THEHARMONIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

FRANCISCO NÚÑEZ

IS **CHANGING LIVES** THROUGH SINGING

Why this rock star of the choral world is fillling arenas and why he sees us doing it, too! HE'S COMING TO SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO MIDWINTER JAN 17-22, 2017

YOUTH CHORUS FESTIVAL SENIORS QUARTET CONTEST CONCERTS AND MORE ...





November/ December 2016 **VOLUME** LXXVI NUMBER

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> WALLY SINGLETON reportedly didn't like to practice a lot, but had a voice so booming that Johnny Cash used Wally's low notes on many of his early classics. The 1956 champion bass of the Confederates quartet was also a consummate showman, and was our panel's consensus pick for the best bass of all time. See who else made their list.



Features

From our Storytellers
Biggest chorus of the fall district contest season?

A Chapter that no longer exists. A community remembers 9/11 hero Barbershopper during annual "Walk With Joe"

See you in Las Vegas!
The last time we were in Vegas, we enjoyed

cheap flights, cheap rooms, and the most epic chorus contest of all time. Expect all that and an even better experience in 2017 ... yes, including perhaps the best chorus contest ever. Changing lives in NYC & beyond Francisco Núñez believes some version of our

Youth Chorus Festival could someday fill arenas. This rock star of the choral world should know he's filling arenas with young voices right now. LORIN MAY, EDITOR, THE HARMONIZER

Welcome new members!

Among hundreds of new members who joined us in 2016 were dozens who did something they couldn't do before: join the Society without first joining a district or a chapter. All part of a broader strategy.



Departments

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Upon a final reflection—success in the future

STRAIGHT TALK

Singing: Don't only ask *what*—ask *why!*

TEMPO

VM Leonard Cohen Tribute: 7+ millions views John Miller inducted into Society Hall of Fame

HARMONY HOW-TO

Expert tips for choosing entertaining repertoire

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

From "barely on the radar" to stars of NAfME Quadruplets sharing barbershop in Iowa schools

MEMBER SERVICE DIRECTORY

Where to find answers

THE TAG

"Christmas-New Year Tag"

E PRESIDENT

Upon a final reflection—success in the future

o it is that many of the current volunteer leaders in our Society will "term out" or step aside at the end of 2016, in order that other members can step into various leadership roles. We continue to be guided and driven by these volunteers, some more obvious than others, in order to move forward with our chapters, our districts, our musical outreach, our community linkages, and our overall Society ahead.

What things can you do? Can we do?

Each of us has the capability to be a positive force in the Society's future. During 2016, we each had the opportunity to participate in member surveys. We have seen that your opinion and options around the local

chapter goals, your district and Society support programs, and other "healthy" indicators are being looked at with continuing care.

As we each look into 2017, it is our unique experience and opinions that will help shape our own futures. Are we each engaged with

our local chapters in trying to help define some better outreach, more involvement by all members, and doing things that will allow current *and* future members to have a stronger foundation for musical impact?



What do you want your Barbershop experience to be in 2017? What do you want to grow?

What remains to be done

I welcome and support your new incoming Society President, Skipp Kropp, for his term beginning Jan. 1. I am grateful for those Society volunteers with whom

I have served during my past two years. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to raise questions, and to discuss the policies that have the most beneficial impact on each Society member.

I do know that on all levels there are many more projects to be planned that will help us sing better and reach new audiences. There will be more local events that help spread our positive influence into more communities with new singers!

These are the things that may be easy to spot.

What might be a bit harder is to capture the gleam in each member's eyes as each of us thinks how WE (individually and collectively) can move our local chapter efforts ahead.

I firmly believe in the power of the individual to make a positive influence on the 2017 plans and goals for each chapter. Help develop that power!

Life brings unplanned opportunities

I mentioned during the Nashville International Con-

vention that I have indeed been fortunate to expand my world by meeting so many Society members, visit chapters, and support the district plans in various ways.

The Barbershop world will certainly change in 2017. It will present new and unusual opportunities that we can choose to get involved in, or we may decide to simply step aside and let "nature take its course."

My request would be for every member to think about what you want *your* Barbershop experience to grow into in 2017. What great things do you want to continue to grow? What great ideas are just waiting on a bit of your influence to be a positive catalyst to move it forward, managing the unplanned barriers, and encouraging your fellow members to influence toward a positive outcome?

With my thanks

To my wife, Linda, for originally pushing me out "just to sing" and continuing her support in many ways. To the many new friends I continue to meet as singers and those with ideas yet to be defined. To the chapter, district, and Society leaders who have served long before I came along to ask "just one more question." To the singers, directors, and coaches who have helped me learn about singing, and about making a difference in the lives of our audiences when we perform.

To the future leaders who will continue to work on the vision of sharing more of our harmonies with the world.

donfuson@kc.rr.com



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Marty Monson, CEO/Executive Director • CEO@barbershop.org

Singing: Don't only ask what—ask why!

Guest columnist is Director of Outreach Joe Cerutti, adapting from his 2016 Harmony University keynote address. See it at bit.ly/cerutti2016.

hink what the world's greatest composers have done with only 12 notes on the music scale. A masterpiece doesn't have to be complex, but each note serves a purpose. What we do as Barbershoppers doesn't have to be complicated, either—it just needs to serve a purpose.

We often fixate on the *what* of any given detail, but understanding the why is so much more important. When you know your *why*, your *what* can take on many more forms.

Competitions: a great what, a poor why

My **Alexandria Harmonizers** have defined our *why* as "enriching lives through excellence in a cappella

harmony," but our *what* could be through recruiting, performing, educating, fundraising. Notice that "competition" is not a part of our why, even though we enjoy and often devote a lot of effort to our contest sets.

Don't misunderstand. I am a big proponent of competition, which has boosted the quality

> of performance across our organization to heights we never could've expected decades ago. But if competition is a group's primary reason for existence, the group can suffer or fail if competitive hopes and expectations are unmet.

> Competition can be a great what, but history shows it to be a poor and limiting choice when it becomes a why.

Imagine what would happen if more chapters diverted more of their contest prep time to creating a better community through singing?

We have the medicine—and we need to share it

With all the awful stories in the news, you never hear of a tragic event initiated by someone who just left a chorus rehearsal. We have the preventative "vaccine" for many of society's ills right in our weekly rehearsal. But that solution does no good if it stays in that rehearsal.

There is a world out there that needs our music. There are neighborhoods and communities in the hometowns of every chapter and quartet in our organization that need to experience the benefits of singing—not just singing barbershop, but singing any and all good music in their lives.

What we do—singing—has significant value! It's not one of life's frills. It's something that goes to the very heart of our humanity, our sense of community, and our souls. When you sing—not to win a contest, but when you simply sing—you create something that is much more than the sum of the parts.

The chemical composition of the body changes while singing, and when singing is done with heart, with pure unadulterated purpose and meaning, the

why is cathartic. It teaches us about ourselves and it teaches the people in our audiences about why we're doing, what we're doing.

All chapters have value

For many, musical excellence is at the heart of the BHS experience; but even if your chorus is not the greatest in the world, the fact that you are meeting together has social value, it has communal value.

Many of us leave chapter meetings thinking, "If I could only spend my whole week doing this ..." or "If more people participated in things like this there would be fewer problems in the world." I think a better way to look at that is this: Our singing is a privilege that has

What's on Marty's daytimer?

- Nov 29 Choral Ecosystem, Nashville
- Dec 8-10 Chorusa of the Genesee Installation, Rochester, N.Y.
- Dec 12-16 All Staff Meetings & 2016 wrap up
- Jan 17-22 Midwinter, San Antonio

What's Marty reading?

