditional Chinese music, ranging from aboriginal folk music to Beijing opera. The best-selling Mandarin-language musician of his generation, Leehom came to prominence as a teen idol at the age of 19 and has since released 15 solo studio albums and contributed to dozens more.

A brand new audience of several million was just exposed to a barbershop classic. A video clip surfaced on Leehom's official Facebook page that itself enjoys over 1.7 million Likes. The clip features Leehom and his family at a recent gathering singing one of our beloved standards, "Sweet and Lovely" (words/music by Norm Starks, arranged by Mac Huff). See the video at bit.ly/leehombarbershop.



AFTER HOURS PROVIDES VOICES FOR MAJOR LEAGUE QUARTET. Once again, filed in the "OF COURSE" category, here comes a story about a pitching crew for a Major League Baseball team jumping on the barbershop bandwagon to light a fire of support from their fan base. Try to find some bigger mustaches next time, guys. Props to After Hours for vocals. bit.lv/twinsbarbershopquartet.





GRAND LUCAYAN · GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

JANUARY 14-18, 2015

WHERE Jun in the Sun MEETS Beaches and Barbershop

Enjoy the thrill of barbershop harmony in an intimate setting as you work one-on-one with the world-renowned Master Director 700 JIM ARNS and Choreographer Extraordinaire RENÉE PORZEL.

This amazing resort sits right on the shores of one of the most beautiful beaches in the world. The Grand Lucayan is a four star property directly across the street from the Port Lucaya Marketplace a vibrant, open-air shopping and entertainment hub set on a five-acre peninsula overlooking the waterfront.

YOUR REGISTRATION WILL INCLUDE:

Luxury, Oceanfront Accommodations * Roundtrip Transfers * Gourmet Breakfast Every Morning Casino Night Experience * Beach BBQ With Unlimited Food And Drinks * Oceanfront Opening Reception Grand Closing Event With Multi-Course Dinner, Open Bar And Live Entertainment \$50 Excursion Credit To Use As You Choose ★ Three Hours Of Vocal And Choreography Training Each Day



Space is limited for this exclusive event. With a small deposit of \$250 you can reserve your space TO-DAY,

and pay the balance in monthly installments.

Double Occupancy Ocean-View Room: \$1,250

Single Occupancy Ocean-View Room: \$1,750

Upgrades available at additional cost.

For more information, visit www.sweetadelineintl.org. To register, call International HQ at 918.622.1444 or 800.992.SING.



Get rhythm: Be a better music reader

any Barbershoppers have learned to sing without learning the important skill of reading music. Such a broad topic cannot be taught in this small space, but let's touch on one musical parameter that can make you a better singer: rhythm. Let's make it less of a mystery than before. For a much easier and more thorough introduction to music, attend my Musicianship courses at Harmony University.

Note and rest symbols. In music, each duration is notated through the use of either notes (durations of sound) or rests (durations of silence). Every note value has a corresponding rest. The most common note values in barbershop music are shown below. There are larger and smaller note values, but barbershop music rarely uses them.

Note name	Symbol	Corresponding rest	ls equivalent to
Whole note	0	-	
Half note		_	
Quarter note		\$	♪♪ or
Eighth note		7	AA or J
Sixteenth note	A	7	M or F

The actual duration of each note varies according to the tempo (speed) of the song. If you've heard a director set a tempo by counting "1-2-3" or "1-2-3-4," usually he/she is counting quarter notes. (But not always!) In the chart, each note or rest is half the duration of the note or rest above it. So in a typical barbershop song, a whole note would usually be held four counts, half notes usually held two counts, quarter notes one count, and eighth notes a half count. ("One-and twoand three-and four-and ...")



Dr. Jay Krumbholz Music professor. Harmony U faculty aerald. krumbholz@ spokanefalls.edu

Dots and ties. A dot placed immediately after a note (or rest) increases

its duration by one-half the note's value. A

tie is a curved line that connects two notes of the same pitch. They are now a single duration that

equals the sum of both note values.

Rhythm and meter. The *beat* is the basic pulse of a musical passage; it's what we tap our foot to as we

listen to music. The speed of the beat is called the tempo. Sometimes the composer (or arranger) may indicate the music's tempo through the use of a metronome marking such as $\sqrt{} = 72$, which means that the quarter note moves at 72 beats per minute.

Meter. Beats tend to be grouped into patterns that are consistent throughout a song. This regular recurring pattern of beats is called *meter*, typically organized in groups of twos, threes, or fours. Each grouping of beats is called a measure (or bar), which is indicated by a bar line (a vertical line through the music staff). Meters with two, three, or four beats per measure are properly called duple, triple, and quadruple meters, respectively. These formal terms are rarely used in barbershop; most will call those respective meters what sounds to your ears like "two-four" or "three-four" or "four-four" to tell you the number of quarter notes in

but that topic will have to wait for another day! Division of the beat. Most music contains passages in which the note durations are smaller than the duration of the beat note. These shorter durations are called *divisions of the beat*. Beats generally divide into two equal parts, called *simple beat*, or into three equal parts, called *compound beat*.

each measure. They are telling you the *time signature*.

To feel the difference between these two divisions, first sing a bit of "Jingle Bells" and tap your foot. Notice that there are sometimes two words or syllables (of equal length) for each foot tap. That's simple division. Now sing a bit of "Seventy-Six Trombones" and again tap your foot. This time, notice how some of the beats have three equal parts ("Se-ven-ty" or "hun-dred and" or "fol-lowed by"). That is a compound division.

Descriptive label. The specific type of beat subdivision, simple or compound, is part of a meter's descriptive label. The other label is derived from the number of beats per measure. The chart at the bottom summarizes the various types of meters and their labels.

Don't be discouraged if you didn't grasp everything in one reading. I also hope that I might have whetted your appetite to learn more about how music works. If so, consider taking a Musicianship course at Harmony University this summer!

Beat	2 beats per bar	3 beats per measure	4 beats per measure
Simple	Simple duple	Simple triple	Simple quadruple
Compound	Compound duple	Compound triple	Compound quadruple







Swipes 'n' Swaps

"New director" ads are free in *The Har* monizer (first 50 words) to Society chapters Send to harmonizer@barbershop.org.

DIRECTOR WANTED

The Big Sun Chorus of Ocala, Fla. is a small 15 man chorus dedicated to entertaining our community and bringing enjoyment to our members. A remuneration package will include opportunity to attend Harmony University/Director's College.Please contact President Doug Oxford at doxford@embargmail.com or 352-527-6980.