 "Rookie Smarts," Liz Wiseman



What's Marty listening to?

 "Misfit Toys," Storm Front



Follow Marty's social media

bit.ly/martyfacebook twitter.com/Marty Monson

become a civic responsibility. We have to take our culture of working together, listening, learning, accepting, sharing and singing into our communities and have an impact, because the music we create does make a difference.

Relevant and accessible to the outside world

We can't expect our community to just come to us. We have to be relevant and accessible to the outside world. We have to know why, and live that why on a weekly basis so our music and our communication matches that very purpose. Understanding and believing in these things has exponential effects on the greater good.

I am grateful for your dedication to this organization and I am even more grateful to your families for being tolerant of the time and effort it takes to do something that makes a difference in the lives in our organization—and more importantly, everywhere we take our music.

JCerutti@barbershop.org

Our singing

is a privilege

that has now

become a civic

responsibility.



Vocal Majority get millions of views with soaring Leonard Cohen tribute

he Vocal Majority (2014 International Chorus champ) posted one song from its Nov. 10 rehearsal to Facebook Live, and within 10 days had more

than 6 million Facebook views. While it certainly helped that it was the mighty VM doing the singing, this is an example of a confluence of two major factors: 1) the benefits of a long-standing social media strategy, and 2) paying attention to current events so that they could touch hearts that were ready to be touched.

Canadian song writing legend Leonard Cohen passed away on Monday, Nov. 7, 2016, and the online memorials and tributes started in earnest. On Thursday, Nov. 10, the VM saw an opportunity to

offer tribute to the man, and let fans know that the live version of Cohen's masterpiece, "Hallelujah," would be part of their upcoming Christmas shows.

(A few years ago, Jim Clancy wrote a special arrangement for Vocal Majority, and added original lyrics for a third verse to make it a Christmas song.)

> Then it simply took someone with a smart phone to capture the run-through on Facebook Live, placing the performance on the feed of everyone who had liked the chorus Facebook page. Their fans shared it with their friends, and soon the song exploded.

At publication time, the video had surpassed 7.1 million views on Facebook, 161,000 likes, and 45,000 comments.

To learn how to develop your own social media strategy, see the July/August 2010 issue of The Harmonizer at http://bit.ly/

hzrjuly2010. Look for the performance on the VM Facebook page at http://bit.ly/vmcohen or view the less viral YouTube version at http://bit.lv/vmcohentube.



Midwinter: Where "electrifying" and "laid back" come together in perfect harmony

It's our most laid back convention, and there is something for everyone: This is a convention for singers, not just watchers!

Great contests and festivals!

- Seniors Quartet Contest. A-Level singing from AARP-level singers.
- Seniors Chorus Festival. District-wide choruses of mature singers step up into the bright lights
- Youth Chorus Festival. Nearly 700 singers in men's, women's and mixed choruses.

Biggest names in choral and a cappella worlds

- Francisco Núñez. One of the rock stars of the choral world will lead the combined youth choruses.
- Deke Sharon's Keynote. The Godfather of a cappella and barbershop's biggest fan and loudest advocate will deliver our Thursday keynote address.

Harmony University

Courses are included in your registration. Pay attention to your weekly



Livewire for details on a weekend that has been batting 1.000 on delivering landmark classes.

Great guest quartets

- Keepsake (1992 champ) If you're new to the scene, trust us, these guys are probably worth the trip alone. One of the most admired, imitated, and beloved Society quartets of all time!
- Four Voices (2002 champ) The vanguard quartet of the youth movement, as great as ever.
- The Buzz (2004 SAI champ) One of their last shows before this all-time great show quartet retires.
- Forefront 2016 champ at the peak of

their story-telling powers!

- Main Street. Arguably YouTube's favorite quartet that doesn't include Iimmy Fallon
- Boardwalk. "Pookie" singing bass? Somehow Jared Carlson—and this quartet's comedy packages—are hitting all the right notes.
- Pratt Street Power. Emphasis on power! These 2016 Youth Champions are super legit!

Seniors competitors (order of appearance)

Highpoint **Leftover Parts Unfinished Business** Party of Five On Q! Papa Joe's Youth Reclamation Proiect Social Insecurity **Time Bandits Easy Street** Port City Sound

Velvet Frogs

Senior Varsity Rolls Vovce Spotlight **Harmony Grits** Fossil Creak St Croix Crossing Take Note **Fallcreek** Just the Ticket Trade Secret Final Countdown Armchair Chorderbacks **Tallboys**



Board revises our fourth Pillar

At its November meeting, the Society Board clarified the Society's fourth Pillar. (For an explanation of the pillars, see the 2015 Annual Report at http://bit.ly/bhsar2015) The Pillars now read as following:

- 1. Through the medium of barbershop harmony, we maintain and expand supportive services for a global community of artists.
- 2. Through the medium of barbershop harmony, we elevate artistic and leadership skills through education and best practices.
- 3. Through the medium of barbershop harmony, we establish lifelong singing as a core community asset.
- 4. We increase our impact by building diversified revenue streams including earned income, individual philanthropy, and institutional philanthropy.



Any fan of "The Tonight Show" knows to expect the unexpected when Jimmy Fallon is involved. So keep your eyes open in the preview video of the new "Race Through New York Starring Jimmy Fallon" attraction, opening at Universal Studios Florida next spring. The Ragtime Gals in the preview include long-time Barbershopper. comedian, and Fox News host Tom Shillue. In the video Jimmy notes his desire to help quartetting get to the point that there are "barbershop gangs" on every street corner. View it at bit.lv/fallonridebhs.

Harmony Foundation International searching for new President / CEO

ARMONY

OUNDATION

This is an outstanding opportunity for the right candidate to work in a proven and growing organization with a compelling mission, a dedicated staff, a committed board, and offices in Nashville, Tenn.

The President and CEO establishes strategic direction and organizes and manages programs related to philanthropic support for the Barbershop Harmony Society and the distribution of the funds to the Society and its related beneficiary entities. The President must forge a strong partnership between the Foundation and Society administration, which determines the organizational agenda and defines priorities for music programs. The Foundation secures funding to imple-

ment certain of these programs. The President must provide the expertise, leadership, and day-to-day management to enable the Foundation to

successfully attain its objectives. The President reports to the Board of Trustees and works closely with the Society's Chief Executive Officer, the Society Board, and the District Presidents of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

This position ensures that all programs are consistent with and support the mission, values, and strategic objectives of the Foundation and the Society. A major objective for this position is to ensure continued growth in private support for the Society. The position achieves this by overseeing and balancing initiatives in the following key fundraising areas: annual giving, major gifts, planned giving, and capital campaigns. This position has broad latitude in decision-making

in operational matters. Issues having long-range impact on other areas of the organization are in collaboration with the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer of the Society prior to implementation.

The President must be particularly adept in sourcing and soliciting potential donors, serving as a mentor and role model to Foundation professional staff and volunteers. The incumbent is required to integrate both technical and managerial knowledge. A technical understanding of finance, tax strategies, marketing, public relations, communications, and development programs as well as donor research, cultivation, and planning

is necessary.

The Foundation is the premiere philanthropic partner of the Society established to support its efforts to

preserve and encourage singing, emphasizing the four-part harmony art form. With various fundraising programs, an impending capital campaign, and especially Legacy of Harmony, a new President will be able to nurture growth to support BHS efforts into perpetuity and continue the mission "to connect people through charitable giving to enrich lives through singing."

A bachelor's degree is required for this position as are ten years of progressively responsible experience in fundraising and nonprofit administration, including at least three years in a leadership role. Experience in choral arts a significant plus.

To apply, visit: http://opportunities.aspenleadershipgroup.com.