Photo Credit: Jeff Richards

"Central Standard needed a better method for storing data, communicating chorus info, tracking rehearsal attendance and tracking song learning status. These are the core functions that Groupanizer provides in spades. Upon looking at the functionality provided by the Groupanizer system it was a no-brainer for us to start using it.

Overall the majority of our members log into the site on a weekly basis. That to me speaks directly to Groupanizer's inherent intuitiveness and breadth of functionality.

The Groupanizer forum is a boon of knowledge for any admin who runs into an issue while configuring their site."

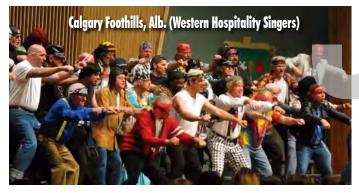
Philip Owen Site Administrator

Central Standard











quickly—and a German womens affiliate has already filled a 2015 slot

July's very first Chorus College at Harmony University filled up quickly—all four slots were taken by December, 2013! Chorus College for 2015 already has only three slots left as well—the first has been taken by Ladies First Barbershop Chorus, from Germany!

Chorus college promises to be an experience like no other: part barbershop boot camp, part chorus retreat, part mixer with the finest in the barbershop world, and both a musical and administrative shot in the arm for an entire chapter.

You get expert coaching throughout the week in Singing, Music, Presentation and performance skills, as well as recorded coaching sesssions and a chorus promotional video!

Individual members will still have plenty of time every day to choose from the entire Harmony University catalog, according to personal interests.

Holistic approach to leadership

Rather than being a pre-made workshop on chapter leadership, Chorus College gives each chapter's leadership team expert coaching and assistance designed around that chapter's situation, skill sets and needs. Chapter leaders will receive:

- help to determine chapter needs.
- coaching to establish realistic and relevant chapter goals.
- tools, skills and help to achieve those chapter goals. For more information on Chorus College at Harmony University go to www.harmonyuniversity.org.





25 & under: Experience all that Harmony U offers, plus great peer connections

You could call the **Next Generation Chorus** the chorus that launched a thousand ships. For decades, it's been where younger Barbershoppers not only

learn higher-end barbershop skills, but where they make life-long connections that sometimes go on to change the barbershop world. (Vocal Spectrum, anyone? See their NextGen promo at bit.ly/ NextGen2014.)

But the Next Generation men aren't always off in their own corner of Harmony U. They'll still have most of every day and night to take the courses they want and mix with more experienced Barbershoppers. (Some past Next Generation men have reported occasional attempts at sleep! We'll see how well that goes now with Nashville's vibrant night life.) And now, for the first time, the young men get to mix with the members of the new Next Generation Women's Chorus as well!

Regular tuition went up June 1,

Harmony U is:

- Harmony College
- Directors College
- Quartet College
- Chorus College
- Next Generation Men (<25)
- Next Generation Women

All at the beautiful Belmont University Campus, July 27 -August 3.

Tuition costs rose on June 1. (Next Generation will rise July 6.) See prices and register at: www.harmonyuniversity.org

but tuition for Next Generation (<25 years old) will stay the same through July 5. It's \$100 more on July 6 don't delay! See more at www.harmonyuniversity.org.



Choruses Districts Shows DAYS

What do you get when you mix chapters from Wisconsin, Illinois and Kansas for an epic weekend?



I can't believe we pulled it off!

Dozens of men across five states currently bear the words on their backs, printed on slate gray T-shirts:

- "3 Cities, 3 States, 3 Days, 3 Choruses"
- "130 Voices. Pure A Cappella"
- "Row, Row, Row your boat"

Over the course of a single weekend in August

2013, three district champion choruses from three districts merged old-school inter-chapter fun with modern rehearsal methods in pulling off one of the most exhausting and rewarding barbershop experiences many of the men had ever attempted.

Bloomington's Sound of Illinois Chorus, Kansas City's Central Standard, and Greendale, Wisconsin's Midwest Vocal Express combined to make something greater than the sum of their impressive parts. Young men of 12 thrilled in the

Wis. Chapter mikelietke@ hotmail.com

Mike Lietke

Greendale.

experience next to young men in their eighties. Stories, tags, buses and homes were shared ... Indelible memories created.

But how did it begin?

An idea born of necessity

In early 2012, the Greendale chapter found ourselves naming our fourth director in eight years. We had earlier completed our 12th consecutive international appearance. We saw the need to recharge our depleted membership rolls and coffers, but what would replace the thrill and purpose of preparing for an international competition? We had thought that sitting out in 2011 would help us focus on membership and finances and we would come back ten feet tall and bulletproof ...

... and then we just plain didn't. We saw our members not merely take a rest from competition, but flat out take a rest. We didn't grow. Coffers did not get replenished. In short, we squandered our regrouping year and our opportunity. We were on pace to compete in 2012, but did not have a set ready for 2013 because we wanted to let the new director have his or her say in its selection. It became apparent that we would vote to sit out again.

As chapter president, I was adamant that if we voted again to sit out, that time must be replaced with something that would stretch us and keep us invested in the summer months of 2013. It needed to allow us to prepare a set for district in 2013, and most of all it needed to be fun so the guys would look



Row, Row, Row, Your Boat

To maximize sound ahead of the Friday performance, Central Standard's Rob Mance spent an hour physically moving around the 120 voices from the combined choruses into complementary vocal timbre arrangements. Each section stood in a large circle and sang just the first line of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" while Rob listened and pointed where each person should stand. The refrain was sung a minimum of 400 times. Stout men were weeping at the thought of gentle rides down the stream, but it paid off with a wonderful sound for the combined choruses.

While joking about the exercise during Sunday travels, a plan was hatched among the busses via text message. During the warm-up for the combined numbers, Rob asked for the pitch on "Stars and Stripes Forever," reared back, and from the downbeat heard the megachorus intone with marvelous vigor, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

Rob's look was priceless. He directed for two lines, then a look of recognition and relief crossed his face, followed by him high-fiving the entire front row as the pranksters laughed.

forward to the challenge.

I came back to the board with an idea that had been brewing in me for a while: a barnstorming tour with friends! Multiple cities in multiple days, learning as we go and improving as performers. But how to fit the pieces together and make it work?

Far from the first big interchapter tour

While the combined distance and 3-3-3 schedule were unusual, the idea of choruses gathering for a big show is nothing new. There was a legendary concert in the 1980s when the Scarborough, Ont., **Dukes of Harmony** hosted the **Vocal Majority** when both were reigning gold medalists. The Alexandria Harmonizers and Southern Gateway Chorus twice did the same.

It doesn't need to be about gold, though. Over a number of months last year, the Gratiot County, Holland, Grand Rapids, and Lansing, Mich. chapters shared stages among their cities, with great response and many lasting memories.

Indeed, this bonding has been happening for years. Anecdotal evidence suggests interchapter social events also used to be more commonplace, with entire chapters taking mystery bus trips to another group's rehearsal, pickup quartet contests and no end of fun. These are still happening, but many have lamented they are harder to find than they used to be.

When will the next great wave of interchapter

events occur? Why not now? With some districts running only one contest per year, why not take that season vacated by the other contest, grab some friends from other chapters, and figure out how to have some fun together!

Dare we say, even combine them with a guest night, to show potential singers the type of fun we can have not just with immediate chorus mates, but anywhere you go in the barbershop world. The only thing you have to lose is the notion of barbershop as a contest-only existence.

All three choruses performed individually, with three songs by the three choruses as the finale. Quality quartets also performed, including Nostra Vita and Sound of Illinois chapter quartet and 2013 international finalist After Hours (bottom right).





A one-weekend megachorus is formed

During the 2012 International convention in Portland, the Greendale Chapter happened to share a smaller hotel with the Sounds of Illinois Chorus; the last tags of our improvised post chorus contest afterglow were sung well after the sun rose. We mixed so well that we knew we might have willing partners for the tour.

Meanwhile, Central Standard director and Music judge Rob Mance was a longtime coach and friend of semifinalist Sky**line** quartet, with two members each from Central Standard and Greendale. Rob gave individual voice lessons to 37 MVE members in a three-day weekend in September of 2012, and during that weekend he was approached about making his chapter the third for the tour. It took time, but eventually his board agreed.

The hard part was making it happen. Without Jim Schmidt, Brandon Yarbrough, and Tom Debord (project managers from each chapter), this tour would not have happened. Housing had to be coordinated, buses hired, mu-

Original tenets of the tour

Agreed upon in advance:

- · Each chapter would host its own show and reap the profit or loss incurred from it.
- Each director would direct one of three ioint numbers.
- Since fellowship was a central piece to this endeavor, we would offer our houses and apartments up to members of the choruses as lodging, and would highly encourage members to accept the offer.
- Similarly, there would be ample afterglow opportunity.
- This would be a learning trip. Thus, the various disciplines of the Boards of Directors, Music Teams and Marketing/PR teams would meet with their counterparts during the longest stretches of the bus rides to share best practices.
- Each chapter would offer its best in-house coaches to help the others become better. Tight scheduling ended up requiring that most of this coaching take place during group warm-ups and coaching on the joint numbers.

No, Central Standard does not have its own tour bus, but they had a great idea to place a removable decal on their rental.

So detailed were the planning and on-site logistics that every item on the travel itinerary came off within 10 minutes of the planned time.

For the author's slightly offbeat take on the tour, read "A Diary Never Written" at www.barbershop.org/harmonizer



sic chosen for joint numbers. Music and Learning tracks distributed. Three different show flows written (host chapter closed each show), each with different numbers of quartets, venues and rehearsal space secured, sleep arrangements secured, food arranged ...

Numerous phone conferences were

convened among the various committees (marketing, music, logistics, housing, presidents, tour managers) throughout the early spring of 2013. Sustained progress mixed with incremental success, until it was all planned and time to go.

The whens and wheres

We met in Kansas City in the late afternoon, rehearsed a bit, had a light dinner then moved directly to the show venue. Afterglows were individual, at the host singers' houses. Saturday, we would board our buses at 7:30 a.m. and drive the six hours to Bloomington, practice, perform, and have an afterglow at the hotel. Another early morning bus ride on Sunday morning for three hours from Bloomington to Greendale for the afternoon

The Combined Numbers

"The Rhythm of Life" (Rolf Soderlund). A nonet (9 voice) triple trio provided rhythmic chordings underpinning the chorus and headed by incredible quartets like Nostra Vita and 2013 International Finalists After Hours.

"Mary Did You Know" (David Wright). The powerful arrangement with the brilliantly invigorating tag sent many in the audience to church the next morning.

"Stars and Stripes Forever" (David Wright). If you've heard Acoustix sing this, you know why "Good Luck" is typed over the triplet section. You may recall its famous opening strains: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat ..."

show, and a Sunday afterglow before heading home. Paulie's Restaurant. which could handle a crowd of about 140, had about 139 people (all Barbershoppers) inside of it, extending the wonderful weekend. That early Sunday evening, our troops were truly the only people in the establishment.

The crush of people swamped the kitchen and the orders came slowly, but the chorusmen did not care. Quartets, both experienced and pickup, filled the air with great music—our music—in every corner. Though nobody was plugging the jukebox with quarters, that jukebox would remind us it was there every ten minutes or so... and seemed to get louder as the evening continued.

It did not matter. Until the moment the last of our risermates boarded their respective buses, the billing on the Tshirts rang as true as the chords from the combined choruses:

"3 Cities, 3 States, 3 Days, 3 Choruses"

"130 Voices. Pure A Cappella" "Row, Row, Row your boat"



Coming to Baltimore in Fall 2014

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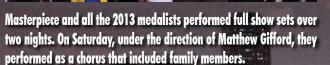
Vocality

11.03.14 8:00 PM **JOSEPH MEYERHOFF SYMPHONY**

HOSTED BY PRIDE OF BALTIMORE CHORUS & THE ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS

www.prideofbaltimorechorus.com/ events/harmonyharbor2014











A great and growing Midwinter convention upped the ante in Long Beach with a Thursday night party on the Queen Mary, where at any given moment there were four groups performing on four different stages. Current champ **Master**piece, 2012 champ **Ringmasters** and the revival of 1998 champ Revival were joined by the headliner: the 139th **Street Quartet**, as well as past seniors and collegiate champs.

All three days started off with Harmony U classes, while Friday brought another great Youth Chorus Festival and a great evening show that featured 2013 medalists Main Street and Forefront as well as the Masters of Harmony. Saturday included a great Seniors Quartet Contest as well as a evening show featuring A Mighty Wind, Musical Island Boys and Masterpiece, as well as Westminster Chorus.

As always, the best part was the socializing and all-night tagging that brought Barbershoppers together from all over the world for the best party we'll see until Las Vegas!