John Miller inducted into the 2016 class of the Society Hall of Fame

Introduction from the 2016 International Convention program.

Perhaps there is no one who has given so much of himself to the art form of barbershop as John

Miller. Not only has he lent his heart to excellent performance, but his devotion to advancing the mission and spreading the spirit of barbershop harmony is evident in every aspect of his life.

An undeniable talent, John won two quartet gold medals singing bass: with Grandma's Boys in 1979 and with The New Tradition in 1985. Particularly notable was his comedic role as Groucho in the Marx Brothers set in the 1985 finals. The performance was unforgettable to the audience, and it added a new

dimension to quartet comedy on the contest stage.

However, John's leadership and selflessness are really the hallmarks of his lifelong dedication to the Barbershop Harmony Society. He has not only served on the Society Board and led a number of committees over the years, but he has also used his influence as a national media executive to gain unprecedented exposure for the experience of barbershop. Placements on the Comcast

> Channel and The Today Show piped harmony into the homes of millions and raised awareness of the joy of singing.

> Along with wife Sharon, John transformed his simple hobby into a family activity. Two of their sons have performed in medalist choruses and have made careers of the arts. Together, the Millers have become lead donors and active advocates for the Harmony Foundation with sponsorships, leadership positions and inno-

vative funding efforts.

49 years as a Society member. 45 conventions. A life of singing, sharing, shaping and encouraging. The Barbershop Harmony Society is honored to include John Miller in its Hall of Fame.





Expert tips for choosing entertaining repertoire

or quartets, choosing a song for the repertoire can be one of the most difficult decisions the guys will make. Our panel of "experts" offers some tips on choosing and learning songs for your quartet. The panel includes Bob Dowma, tenor of Happiness **Emporium** (1975 champ); Brandon Guyton, baritone of Four Voices (2002 champ) and Crossroads (2009 champ): and David Boyd, bass of **Vocality** (popular LOL quartet with multiple international quartet appearances).

The "everyone can veto" approach

For 1975 champ Happiness Emporium, the rule of song selection has always been that everyone must vote yes, or the answer is no. "We sang songs we all agreed on and enjoyed. If there was one 'No' vote, we dropped the song," explains Dowma. "For example, we all liked 'This Little Light of Mine,' and recorded it. But one of the members stopped liking it, so we stopped singing it."

Trusting experience

The voting was slightly different for 2002 champ Four Voices. "Chad and I had a longer history with barbershop, so we had, perhaps, a better feel for barbershop music," offered Guyton. While the other two provided plenty of input, they were happy to benefit from the Guyton's more extensive barbershop experience. "I think that Chad and I picked a majority of the music that we sang."

Guyton's experience in 2009 champ Crossroads was very different. "We each came into Crossroads with an extensive background in barbershop. I was worried that there would

be disagreements on what we should sing, but we had all developed a very good sense of what is entertaining. That made choosing songs very easy, as we all had similar tastes in music."



msn.com

John Barrett

St. Paul North-

quartet bass curlybarrett@

The "we like everything" conundrum

Vocality likes a large variety of songs, but still has

issues developing repertoire. "We have too many songs that we like," says Boyd. "Our trouble is finding an arrangement we like or an arranger who can do the arrangement for us." Boyd estimates they currently have about 100 songs on their to-do list. "It's easy to find a song another quartet has sung, but you really need to sing songs that are a good musical fit for your quartet's strengths."

Playing to your strengths

According to Guyton, finding your quartet's strength can only come with time and experience. "You have to know what you're good at and look for songs that play into your strengths. You have to avoid songs—no matter how much you like them—that don't play into your strength." Boyd agrees.

> "You won't hear Four Under Par or **FRED** doing straight, heartfelt ballads, because that's not who they are. Their strength is in comedy. Find what your quartet does well, and do it!"

Example of a great set, by Donny Rose 1. Opener (fast, short song with big tag)

- 2. Toe tapper (familiar, easy beat)
- 3. Ballad/solo feature
- 4. Barbershop powerhouse (Your "gee whiz" arrangement)
- Comedy/novelty
- 6. Closer (your best up tempo chart)

Try to make half of your charts something the world in and outside of barbershop might recognize. They could be Disney, musicals, gospel, Doo-wop, or even popular songs from radio! It could look like:

- 1. "Be our Guest" (Disney opener from Beauty and the Beast)
- "For The Longest Time" (Doo-wop standard. fun and familiar)
- 3. "Hushabye Mountain" (bass feature from Chitty Chitty Bana Bana
- 4. "Dinah" (Barbershop contest uptune with lots of bells and whistles)
- 5. "Minnie the Moocher" (audience call and response, fun)
- 6. "When I Lift Up My Head" (Gospel uptempo)

The "goosebump" test

For Happiness Emporium, Dowma has often used the hair on his arms as a guideline for what works. "When my hair stands up, I know this is going to be pretty good." He adds, "At our very first practice as a quartet, we started singing "Margie," and we hadn't even gotten through the intro and we were all wide-eyed and our hair was standing up ... we knew we had a special sound right then."

Guyton admits that finding a quartet's strength is sometimes a difficult thing. "Most of it is trial and error. Quartets should try a bunch of different things (not on a paying audience) and see what

works. Initially, you should begin to get a good idea of what works for you, and eventually, the audience will give concrete feedback on what your strength is."

Above all considerations: entertainment value

All three agreed that the entertainment value of the song should weigh more heavily on selec-



Bob Dowma



Brandon Guyton



David Boyd

tion than anything else. "There are songs we have sung that are, frankly, stupid songs," Guyton confesses. "As a musical vehicle, they are stupid. But the audience loves them, and they are the ones we came to entertain, so we sing the songs that they find entertaining."

Though seldom referred to as a comedy quartet, Happiness Emporium, always gave audiences a funny performance with a combination of laughter and tears. According to Dowma, "We sang well and added humor, but we followed that

up with emotion and heartfelt love songs." Guyton agrees with the need for balance, "Comedy and compassion go hand in hand. If they'll laugh with you, they'll cry with you."

Balance your sets with variety

Guyton, singing in a group in which each member has now earned a second gold medal, has song selection down to an entertainment roadmap. "We want to really, really entertain. We have a sort of a game plan for the songs we'll sing," says Guyton. "We start with an opener, followed by a song that is familiar to most people. We'll then do a feature song with a soloist. Our fourth song is usually a powerhouse song, followed by a funny song. We'll then end with a powerful, "heavy-meat" song."

Finding a balance of comedy, ballads and up tunes is also of great concern for a quartet.

"When Happiness Emporium did a show, entertainment was our number one concern," says Dowma. "We sometimes did a selected group of songs, or a preset entertainment package. We find a nice balance of recognizable favorites, comedy, ballads and uptunes."

"Vocality has a lot of ballads," explains Boyd. "We love to sing them, but more important is to sing a selection of songs that the crowd

finds entertaining. The quartet can milk chords on our own time. We are there to entertain." Boyd is adamant that comedy is *very* important, but adds, "Vocality doesn't set out to do comedy ... or at least we don't consider it our strength. But light-hearted banter and humorous stories all fit into the overall goal of entertaining the audience."

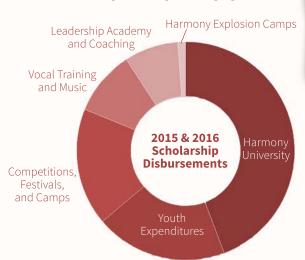
"Singing songs that you sing well

and that the audience enjoys is the key to success," adds Dowma. "We can sing some beautiful arrangements, but those don't always entertain the audience as much. Entertainment is the key factor when deciding on what songs we should sing. Does the average person in the audience find this entertaining and enjoyable? That simple question should guide your song selection."