Quick facts about 2014 Seniors Quartet Champ Faces 4 Radio

Organized: Spring, 2012

From: Mid-Atlantic District, Bryn-Mawr, Harrisburg, Reading, Pa. and Hamilton, N.J. chapters

Primary coaches: Rick Serpico, Ritchie Lavene, Dr. Jay Butterfield., with additional coaching from Sean Devine and Ron Knickerbocker

Favorite quartet of all time: Wives Connie, Debbie, Judie and Terri Origin of quartet name: "Look at the pictures and think about it!" (Name suggested by Ross Trube, bari of Frank the Dog)

Are they related? "No, but we do share the same hair stylist."

Winning set: John Hohl arrangement of "It All Depends On You" (1926) B.D. Sylva, Lew Brown, & Ray Henderson; Bob Rund chart of "It's You" from Meridith Willson's The Music Man (1957).

Tenor Bob Bristow and his wife, Connie, reside in Ambler, Pa. If you remember Tigger from Winnie the Pooh, you know Bob. A former Bryn-Mawr Mainliner chorus and quartet performer, he more recently sang with the A Cappella Pops mixed chorus in Philadelphia. He is an electrical engineer who adjudicates robotics competitions and is a scuba diver.

Lead Brad Brooks and his wife, Terri, live in Harrisburg, Pa. Brad runs a private service organization and sang doo-wop for many years on the stages at Hershey Park, Pa. He most recently sang with Hit Parade, 2011 senior silver medalist quartet.

Bari Mark Sanders and his wife, Debbie, reside in Douglassville, Pa. He is also a soloist and section leader with the Calvary Church Chorale



in Reading, Pa. A past MAD augrtet champ, Mark is a 50-year Society member. He is a past director and member of the Reading Pretzel City Chorus, program VP with the Bryn-Mawr Mainliner Chorus, and also sang with Brad in Hit Parade.

Bass Jeff Winik and his wife, Judie, reside in Kendall Park, N.J., as the quartet's token New Jersey singer. Adept on the keyboard, he has an extensive background of music theater in the New Jersey area, including The Music Man. A Barbershopper for 25 years, he has performed with numerous quartets and choruses in New Jersey, and also sings with the Pro Musica of Princeton, N.J.



ALL SENIOR COMPETITOR PHOTOS BY MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

1. Faces 4 Radio (MAD)

Bob Bristow (T), Brad Brooks (L), Jeff Winik (Bs), Mark Sanders (Br) Contact Mark: 610-385-7166, bbsharmony@aol.com



2. St. Croix Crossing (LOL) Steve Hardy (Br), Dan Heike (L), Jared Hoke (Bs), Randy Lieble (T) Contact Dan: 715-926-5318, djheike@hotmail.com



3. Velvet Frogs (FWD) Les Dergan (T), David Livingston (L), Bill Wilson (Bs), C. J. Sams (Br) Contact C.J.: 562-425-2924, mcjsams@verizon.net



4. Youth Reclamation Project (MAD) Mike Wallen (T), Roger Tarpy (L), Vic Owen (Bs), Hardman Jones (Br) Contact Mike: 804-338-7214, isingbs@yahoo.com



5. Take Note (ILL) Rick Anthoney (T), Ralph Brooks (L), Dick Kingdon (Br), Ed Chapman (Bs) Contact Ralph: 847-924-7085, ralphbrooks@juno.com



6. Benchmark (BHA) Paul Roussell (T), Derek Cosburn (L), Ray Smyth (Br), Mark Penman (Bs) Contact Ray: ray.smyth@gmail.com



7. Stacked Deck (DIX) Freddie Braswell (T), Ron Montgomery (L), Tom Cain (Bs), Jim Cain (Br) Contact Tom: 205-871-9989, tom.cain@regions.com



8. The Matinee Idols (JAD) Rodney Nixon (Br), Alan Downey (Bs), Kirk Roose (L), Daniel Trakas (T) Contact Rodney: 440-233-5036, rodnixon@aol.com



9. Trade Secret (NED) Bill Wright (T), Mike Maino (Bs), Bob O'Connell (L), Ralph St. George (Br) Contact Mike: 401-294-9274, maino@classical959.com



10. Geezer Q (SLD) Todd Horton (T), Don Stothard (L), Keith Langdon (Bs), Ron Mason (Br) Contact Keith: 315-719-9607, kalangdon@juno.com



11. Spotlight (JAD) Mathew Bridger (Br), Don Pullins (Bs), Gary Wulf (L), Buzz Johnston (T) Contact Gary: 614-793-8864, parkave@columbus.rr.com



12. American Idle (MAD) Rick Ashby (Br), Hal Kraft (L), Tom Felgen (Bs), Bob Schellhamer (T) Contact Rick: 717-625-2945, rashby@ptd.net



12. Social Insecurity (EVG) Gary Raze (T), Kevin Stephens (L), Marty Anderson (Bs), Bob Martindale (Br) Contact Bob: 541-729-0283, martindaleducks@gmail.com



14. BLackJack (NSC) Jim Benson (Br), Bryson Ley (Bs), Larry Reinhart (L), Steve Tremper (T) Contact Larry: 910-612-6890, lgreinhart@aol.com www.facebook.com/BLacKJackQuartet



14. Sugar House (RMD) Lauren Rants (Br), Lon Szymanski (Bs), Wes Brown (L), Kim Gilbertsen (T) Contact Lon: 801-671-5875, chiefdrywall@hotmail.com



16. Armchair Chorderbacks (CSD) Carter Combs (T), Mike Mathieu (L), David Stockard (Bs), Jim Bagby (Br) Contact Mike: 913 685-7408, singmm138@gmail.com



17. Soundcheck (BABS) Alan Wright (T), John Clarke (Bs), Paul Gidney (L), Jack Haslam (Br) Contact Paul: paulgidney@hotmail.com



18. Second Thoughts (CAR) Ken Limerick (T), Marco Crager (L), Terry Wence (Bs), Duane Henry (Br) Contact Ken: 574-292-3206, KLimerick1@msn.com



19. JUKEBOX "LIVE" (SWD)
Steve Johnsrud (Bs), Martin Taylor (T), Jack Ware (Br), Ed Dittrich (L) Contact Jack: 469-200-5080, jackware@sbcglobal.net



20. Port City Sound (NED) Fred Moore (T), Walt Dowling (L), Jim Simpson (Bs), Jim Curtis (Br) Contact Jim 207-623-3391, jamesreasimpson@gmail.com



21. Pot Luck (ONT) Morgan Lewis (T), Jim Doyle (Bs), Gary Morton (L), Barry Towner (Br) Contact Barry: 416-709-6106, btowner@xplornet.com