Since 2008, over \$350,000 in **Sing Canada Harmony scholarships**have been awarded to help Canadians become better singers and leaders within their own schools, communities, choirs, choruses, and chapters

The Sing Canada Harmony Scholarship Fund is the only registered charity in Canada that supports singing in our schools and communities, as well as the Barbershop Harmony Society, Sweet Adelines International and Harmony, Inc., and the training they conduct in singing, leadership, administration, adjudication, judging, conducting, directing and staging.



Visit www.SingCanadaHarmony.ca to see how our planned giving programs work to help you support vocal music in Canada.

SING (ANADA

HARMONY



Remembering 9/11 hero during annual "Walk With Joe"

Patrick "Joe" Driscoll died aboard Flight 93, the plane in which 9/11 passengers fought to retake the cockpit from terrorists. The plane plowed into a Pennsylvania field rather than continue on to its intended Washington, D.C. target, saving untold lives.

Joe, a Barbershopper, was flying so that he could hike in Yosemite when tragedy struck. Every Sept. 11, members of his old chapter join community members to remember him and other local heroes in a 5K "Walk With Joe," hiking in his stead.

Although the Freehold, N.J., **Chapter** is no longer active, past chapter members have gathered to sing on the program each year. Over



15 years, about 10,000 people have walked and raised over \$300,000.

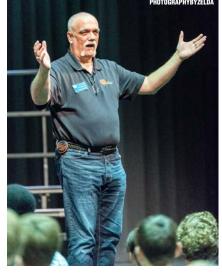
Read and see more pictures at http://bit.ly/walkwithjoebhs.

Real Men Sing event attracts Georgia singers & educators

The 2016 Real Men Sing event was conducted by the Marietta, Ga., Chapter on Sept. 10 with 161 young men and 16 Music Educators from area schools in attendance. The event was a one day vocal clinic conducted by Dr. William Adams and James Estes, followed by a free concert which included all the clinic participants, the teaching quartets, and the **Big Chicken Chorus**. Over 90 percent expressed interest in future events of this type, and there was universal praise from the music educators.

Plans are already in progress to prepare for Real Men Sing 2017. The event was underwritten by Harmony Foundation, Big Chicken Chorus, local charitable groups, and individual donors.









The Greater Ozarks (Ark.) Chapter, along with local Sweet Adelines, hosted 300 high school students in Rogers, Ark, Sept. 10 and then did a "Faith, Patriotism and Barbershop Americana" show (without the kids) at a church in Bella Vista on 9/11. Premium Blend Quartet did a fantastic job both days.





- Jim Nugent

Story Tellers

Send to storytellers@barbershop.org

Want to be a storyteller? Contact storytellers@barbershop.org or harmonizer@barbershop.org



Retiring chapter puts together the biggest chorus of the fall contest season in its last contest

The Firehouse Harmony Brigade, a long-standing chapter in the greater Atlanta area, had a surprise for the audience in October's Dixie District Fall Chorus Contest.

The final group of the afternoon, the Roswell Firehouse Harmony Brigade (Roswell, Ga., Chapter) sang its uptune and then the chorus president stepped out to talk to the audience. The chorus was singing for evaluation only in its final performance for the Dixie District. He thanked all the members past and present and listed off a few of the members that had passed on.

Then he invited the judges to retire from their duties and invited anyone in the crowd who wanted to come on stage and sing with them. Nearly 150 men and women walked up onto the stage, including the judges, and sang "From the First Hello to the Last Goodbye." This is why I love barbershop. We all love and support each other. Thank you Roswell chapter for reminding us all why it's great to be a Barbers"hopper!

Nearly all members are now singing with other chapters in the area and plan to keep barbershopping.

- J.J. Hawkins, Harmony Foundation International Associate



We loved the MGM Grand experience in 2014, but onward and upward. Great room prices and cheap airfare stay, but in 2017 we have options and amenities we didn't have before:

- Somehow, we'll do even less walking from our three hotels than we did when we had only one.
- We're on the most diverse and desirable stretch of the Las Vegas Strip, so your nearby dining and shopping options just exploded.
- Our walkable entertainment options exploded, too—although why would you want to leave our fantastic barbershop bubble? We're gearing up to provide more ways to sing and have fun (not just watch) than ever before! Stay tuned for details!

Been there, done that? Not a chance!

A prime theater all week, and the chorus contest promises to surpass 2014's greatness!



The 2014 chorus contest in Las Vegas shattered all expectations. Seven choruses posted gold medal-level scores in jaw-dropping style. While the depth of the talent was the biggest reason for 2014's "best ever" reputation, a lot of the excitement was thanks to the talent of Las Vegas sound designers, who all week gave us likely the best audio/visual experience in Society history.

You ain't seen—or heard—nothing yet. In 2017, we'll have all the 2014 heavy hitters back, joined by a lot of other talent in the deepest and most talented field in Society history. And in 2017, we'll be in an actual theater.

the home base for Brittany Spears' Las Vegas show. A comfortable week of sonic and visual bliss unlike anything we've had before! Don't miss the chance to

see The Vocal Majority, Masters of Harmony, zero8, Kentucky Vocal Union, Sound of the Rockies, Great Northern Union ... plus Toronto Northern Lights, Central Standard, and plenty of new talent in what looks to be the best contest week of all time!

2017 International Chorus Competitors

Session 1 Northwest Sound Men of Independence Southern Gateway Chorus Voices of Gotham Cottontown Chorus Sound of Illinois Kentucky Vocal Union Carolina Vocal Express zero8 Sound of the Rockies Parkside Harmony Heralds of Harmony Voices Incorporated Atlanta Vocal Project Sound Connection Pacific Coast Harmony

Session 2 Central Standard Upstate Harmonizers Voices of California Circle City Sound Fog City Singers **Great Northern Union** The Alliance The Vocal Majority **Vocal Revolution** Great Lakes Chorus Midwest Vocal Express Toronto Northern Lights Masters of Harmony **SmorgasChorus Saltaires**

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Swipes 'n' Swaps

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

DIRECTOR WANTED

Harmony Express, Germantown, MD, is seeking a talented, enthusiastic, and dedicated director to help us achieve our mission: "fun through excellence." We have an aggressive music plan, a very experienced assistant director, and enthusiastic singers who want the chorus to improve. For more information, contact: Frank Kirschner frank@fkirschner.net, 703-328-4387

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The Cherry Capital Men's Chorus (50 yrs.) of Traverse City, Mich. seeks inspirational, energetic, innovative director skilled in Barbershop style with high expectations for members and musical growth. Thirty-five active members and multiple quartets. Compensated. Contact Nathan Tarsa at nathantarsa@cherrycapitalchorus.org. Tel: 231-590-4722; www.cherrycapitalchorus.org.

The Norfolk Commodore Chorus (Va.), is searching for a new director Choral training and directing experience are a definite asset; theatrical training a help. Leave voicemail at 757-215-1602 or email Jeff at vp music@commodorechorus.org; http://commodorechorus.org.



Wally Singleton, old-timers dominate this panel's Top 10 Basses

The rich, deep, personable voice of Wally Singleton (The Confederates, 1956 champ) drew more votes than any other bass on our panel. Right behind Singleton among the top 10 basses was Tom Felgen. Talk about a body of work and an ageless, joyful example of what bass singing should be! Aside from his gold medal stints with the Hall of Fame Four Renegades in 1965 and the Chicago News in 1981, Tom is a perennial Senior Quartet champ or contender. If you want a treat, sing with him today. His quality is as sharp and amazing as the twinkle in his eye.

Eight of the top 10 are gold medalists; seven of the 12 honorable mentions were champs or at the height of their popularity in the decades of the '50s through the '70s. On the other hand, Jeff Oxley, Jim Henry and Brett Littlefield have claimed six of the bass golds available since 1990 (and Jeff had one more in 1984). Here are the choices in alphabetical order.

TERRY CLARKE

Beck: Natural very low bass, full and effortless. Made the huge sound of the Boston Common happen from the bottom up.

Loos: Foundation of the unique BC sound. How else could Kent Martin have sung full voice without the BC BC (Boston Common Bass Clef)?

Barnick: Unique and recognizable bass timbre. Obvious command of the voice part.

Biffle: Simply the essential foundation in the most

individual, biggest sounding, and most influential (in the barbershop world) quartet in history.

Wright: Yes, all four of the Boston Common truly belong on our lists. Perhaps the most wonderful barbershop sound ever, and it wouldn't have been possible without Terry's remarkable resonance.



C.O. CRAWFORD

Bagby: His prowess in helping the Mark IV into the medals is recognized by the panel despite the fact the

Foreign Service sent him to the Far East less than a year before the quartet won gold in 1969; Mo Rector then made history as the Society's first double-gold medalist. But Crawford returned and reclaimed his bass

> slot, while Rector went on to a Society Hall of Fame career.

Clarke: It's true—C.O. was otherwise known as "God" among basses who heard him sing live. Could hit a B-flat two lower than middle C, with ease. A bass's bass.

Connelly: Biggest, most resonant voice I've ever heard live.

Barnick: Terrific bass voice ... a quality not to be overlooked.

Beck: A true bass, skilled, marvelous quality sound. Rich, legitimate bass singer.

Loos: Never got to hear him live, but some of the recordings seem pretty prodigious.

TOM FELGEN

Connelly: Super smooth, resonant, effortless vocals and a consistently joyous performer!

Barnick: Great bass voice and marvelous quality. Nicknamed 'the Velvet Fog.

Wright: His bass singing had character and excitement along with beauty and artistry.

Clarke: The prettiest bass (according to my wife). Pure velvet sound. Maintains same vocal quality throughout his considerable range.

Beck: Natural, easy bass. Lots of skill, smarts, effortless singing.

ART GRACEY

Bagby: Super showman and singer, ahead of his time with memorable artistry, quality, performance skills and style. Mid-States Four was first champ to perform regularly with a variety of real and comic instruments.

Clarke: A true character, physically as well as his



Bari, 1986 champ Rural Route 4 jbagby3@ kc.rr.com

style of singing. Great range. Sang with an anvil (among other instruments).

Neal: In my 67 years as a Barbershopper, I'm not

sure I've heard a bass who was as good and as entertaining as Gracev. Singleton, Felgen and Spangenberg would all have voted for Gracey—trust me. We are indebted to the "free-swinging" quartets of old, and the fact that they all had their own sounds, arrangements and styles of singing. If you had a natural voiced tenor



His quartet won the gold

60 years ago. By all ac-

counts, Wally Singleton

never worked particularly

hard at his craft, although

he loved to sing—from

high school, through the

Navy, later the Air Force

Reserve, in his Sertoma

Club productions and with

or a deep bass in your quartet—think the Mid-States and the Bills—well, you heard a lot from them. That is why we still remember them today.

Wright: At an early point in the Society's time line, Art sang with uncharacteristic artistry, style, and character —the latter so much so that folks were still imitating him (in a positive adoring way) when I joined the Society in 1975.

JIM HENRY

Bagby: Some would say he's one of the most improved singers in the gold medalists ranks, and he was damn good to start with.

Beck: Artistic, unquestionable range, feel and passion And perhaps at the top of the list, Dr. Jim may be the most influential quartet bass singer out there today.

Connelly: Awesome range, fantastic vocal color,

The "basso profundo" who made Johnny Cash sound like a tenor: This panel's all-time favorite bass, Wally Singleton



With all that basso profundo, personality and artistry resounding through the decades, how did Wally Singleton emerge as the most popular with our panel? Fellow gold medalist Pete Tyree (Orphans) did not mince words: "My favorite bass of all time is Wally Singleton." Joe Connelly, who attracts gold the way my wife collects elephants, suggests "His speaking voice alone should put

him in the 10!" I still frequently listen to a 'live' afterglow recording (sent to me by Tom Neal a few years back) of the '56 champs singing 'A Nightingale

Sang in Berkley Square." Connelly was captivated by Wally's "HUGE Booming Vocals!!!" (Punctuation by Awesome Joe).

Don Barnick, who knows a little something about all the voice parts, described Singleton's bass as "wonderfully distinctive." Clarke, also a panelist and a shoo-in for the list even though he was not allowed to vote for himself, notes that "During the 1950s. Wally's was the bass voice to emulate." Randy Loos agrees that Singleton was the "distinctive voice and personality of the Confederates, good at ensemble as well as solo work."

Tyree says the best example is Singleton's work on "Blue Skies." The solo that always echoes in my head: "One of these mornin's, you gonna' rise up singin'..." that last bass note cascading gracefully and inexorably to a shimmering low b-flat: it helps makes the Confederate rendition of "Summertime" such a classic. Music master David Wright explains it this way: "He was not only a fantastic bass, he was a huge part of the persona of one of the areatest auartets of all time."

Singleton's widow, Camille, met Wally after he moved from Tennessee to St. Petersburg, Flg., in the mid-60s. She was a Sweet Adeline and she loved the Confederates' version of "Creole Cutie."

Now Camille Carlin and happily remarried for 33 years, she recalls Wally as a person who was always singing and "would have wanted to be a professional singer, but he felt he didn't have the 'romantic' looks. Wherever there was music, he managed to get in on it. Some people called him 'Wally Humbleton.' He was not really that humble, but he was a really good guy."

He also was known as a great emcee and joke teller, befitting a close friend of Mid-States Four baritone and showman Forey Haynes. Son, Steve, who was 2 when his dad died of a sudden heart attack at age 49 in 1971, has a cassette tape of a show with the Confederates and Mid-States. When Steve sang with a Sunshine District championship quartet in the mid '90s,

Ggar City 4 (with Tony DeRosa), he says he got a kick out of recycling some of his dad's jokes. Steve also sang with Tampa's Heralds of Harmony for a time, but later left the Society to return to law school and now is an executive of a prominent firm in Nashville. His dad had sung with the 1958 Memphis Cotton Boll international champ chorus, directed by Confederate bari Bill Busby.

The man who gave Steve the tape was Clare McCreary, a longtime contemporary of Singleton after the family moved to St. Petersburg, Fla. At age 100, McCreary is still active (playing tennis three times a week) and singing a soft but impressive baritone (of course). His memories of Singleton are undimmed: "Wally probably was the greatest barbershop bass of all time, but that vote has to be influenced by his stage talent and huge personality ... He was, of course, revered by his barbershop contemporaries and he knew that, but never indicated that he

a Society championship chorus. He died young: just short of his 50th birthday. The Confederates made only one album and shared another with the Buffalo Bills. Family and friends recall that in the early 1950s, Singleton had a connection with the famed Sun Records studio in his hometown of Memphis, where his distinctive voice can be heard as a backup for Johnny Cash. Camille Singleton Carlin says they used to refer to "I Guess Things Happen That Way" as the "buh-doomduh-doop" song, because of the recurring bass line Singleton provided. Son Steve says when you listen, "it does sound pretty much like him."

> knew that—so everyone loved him. His death was a big blow for the barbershop community. And I mourned as well."

stud soloist, top-shelf performer! A lot like Oxley minus the makeup.