22. Horizon (JAD) Don Gray (T), Jerry Wallman (L), Dutch Speidel (Bs), Bayard Pelsor (Br) Contact Don: 513-421-2413, dongray@cinci.rr.com



23. Great Western Timbre Co. (SUN) Jack Liddell (Br), Roger Smeds (T), Dwight Holmquist (L), Ron Black (Bs) Contact Ron: 916-253-9293, rlblack1@gmail.com



24. Airborne (ONT)

David Streeter (Br), Murray Warne (Bs), Bruce Marchant (L), Rick Ackerman (T) Contact David: 905-852-1548, davestreeter@powergate.ca www.airbornequartet.com



25. Crimsonaires (DIX)

David Williams (T), Mike Curry (L), Bobby Wooldridge (Bs), Sam Hooton III (Br) Contact Michael: 205-266-1058, leadsngr22@yahoo.com



26. Men Aloud (NZABS)

Geoff Ridley (T), Bryan Taylor (L), John Buckley (Bs), John Harker (Br) Contact Bryan: jm.bh.taylor@xtra.co.nz



27. Roll On (SNOBS)

Roland Lundh (T), Lars Wikström (L), Lars-Erik Bonnedahl (Bs), Olof Bergström (Br) Contact Lars-Erik: bonnedahls@telia.com



28. Joint Venture (FWD)

Roy Ireland (T), Richard Kates (Bs), Les Walter (L), Wayne Lohmeier (Br) Contact Roy: 520-750-0384, rlireland@aol.com



29. Bucket List (PIO)

Tom Conner (L), John Wearing (T), Lee Hanson (Bs), Roger Lewis (Br) Contact Roger: 269-965-5714, RJLewisCMC@aol.com

2014 Youth Chorus Festival Participants (By order of appearance)



FREQUENCY Pricilla Shaw Rocky Mountain District, Denver Mountainaires Chapter,
Denver Public Schools







2014 Youth Chorus Festival Participants (By order of appearance)









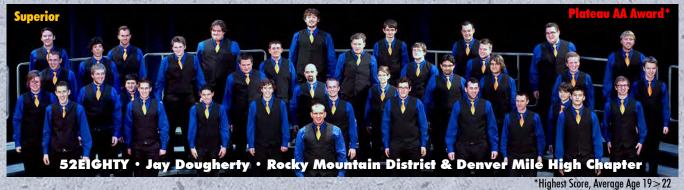


2014 Youth Chorus Festival Participants (By order of appearance)







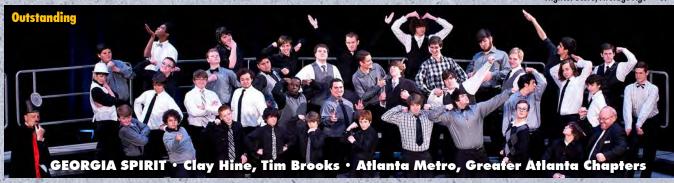




2014 Youth Chorus Festival Participants



*Highest Score, Average Age < 19









Who will win it all in Vegas? The audience!

to www.barbershopconvention.com to sign up for

the webcast and to get other convention updates.

Get an all-week pass or get events ala carte.

(AIC Show is a separately-ticketed event.)

We knew Vegas would be a wild ride even before the random draw gave us a first round that opens with Reckless and Mayhem, and a second round that opens with Salty Dog and ends with Last Men Standing. In the middle are a lot of favorites you already know and more favorites you're gonna get to know in Vegas.

Front-runner(s). The third quartet out of the gate will be Musical Island Boys, arriving with a 90.0 qualifying score that suggests good odds they'll cash in their three consecutive silver medals

for gold in Vegas. Every quartet that has posted a qualifying scoring average in the 90s has eventually

won a championship. Eventually won, as A Mighty

Wind, Main Street, Lemon Squeezy and The Crush might point out—it hasn't always happened the same year. Each of those four quartets topped the qualifying scores of fairly recent past champs, including the scores of quartets that beat a 90+ qualifier in their championship year. Long story short, MIB earned an auspicious qualifying score, but it's still anybody's contest.

Swedish invasion intensifies. You'll see eight Swedish quartets on-stage in Vegas. Five qualified for the big show and three for the college contest (with Trocadero competing in both), plus 2012 champ **Ringmasters** is on the AIC Show. Watch for rapidly improving 2012 collegiate



champ Lemon Squeezy, 14th place in 2013 but with the fourth highest qualifying score for Vegas. Oh, and most of those quartetters will

also compete with zero8, making for perhaps the highest-ever number of quartet competitors from the same chorus.

Wecome back! Groups returning after a hiatus include

Quartet order of appearance

Round 1 Reckless Mavhem **Musical Island Boys** The Newfangled Four **Bonus Track** Premium Blend 3 Men & A Melody Stockholm Syndrome Momma's Boys Forefront Frank the Doa Main Street Throwback **Downtown Crossing** Artistic License Maiestvx The Crush **American Pastime** 'Round Midnight **Highland Drive** MC4 **Overture** Absolut TNS The Con Men

95 North

Round 2 Salty Dog Gimme Four **Fusion** Q-Tones GQ Lemon Squeezy Zero Hour A Mighty Wind After Hours TLA **Grand Design Up All Night** Hot Air Buffoons **Jam Session** The Society **Vocal Edition** Trocadero Madison Park Sold Out Men In Black Instant Classic Common Core Supertonic Lunch Break Test Drive McPhly Last Men Standing





Step right up and take your chance with Lady Luck. Place your bets before the contest begins and then watch how your fortune falls. Once completed, take a picture, post it online and tag it **#BHSLV**. We'll retweet, repost, like, share and all that good stuff! Disclaimer: There is no way we can keep up with all these stats on the fly. This is strictly for fun, but there might be a coupon code in store for those who post their pictures online. However, if you really need to know the answers to these bets, you should probably start with Patrick McAlexander...

0	U	Δ	RT	ET	FI	N	Δ	PI	Δ	CF	M	F	TL
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Top 10 Quartets in order	Dealer's Choice Award
1	
2	
3	Top 5 Quartets in order
4	1
5	2
6	3
7	
8	5
9	
10	Quartet Winner & Score
Mic Tester	

OVER/UNDER

(for Stereotypical Vegas/Gambling References)

- _____# of Guys & Dolls references O/U 2.5
 - __# of Frank Sinatra references O/U 2.5
 - ____# of Elvis references O/U 3.5
 - __# of Cirque du Soleil references O/U 2.5
 - __# of times no one onstage mentions Vegas O/U 9.5
 - __# of men on contest stage as showgirls O/U 3.5
 - _# of times playing cards appear O/U 5.5
 - # of dice that hit the stage floor O/U 5.5
 - # of casino references O/U 6.5
 - __# of Veggie cameos O/U 3.5

PROP BETS

- Quartet event will start on time.
- First performing chorus will be in elaborate costumes.
 - Last performing chorus will be in elaborate costumes.
 - _ An issue of The Harmonizer will be used as a prop.
 - The winning chorus will come from below the Missouri Compromise line.
- ____ A previous International Chorus Champion will be named 2014 Champion.
 - ____ A previous International Chorus Champion won't make the Top 10.
- ____ No member of the winning quartet is a previous Quartet Champion.
- ____ Masters of Harmony and Vocal Majority take both first and second place.
- ____ Masters of Harmony takes first or second and "the field" takes the other.
- _____ Vocal Majority takes first or second and "the field" takes the other.
 - "The field" takes both first and second place.

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#BHSLV



PHOTOS THIS PAGE: LORIN MAY



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past finalists TNS, Men in Black, and 3 Men & A Melody. Former semifinalist **Overture** is back, and **McPhly** is also back, but now representing the FarWestern District.

Musical chairs. Third place medalist A Mighty Wind now features former **Riptide** medalist lead Tim Reynolds at tenor. He replaces medalist Paul Betancourt, who is now tenor with 2013 finalist **Throwback**, which is essentially an entirely different quartet from last year—lead Sean Devine will be blending with three new voice parts. (Alex Rubin switched to bari, and the new bass is a young new ringer, Michael Skutt.)

Yucksters in the night ... We don't know who will be doing comedy during Quarterfinals Round 1, but we guarantee backto-back laughs from Up All Night and Hot Air Buffoons in Round 2. Then stay around for Lunch Break, who will be hoping to finally reach the finals in what will their last contest. (They'll remain on the show circuit.)

We'll see you in Vegas! ■





Common uses for Facebook #5,586: Speculative Vegas Haikus

Remember that closed Facebook group that changed one letter in song titles? This time they wrote Haikus (5/7/5 syllables per line) to guess the outcome of the contests in Vegas. Here are some of the better ones.

Randy Meyer

Top score sure to win For both chorus and quartet Medals to top five

Matt DeMartino

Musical Island **Boys The Crush Forefront Main Street Guys from Bioshock**

Ann Monaghan McAlexander

Tapping, Windy, 'Front Lots of choices, but the gold Goes to Island Boys

Kyle Kitzmiller

Contest will be fun Difficult to get in 10 Practicing real hard

Sean Christopher Stork

Lunch Break in Top 10 "Luck Be a Lady Tonight" Someone will sing it

Patrick McAlexander

N7MIB

Takes the gold and Newfangled Four take Dealer's Choice

Scott Ventura

July prediction: Contest happens in Vegas Scores stay in Vegas

Drew Ochoa

Sweden wins college Alternating since '08 Keep the tradition

Scott Ventura

How many quartets Stayed up gambling all last night? Credit scores fall, too

Scott Ventura

No pitch pipes needed In the gambling area Slot machines sing C!

Casev Parsons

This year I can watch Been eight years since that happened Will enjoy them all!

Brett Crawford

MIBN7

For fourth time they take silver A M W wears gold

Jay Dougherty

VM and Masters Both will be a little shocked When neither wins gold

Ken Potter

LA or Dallas Some big city will win gold Denver's just a town

Brad Randall

Choruses will be So epic we'll see One Hundreds And maybe higher

Ann Monaghan McAlexander

Greg, Pete, Justin, Doug Aaron, Darrin, Dave, and more Anybody's guess

Brad Randall

A auartet will win But just the quartet contest Chorus has more guys

Michael Borts

Vegas Choruses? Ten capable to medal. Best contest ever!

Christopher Sizer

Holt, Scott and O'Neill That McAleesejergins guy They should make the ten

Jeff Myers

V M will sing fine But chorus contest on line MOH wins number 9!

Brad Randall

LOVE the M.O.H. Can't wait to hear their set and Their name number 2

Scott Kitzmiller

Haiku thread areat fun Some of these are pretty good Lorin May should print

Beth Rothwell

I am so iealous Because you all get to hang Out with each other

Theo Hicks

Join us in Vegas It will be a lot of fun Cancel other plans!

2013: Forming, Storming, Nor

We started off 2013 by celebrating our great past, but the year will probably be remembered for our movement toward a great futureestablishing a new and better "normal" for the Society

Get more details from the House of Delegates Bulletin at bit.ly/HoD2014



Marty Monson CEO, Barbershop Harmony Society mmonson@ barbershop.org



its April, 2013 visit to New York City. There, they performed on NBC's Today Show and headlined a 75th Anniversary concert seen by more than 100,000 online viewers.

Working horizontally vs. vertically: where we started, what comes next

I came to this position in August 2012 with a mandate and a skill set to deliver both strategic perspective and fuel for visioning, and organization and execution in daily operations. Team-building efforts among staff, Board and volunteer leadership were aimed at opening up vertical silos and creating a shared commitment to mission, even as that mission was being dissected, reinvigorated and restated for the future. One might think of this as the FORMING and STORMING stages of the popular model of team performance.

In 2013, we have seen a flurry of major implementations, as we began to execute operationally on numerous fronts. For example:

- reorganizing merchandise, membership records, and sheet music sales into a unified Service Center has started to create a new expectation from members that all their needs can be met in a single phone call.
- project management and completion of the Aptify upgrade

- sheet music sales, selections, and partnerships
- establishing a more cordial and powerful collaboration with Harmony Foundation International.
- Fixes to major issues are in place, but their benefits have not been fully reaped.

In this light, 2013 can be seen as our progress into and through the NORMING and PERFORMING stages. The cycle never stops.

Everyone I meet as I travel the Society acknowledges one consistent truth about our Society: we make a difference in people's lives. With each step, we all become more capable of steering ourselves by our boldest visions, not simply the ceaseless call of the now. "Be guided by the lighthouse, not by the light of the ships." If 2012 and 2013 were about making sure the entire fleet was capable of turning together, 2014 will be about locking all instruments onto our beacon and steaming ahead.

ming & Performing

6,445 Attendees at the 75th Anniversary international convention in Toronto, highest attendance since 2010 and second highest in five years.

2,117 Attendees at 2013 Orlando Midwinter Convention, second largest ever.