Loos: Massive range, extremely accurate, and artistic singer. Consistency of vocal placement through his range that keeps the constant ring, especially in his second quartet. Stage personality that drives the visual performance, just as his sound as a singer drives the quartet unit sound.



Biffle: Has grown into a world-class bass singer. Big, rich, dependable sound, equally suitable to the bright, pingy Rich Knight sound and the full resonance of Mike Slamka, Power, finesse and musicality.

Barnick: Excellent bass voice and musician.

Wright: Not just for gold medals in two great champion quartets. Jim's voice was/is essential to both quartets' sound, character, and musicality. He is a true icon as a bass singer. (Of course he's an icon for other things as well, but those don't count here; he's also my good buddy, but that doesn't count either).

JEFF OXLEY

Wright: No one ever sang bass with such exceptional vocal artistry. Beautiful as a soloist, masterful just singing his part. Jeff has made a huge impact on

our culture.



Biffle: Quite possibly the best singer we've ever had in the Society. Range, power, flexibility, color, resonance—he has it all.

Barnick: Exemplary trained vocalist. Excellent command of the part.

Loos: Jeff could write his own evaluation—and it would be right.

Connelly: Awesome range, fantastic vocal col-

or, stud soloist, top-shelf performer.

Beck: Another very smart singer. Never mind the three gold medals—he can sing anything, anywhere. One of our top five singers of any part, for my money.

GARY PARKER

Bagby: The percentage of singers who win gold the first time they set foot on the international stage is miniscule. But Gary has never rested on his laurels. His dedication to his craft and vocal quality over the decades is legend, perhaps exceeded only by the glow he exudes as a singer. Whether you experience him in a quartet or chorus setting, there is immediate recognition of an exceptional artistry and gift of music.

Wright: The way he sang bass was seminal, setting the stage for the evolution of the barbershop sound into the '80s and '90s. The Dealer's Choice made chord ringing a science, and Gary's craft with vowels and his straight-tone accuracy helped make that possible.

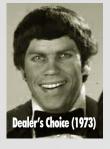
Biffle: The most consistent vocal sound from top to bottom I ever heard. No breaks, no register shifts—just pure, solid, resonant sound throughout the full range.

Connelly: Gospel according to clean singing; super consistent and great finishing work.

Loos: Insanely accurate and a real technician on the vowel modification techniques espoused by

> Mac Huff. The resultant sound of the DC revolutionized the Society quartet world.

> Clarke: An excellent teacher/ coach and contributor. The DC did for barbershop what IBM did for word processing. After all these years, I have yet to hear a cleaner quartet.



MO RECTOR

Bagby: I confess little pretense of objectivity here. I grew up in the Southwestern District; the Gaynotes were the first gold medal quartet I ever heard, even before they were SWD champs. More important, when it came to tags, Mo treated me like an important person before I knew a 7th from a Snickers. He helped teach me the joy of spreading the barbershopping sound by how he included people in woodshedding, gang singing and tags. And to stand next to him and hear him land smack in the middle of target sounds was a craft lesson in itself.

Wright: Mo was smooth and agile as a bass in two gold medal quartets. His style greatly influenced the transition towards more lyrical singing that took place in the 1960s. (He was also an influential arranger).

Biffle: Mo once asked me if I knew why everyone wanted to sing with him. When I said I did not, he



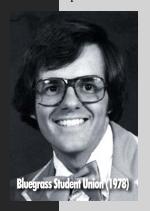
said, "no bumps." It was true. The smoothest, sweetest bass with whom I ever had the privilege to sing.

Barnick: Smooth bass vocals. Very listenable for a long time.

Loos: Smart singer with the fluid sound that glued together vocal lines of any of the quartets he sang with.

RICK STAAB

Connelly: Super accurate, clean, consistent and the vocal glue to provide the flawless foundation of his quartet's electric sound.



Biffle: No part requires the consistency and solidarity of sound, accuracy on wide jumps, subtle tuning (different requirements of roots and fifths, e.g.) like the bass part does and Mr. Staab consistently supplied these in spades. Plus balancing Kenny Ray [Hatton] was not for the vocally shy and retiring.

Loos: Try and find him off pitch, with a missed vowel sound, or out of quality in any part of his two-plus octave range. Not the biggest bass voice, but sang so smart and got the sound out front to match his lead.

Wright: Rick was a model of accuracy, and while he is outdone by others in vocal color, we marvel to this day at his uncanny ability to hit a note spot on.

Barnick: Wonderful, gutsy, brighter quality bass singer. Accurate as all get-out.

HONORABLE MENTION: (In alphabetical order): Ralph Anderson (**Town and Country Four**, 1964); Bill Annichiarico (Easternaires); Don Barnick (Keepsake, 1992); Hal Bauer (Clef Dwellers); Jay Bond (Orphans, 1954); Dick Gifford (Four Hearsemen, 1955); Cory Hunt (OC Times, 2008); Brett Littlefield (Nightlife, 1996; Masterpiece, 2013); Brian O'Dell (Forefront, 2016); Bill Spangenberg (Buffalo Bills, 1950); Martin Wahlgren, (Ringmasters, 2012); Bob Whitledge (**Gentlemen's Agreement**, 1971). ■

After all four rounds: reactions to the reactions, and what we learned



This list completes almost two years of intense effort by choosing the Barbershop Harmony Society's top 10 basses of all time. In earlier issues, you saw the tenors, leads and baritones.

It has been a labor of love, lively discussion, research and sharing the experience of those who have been around the Society from the 1940s and '50s, with those who joined as late as the '70s. The project brought into play our own history, introspection and feelings both objective and subjective. Along the way, we heard your well-deserved feedback. As it should be, since it was evident from the outset that not all those deserving could make the Top 10s — or even the Honorable Mention lists that also had us tussling and muttering. Note that the basses produced 12 HMs.

So before you cast aspersions on the ancestry of the Determined Dozen who undertook these lists (one dropped out early because of the pressure and original panelist Gene Cokecroft died last year), take another look at the barbershopping backgrounds of those who offer these lists. One augrantee from us: we won't try to pick the best quartet or quartets of all time. Another top 10 list would be required just to list the reasons why that would be an interesting but ill-fated idea.

Jim Bagby, series author



I joined the Society within days of watching The Gas House Gang (1993 champ) perform live. So when I first saw Jim Bagby's panel's inaugural Top 10 (starting with the tenors), my eyes widened.

Three golds, we use his first name as a verb, and Kipp Buckner is "honorable mention"?

When the lead list arrived with no Rich Knight,

I threw my hands up. Not that I knew better than this panel, which has heard even some of the 1940s quartets live. But I assumed more of my own picks would show up. Maybe at least our readers would provide the kind of chatter you see whenever ESPN. com publishes a "Top 10 Quarterbacks of All Time" or some such list.

We did see some of that kind of debate in online barbershop forums. But while these lists weren't pitched as authoritative, we also saw some honorees themselves protest that we'd published such lists at all, followed by a number of amens.

We've learned a bit about why this is so. Baseball is a team sport, too, but at least Babe Ruth's World Series home run totals are not up for debate. How can we be objective about our singing idols? Do we keep stats for lives changed? Can we quantify which lead post got rewound and replayed the most?

Jordan and Wilt will never play one-on-one, and we'll never put 78 years of singers on the same contest stage to compete in our favorite team sport. This panel got as close to that as possible, but lesson learned: a lot of Barbershoppers don't want to discuss their singing idols that way.

So if The Harmonizer ever were to stage a series like this again, what would be most meaningful to you?