Rough total of youth and music educators that attended one of 53 youth workshops or 14 camps. Youth Outreach is now simply called Outreach, with the intention to reach additional age groups and communities. Outreach goal for 2014 is 14,000 individuals.

30% Growth over 2012 for camps and workshops receiving grants for the following year. The transition to an advance grant process was challenging but

Forming, Storming Norming & Performing The terms come from Bruce Tuckman's influential 1965 article, "Developmental Sequence in Small Groups," which describes the path most teams follow on the way to high performance:

Forming. Team members may be positive, anxious and/or excited about the tasks ahead but do not fully understood what work the team will do. Roles and responsibilities aren't clear.

Storming. People start to push against the boundaries established in the forming stage. There may be conflicts between team members' natural working styles, roles may need to be clarified. Some may feel overwhelmed.

Norming. People start to resolve their differences, appreciate each others' strengths. People develop a stronger commitment to the team goal, and you start to see good progress towards it.

Performing. Hard work leads, without friction, to the achievement of the team's goal, well supported by structures and processes.

ensured that the demand of the camps and workshops would be known before funds were requested. An additional 30% growth is expected for 2015 camps.

2 States and Provinces that did not make official Society 75th Anniversary Proclamations in

4 Months before 2014 Youth Chorus Festival that all 20 slots were filled, all thanks to new advance Society marketing and advance fundraising by Harmony Foundation. 12 Choruses are already committed to attend 2015 Youth Chorus Festival.

The Society's rough membership throughout all of 2013, although with a net decrease of several hundred, mostly in the first half of the year; net losses tapered significantly in the second half of 2013.

Districts that grew during the second half of 2013 (CAR, EVG, NSC, ONT, RMD, SWD).

New chapters torned ...

(Denver North Metro, New chapters formed in 2013 Colo.; Brunswick County, N.C.; Peachree City, Ga.)

Groups in the mid to latter stages of becoming a chartered Society chapter during 2013.

Chapter application packets sent to interested parties in 2013.

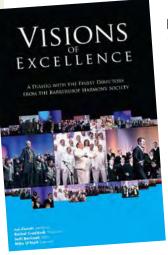
Number of headquarters staff I needed to update membership information, perform chapter officer duties, register a quartet, send emailed preview copies of sheet music, and order CDs, DVDs and other personal merchandise—all during the same phone call. To bet-



Focusing on what chapters have told us that they need

The results of the Chapter Visitation Program surveys showed what chapters wanted most from their Society, and led to a total shift in focus for Society leadership. At the request of the District Presidents Council, the Society's annual Leadership Forum in November was focused almost exclusively on having Society and District volunteer leadership and professional staff break into teams that would individually address high-priority chapter needs. Continuing efforts will be made in the following five areas:

- Help with recruiting and public expo-
- Provide more frequent visits from and communication with District officers and Society staff
- Provide coaching help to chapters
- Help chapters plan and implement shared activities
- Modernize the music and arrangements available through the Society



In the Society's first book, Visions of Excellence, some of the Society's best directors. living and dead, shared their wisdom on how to best lead a chorus.



Contest & Judging tweaks system for today's realities

A busy contest and judging committee made several important changes in 2013 under the guidance of chairman Kevin Keller, including:

- Giving districts the option to opt out of hosting both a spring and fall convention; parameters for hosting one annual district convention were discussed in the May/June issue of *The Harmonizer*.
- Developed, tested and implemented a method to deal with scoring variances when one judge is significantly higher or lower than the panel. (Sept./Oct. issue of *The Harmonizer*)
- Began Best Seat In House program, in which a donation to Harmony Foundation gives one person per round the chance to do everything the judges do ... except have their scores count!
- Answered member questions for each judging category on www.barbershopHQ.com.

ter serve our members and customers, in April, 2013, the Harmony Marketplace order staff and Membership staff merged to form a single Customer Service department.

Music educators contacted at 2013 ACDA Conventions who remember

seeing the Society's prominent advertising in at least one issue of ACDA's Choral Journal in 2013. (Non-scientific poll) The stand-out ads received nearly universal acclaim for their positive image building for the barbershop brand among music educators. Journal issues in 2013 also featured Society-written articles and reviewed the Visions

of Excellence book. Thousands have also seen our web posts, and ACDA's director, Dr. Tim Sharp, was the Keynote Speaker for Harmony University. Director of Education Dr. Scott Dorsey moderated our reading

session at the ACDA national convention and emceed the 2013 Youth Chorus Festival.

reached by tours of three Collegiate quartets, who visited 17 schools, three chapters, and 23 music educators

Chapters that will send their entire chorus to Harmony University in 2014; they filled all four available Chorus College slots by Dec., 2013.

Music educators who attended Harmony U in Music educators who attended Finance, 2013, due in part to stronger marketing and outreach to educators in the first half of 2013.

Increase in online Harmony Marketplace orders over 2012. Phone orders were reduced by approximately 23%. The migration to

> a superior e-commerce website made for an easier and more robust shopping experience.

Increase in subscriptions to Harmony Marketplace e-newsletter, along with redesign and newsletter management by Marketing department.

If your singers start sneaking behind your back to ring some chords, blame our clinicians. And you're without

Impact to revenue (+/-) when full-size Harmony Marketplace catalog was replaced by a far less expensive 8-page mini catalog bundled with the Nov/Dec 2013 issue of *The Harmonizer*.



change, but this effort means far more than







Much of the effort to rebrand the Society (discussed in the March/April 2014 issue)

took place in 2013. The effort continues to consistently show the world who we are and what we are about: Genuine, enthusiastic and committed members who sing not only for ourselves, but who promote singing in general ... with no strings attached.





Want more of today's music? Call on "The Avengers"

Above is publications editor Adam Scott (right) in April, 2013, with an all-star group of arranging heavy hitters that some affectionately call "The Avengers." Chapter Visitation surveys were clear that chapters want to sing more music recognized by today's audiences. Adam called on Society Hall of Fame arranger David Wright, Kirby Shaw (perhaps the biggest name in modern high school and college choral arrangements), Marshall Webb (who is even bigger in jazz circles than in barbershop), and prolific a cappella arranger/booster Deke Sharon (the man behind the Pitch Perfect movie and NBC's The Sing-off).

The group has given a lot of guidance on how the Society can get more non-Society groups singing barbershop arrangements, and all are creating "barbershoppy" arrangements of songs that are still on the radio. Many songs are already in the hopper and are being released as quickly as copyright clearances can be obtained. ("I'm Yours," "The Cups Song" and "Rhythm of Love" are all out, with "I Won't Give Up" and "Happy" coming soon.) Check LiveWire and www.harmonmarketplace.com for newly-released songs and for new developments in music publishing.