- The Five Performances That Made Me Cry
- Busted Guts: Three Hilarious Landmarks of **Barbershop Comedy**
- The Drop of a Pin: Songs That Made Time Stand

If we were to remove ranking and objectivity from these stories, which would best enshrine for history your fondest barbershop memories? We'd love to hear your ideas!

Lorin May, Editor, The Harmonizer

"Best Basses" Panel

JIM BAGBY. Past Society Board Member, Presentation judge, Joe Liles Lifetime Achievement Award winner, bari of 1986 champ Rural Route 4

DON BARNICK. Tenor of Grandma's Boys (1979), bass of Keepsake (1992)

BRIAN BECK. Bari of Dealer's Choice (1973); lead of Side Street Ram**blers** (1983)

BILL BIFFLE. Past Sound and Singing judge, past Society president

TERRY CLARKE. Bass of Hall of Fame champ Boston Common (1983), Society member since age 14

JOE CONNELLY. Four-time champion lead with Interstate Rivals (1987) Keepsake (1992), PLATINUM (2000) and Old School (2011)

RANDY LOOS. AIC associate member with **Grandma's Boys** (1979) quartet medalist, past Society and Harmony Foundation board member

TOM NEAL. Society member since 1951, member of legends Village **Idiots** auartet, founder of Barbershop Quartet Preservation Society (BQPA)

PETE TYREE. Baritone of 1954 champs The Orphans

DAVID WRIGHT. Prominent mathematician, professor, arranger, composer, director, coach, judge, historian, HU instructor, Society Hall of Famer

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Coming to our Midwinter Convention in San Antonio, Francisco J. Núñez is a rock star in the choral world who is admired as much for his compositions as for the prodigious skill of his ensembles. While singing can be an end unto itself, his ambitions are much larger. Núñez views singing as the ultimate participatory artistic medium, in which people can change each other's perspectives, options, and their very lives.

SINGING CHANGES LIVES

Music changed the life of Francisco J. Núñez, and now his life's work is to tangibly change 1,600 young lives through singing every week—and another 120 adult lives for the joy of it

> Francisco J. Núñez and BHS CEO Marty Monson met at the "Choral Ecosystems" conference at Yale University in early 2016. Mr. Núñez will host the upcoming Youth Chorus Festival in January, 2017. This interview introduces Mr. Núñez to our readership, as the collaborative possibilities between his organizations and BHS are ongoing.

> You've made quite a name in the choral world while directing young singers. When did you form this

organization and why?

I founded Young People's Chorus (YPC) of New York City when I came out of college 29 years ago. Today we're serving about 1,600 young people, and they come from all walks of life. Choirs in our afterschool program rehearse about 450 hours a year and perform in about 120 concerts a year in the New York City area as well as all over the world.

When I was very young, I noticed

a lot of people were very gifted but nobody gave them the opportunity to take advantage of those gifts. Or they shied away from an artistically excellent product.

I wanted to create an opportunity for everyone to come together and lift them all. I wanted young people to come together from all walks of life in every part of this city, every neighborhood and give them an opportunity to use music as a means of learning from each other.



Lorin May Editor, The Harmonizer LMay@barbershop.org



"The mantle that once belonged to the deans of 'golden era' choral music conductors has been passed, and it rests with Francisco Núñez."

· Barbara Murray, Director of Music, **NYC Department of Education (2013)**

"YPC ... sang so incredibly, it was inhuman ... Francisco Núñez is the Horowitz of the choral world."

David Del Tredici

That's how you learn about yourself. YPC is about bringing young people together through song.

Teaching and mentoring young people is your full time job, but I understand you direct a men's chorus as well?

In 1995, the University Glee Club (UGC) of New York City invited YPC to sing with them. I fell in love with the idea of men's choral singing and became a member. In 2000 they asked me to become the conductor—only the fifth since 1894. They believe in bringing music to as many men as possible to sing in the old glee club tradition. Today we have 120 singers, from first-year college graduates to a couple of 50-year members.

A lot of our members stay for decades as well, in part because they can't imagine not having singing in their lives. Why do you think your adult singers stick around so long?

I believe that singing actually helps them with their health and with the way they feel about themselves. They could be going through so much, but for some reason they leave this space feeling differently. Some will tell me, "You don't know what you've done for me today."

I understand that they sing barbershop music as well?

We sing all kinds of music, but they love to sing barbershop music. Twice a year we have a quartet contest and they take it very seriously. They form quartets without telling anybody and practice in secret, then they show up and sing these incredible arrangements. It's really a lot of a fun to hear. We've been doing formal barbershop contests at least since the 1930s. The idea of a cappella singing has been there from the very beginning.

Barbershop chapters often have young men in their teens singing with men in their 80s. Do YPC and **UGC** ever sing together?

I love when our young people



sing with the UGC because there's a mentoring aspect that goes on. Sometimes we might just rehearse together because we're singing the same music. For example, last year I had "Darkness on the Delta" with my men's club and it was so fun I brought it to the YPC. The young people came to the men's rehearsal and we just sang it together for fun.

In addition to the fun, have you observed other benefits of older and younger voices singing together?

It shows younger people that singing can be part of your entire life. You can become a better doctor, a better businessman or whatever you want to do; singing changes how you approach it. Singing communicates to the rest of society that you are part of a special ensemble, part of a special world that allows you to harmonize and to feel.

At the UGC, for the past 30 or 40 years we have had an intergenerational mentoring program. Older men are mentoring younger singers, who are looking for a network—that social capital and learning how to behave in our society. And they also understand what it's

like to be in a group for so long and dedicate themselves to something for such a long time.

Is it important for people to start singing when they are young?

When we sing when we're very young, it stays with us forever. As we get older, we want to keep those memories of our youth for a very long time. It will influence the way we think. As we get older, and if we join a community choir or a barbershop chorus or quartet, that instilled idea can grow with us.

When I work with community choirs, I see the older members are allowing the younger members to take over.





They want this to continue to be here for another 50 years. Young singers are the ones who are going to bring us there. They are letting them speak and lead.

When you and Marty Monson discussed the Youth Chorus Festival, you told him that between your contacts and our resources, we could someday be filling grengs. What were your thoughts behind that?

I'm working with an organization called American Young Voices, and we are filling arenas. We're inviting young people from entire areas to learn the curriculum and then come and sing together. Right now we have approximately 7,000 to 8,000 young people at a time singing together once a year in four different cities in the United States. We're hoping to grow this throughout the states very soon.

What are some of the principles that have helped American Young Voices get such large groups singing together?

I think that it's very easy to go and just get a group

of people and invite them to come sing. I promise you that they will come. It's about the music: the choice of songs, how accessible the repertoire is. Give them preparation, give them enough time, and pick a great date. Invite them and they will come. These sing-ins are very popular, and I think we can do a lot more.

If one attends any kind of folk festival, people are just singing out, and they're singing with their entire spirit. I think we can have more people singing and people want to sing much more.

The American Choral Directors Association calls the lack of community singing in America a "crisis." What are your thoughts?

Chorus America created a survey two or three years ago that shows that 48 million people in the United States are somehow connected to singing with their church or their synagogue or a community chorus or professional choirs. It's the largest art-making of all the arts in the United States. Singing is a gift we can give to each other—it's a part of ourselves, a part of our being. The people who are listening want to sing as well; they just don't know that they can. We have to give them permission to sing. Just say very simply, "Sing with me."

That's all it takes.

When you decided to form the Young People's Chorus, was there a need you didn't see being filled?

When I was very young, my mother was a workingclass lady and wanted to bring music into our home. She bought a piano from the Salvation Army and I played it every day. That helped me reach out to meet children who were very different from me. They came from different religions, different socio-economic means, but music became an equal value system. They respected me because I was able to play as well if not better than they did, and I was winning contests. I learned about them and they learned about me.