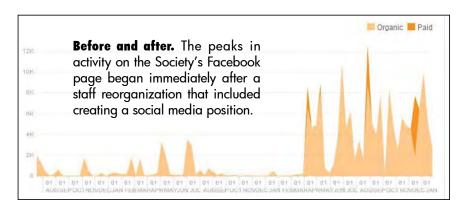
1,471,265 Views for Society's YouTube page

10,764 Total members of (Likes for) Society Facebook page, Dec. 31 (up 3,552)

3,858 Twitter followers (growth of 1,158)

64 Klout Score (overall online influence. Average score is 40, above 63 is in top 5% of users.

24,500 Subscribers to LiveWire, Society's email newsletter (cleaned-up list). Relaunched with fresh and entertaining content every week, total opens and click-throughs are many times higher since May of 2013.



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Ask your chapter secretary about EasyDues.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

No strings for Rapid City music—just checks

ow do you make music educators cry? Give them money to help fund their music programs, of course! That's exactly what happened when the Mt. Rushmore, S.D. Chapter's Shrine of Democracy Chorus issued grants for each of Rapid City's middle school choral teachers. Wanting to honor these music educators who are making a difference in the lives of so many sixth through eighth grade students, they donated \$200 and a

> song to each teacher to help promote music among the city's young people. It appears these chapters have left a mark on their commu-

nity just as much as these music educators have impacted the students of Rapid City.



Small chapter hosts big workshop

On Feb. 18, members of the Fort Dodge, Iowa Chap**ter** hosted a record-breaking student turnout during its annual one-day workshop for far more than the expected 200 area high school singers. They also found the workshop to be an easy sell to the area's largest newspaper, *The Messenger*. The next day, the workshop got front page coverage and a long story about how the chapter is making a difference in the lives of area students. It's also making a difference for music educators, who sit among the students and sing with them.

The day-long workshop was followed by an evening concert that featured this year's teaching quartet, 3 Men & A Melody.

On April 4th, the Choo Choo Chorus of Chattanooga. Tenn. was honored to welcome 51 new U.S. citizens from 34 countries at a naturalization ceremony with a stirring barbershop arrangement of "God Bless America." written by Irving Berlin, a Russian immigrant himself. This emotional ceremony was made a little more memorable because of a few men making a difference through song.



You'll club yourself if you don't follow Salem

UG! Congratulations to the Salem SenateAires for winning the 2014 Best of the Mid-Valley People's Choice Award for Best Live Music. No longer the "best kept entertainment secret in Salem and beyond"—with "best kept secret" being a phrase to banish from your barbershop vocabulary, by the way—the Salem SenateAires are becoming known throughout Oregon as the best live entertainment you can find.

This record holding, loin-cloth wearing, internationally competitive chorus presents two annual shows, performs for thousands with their wide repertoire of music, while bringing humor, acting and choreography to their program. What would it take for you to do something like this in your community? How about looking online or seeing if your local paper holds contests like this in your area? Think about it, and then do it, and then tell us about it.





"From now on, you'll never see one of these men without the other three." Vintage Blend quartet of Fonthill, Ont. proved to their local community that singing well in a local production of The Music Man as the School Board Quartet is just another way to make a difference. This quality singing quartet entertained the audience as the infamous school board members turned barbershop singing best friends. How many more Society quartets are jumping on this *Music Man* train?

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between March 1 and May 1, 2014. Email updates to customerservice@barbershop.org.

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Dan Curtis Rensselaer, IN Fred Masten Logansport, IN South Bend Mishawaka, IN

Central **States**

Robert Allender Ottumwa, IA Richard Brown Iowa City, IA Floyd Carley Springfield, MO Larry Knipfer Iowa City, IA Linn County Metro, IA Robert Niedringhaus St Louis Suburban, MO

Dixie

Kurt Gardner Huntsville Metro, AL Billy Martin Mobile, AL

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County, NJ Charles Mohr Hunterdon County, NJ Francis Murray

Nassau-Mid Is-

Lew Sims Age 104, first gold medal director, 1954

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Frank Workman Baltimore, MD

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Carolinas John Eckenrode Seneca, SC

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Barrie, ON **Pioneer**

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George Jackson, III The Motor City Metro, MI Huron Valley, MI Bob Reisinger Saginaw Bay, MI Bob Schwab Detroit-Oakland, MI Donald Stewart Detroit-

Rocky Mountain

Oakland, MI

Donald Jordahl Colorado Springs / Pikes Peak, CO

Seneca Land

Angelo Cervi East Aurora, NY Boyd Crawford New Bethlehem, PA

Sunshine

Floyd Carley Miami, FL Dan Curtis Greater Sun City Center, FL Thomas Dames Jacksonville Big O, FL Harold Lathom Central Florida, FL Ted Maginnis Melbourne, FL Lawrence Nuckles, Sr. Ocala, FL Central Florida, FL Englewood, FL Bob Reisinger Melbourne, FL **Edward Snell** Tampa, FL James Spear

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The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (DBA Barbershop Harmony Society) is a non-profit organization operating in the United States and Canada.

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.

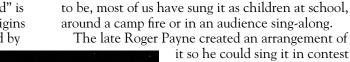


Get to know Roger Payne and his songs

he song "I've Been Working on the Railroad" is a 19th century American folk classic. Its origins are unknown, but it may have been adapted by

Irish railroad workers in the West from an old hymn. Regardless of how the song came

From The Harmonizer, May/June 2001



it so he could sing it in contest with a brand-new Barbershopper, and it proved to be such a huge success that it was quickly picked up by many quartets, from novices to champs. It is listed as product number 205248 in the Harmony Marketplace catalog of music. Roger's arrangements are widely sung by men and women, and most of his arrangements are available through the Barbershop Harmony Society at www. *harmonymarketplace.com*. One of my favorites is "One for the Road."

Both the male and female versions are available at www. barbershop.org/tags. Thanks for this gem, Roger.



In the early '80s, Roger Payne (right) and Joe **Hunter (left) practically invented the modern** barbershop comedy quartet. As Music Category Specialist in the early 2000s, Roger helped broker somewhat of a truce between traditional and progressive Barbershoppers when he formed a committee that refined Music judging criteria. ("I'm particularly proud of the result because nobody is completely happy ...")

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Daydream #208581



Rhythm of Love #208681



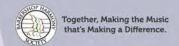
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