YPC is taking the entire spectrum of socio-economic society and putting it all together in one room. No one knows who is rich and who is poor. It doesn't really matter. Do you sing? Can you sing? Do you love to sing? That brings us together. Once they're off the stage, they learn about each other. Like piano was for me, choral singing is a life-changing experience.





In the Barbershop Harmony Society, we talk a lot about making "A Better World. Singing." Our CEO, Marty Monson, tells me you are doing this in a very tangible way. Can you talk about that?

With YPC, we are using music as a means of bringing young people together. Adults talk about how society can get past racism, work through poverty, figure out social ills. Our young people don't think this way. They instead believe that we have a lot in common with everybody else. If we adults allow them to come together and start conversations, that will start erasing a lot of the divisions that we have.

Singing is the medium that we can use to come to-

gether and show each other what we can do. Once you are off the stage, that's when the friendship and bonding starts. Music is a way to start a conversation. We need to allow our young people to talk to each other much more to prepare themselves for the future.

How is music helping them be successful?

The discipline that comes from music and being consistent from year to year is very important. Our choristers are with us approximately 8 to 10 years. They become best friends and influence each other to make

better decisions, because through each other they can see many options. Maybe they think of going to a school they never thought of going to before.

Music also helps them learn about different cultures, different rhythms and languages. If I wanted to sing a Nigerian folk song, I can go to my Nigerian family and say, "How do you say these words?" If we sing a French song or an Irish folk song, I have people here who can teach me how to sing in Gaelic or how to sing in Parisian French. That allows us to understand the world in a much

more global way, and we become global citizens.

How does this vision apply to people who do not grow up in major metropolitan areas?

Studies show that about 60% to 70% of the world lives in urban societies. Many will be separated into pockets of identity unless we do something about it. Let's use music as a way of bringing those young people together. Do it now, so that as they get older, they understand to seek diversity and a way of living together—so that they don't have these issues that we have today. Music can really be that forum.

I've been told that when you use the term "diversity" you're not necessarily talking about people who look different from one another.

The word "diversity" from my experience is generally seen as a black-and-white race issue. However, here is how I see it: The first problem is those who have education and those who are not getting the same education and not progressing as much as they can. The second problem is the issue of socio-economic diversity.

At YPC, we bring a very wide gamut together. Those who come from very wealthy families, those who do not. They start to notice that, sure, the difference between them is another zero to the right of their family income. But they have so much in common that they can help each other realize the American dream. If I work really hard in the way their family worked really hard, I can be part of what they have. They realize, "Just because I don't have as much



The choirs led by Núñez and his team of directors are simply spectacular, with teen ensembles delivering professional-grade artistry. Singers from the entire socio-economic gamut establish a commonality with a wide variety of peers; when paired with high musical achievement, this grows into a confidence that any option is within their grasp. 100% of this ensemble is college-bound, and about 90% are likely to graduate from college within four years.

as you doesn't mean that I am less than you. I have a lot to contribute to society as well."

We do a lot of college bound programming, and children who never thought about higher education are now going to college. So 100% of our young people are going to college—and our studies are showing that nearly 90% of them are graduating in 4 to 5 years.

I noticed from your bio that you are not only encouraging a lot of people to sing but that you are also composing. Can you talk about that?

It's been difficult to find music that is appropriate for my choir, arranged specifically for young people, and that they can relate to.

Singers share a message both through the words and the music. Being in an urban society where these young people come from so many backgrounds, I need to understand the relationship they have to both the music and the text. The text needs to connect with a young person of today—something that's about their future, that's about how they feel about themselves.

Any final parting words about how to get more people singing?

If we wait for just the best to come through our doors,

we will have much fewer people joining us. We have to invite everyone to come through the door. We're supposed to teach them how to do it.

www.franciscojnunez.com www.ypc.org

Choral organizations including the Barbershop Harmony Society, Chorus America, and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) have started a social media initiative called #singlyoice that is intended to unite people through choral singing. Let's fill Facebook with people singing together!

 Record a video of your ensemble singing something that unites us – love, beauty, truth, peace, or JOY!

2. Share your video using the hashtag #Sing1Voice on Facebook, YouTube, and any other social media platforms you use.

3. Challenge more groups to do the same! In your post, tag at least two ensembles that are somehow different from yours and invite them to participate!

#sing1voice

Welcome new members! Thank you, recruiters!

New members reported between June 1, 2015, and Jan. 1, 2016 and recruiters' names follow in italics.

Larry Farrington

Joshua Clifton

Erik Feldman

Trevor Owens

Luke Perrine

Don Petersen

Ted Regentin

Ken Galloway

Sam Regentin

Ken Galloway

Andrew Cross

David Rice

Josh Santos

Bryan

Christian Saether

William Gregory

Dan Schafers

Aaron Stahl

Ed Gentz

Ed Gentz

Moshe Yarosky

Asher Stewart

Rocky Stewart

Jeremy Suess

William Talbot

Roy Tidwell

Ben Turner

Vincent Van

Rick Vollmer

Havden Vara

Andrew Cross

Arnie Walter

Larry Walters

John Fry

Ed Gentz

Kai Zito

Ed Gentz

Dintel

Richard Renzema

Ed Gentz

Cardinal

Max Anderson Walter Leve Joshua Bennett Michael Davenport Jeffrey Broadfoot Tom Frank Haden Cain John Weiss Hunter Carpenter Lewis Heath-Gavin Carpenter Lewis Heathman, Jr Robert Collins Randy McLain John Forbes Ralph Cobb Kyle Gephart Patrick Stevens Roberto Gomez Mark Sorrels Ian Huffman Kris Olson Jeremiah Jacks John Weiss Aidan Kennedy Merrell Kenworthy Brandon Marks Scott Bradford Andrew C Pittman Logan Williams Jeffery Schauss Daniel Lentz Adam Scott Rvan Fortner Jerry Suhl Dan Wade Daniel Wade Joseph Lerza Lance Williams Max Anderson

Central States

Mark Abbs Don Koehnlein Jason Adkins Jeremy Kindy Randy Baker Ed Kespohl Matthew Barnes Kip Opheim Scott Bates Harold Nentrun Tommy Bender Luke Bender Aaron Bodling David Tingwald Dan Bogart Jav Hall Michael Brown Harvey Kiser Joel Brown Jon Peterson Devin Burch Kevin Ellerbee Rick Bywater Rob McWilliams

Jacob Childs Michael Brown Chad Clark David Keeley Dakota Cline Caleb Fouse Brian Cook Trov Fischer Kurtis Cornish Michael Matthews Alex Crippin Russell Knudson Rodney Cruz Todd Krier Gary Diener Loren Goss Wesley Farewell Todd Krier Troy Fischer Matthew Webber Cean Frye Orval Bishop Tristan Gardner Paul Lundberg Nathan Gearke Kendall Holsten Chris Gorshe Clark Ebert Cameron Gunter Terry Adams Alexander Hamidi Jim Nugent Keith Hammons Roland Money Nathaniel Hancock Michael Brown Daniel Hoffer Rick Pape Douglas James Horton William Moss Brandon Hovenga Sandy Gumm Cameron Jarnagin Todd Krier Lukas Kelsev Alexander Hamidi Dean Knutson Cliff Huot Glen Laxamana

Ronald Morden

Robert Lehman

Chad Clark

Bill Moran

Paul Ogle

Ray Miller

Aaron Smith

Ray Golden

Clark Miner

geau

Morris Merle, Jr

Chandler Mon-

Shawn Gamache

Joshua Moris

James Moris

Joshua Miller

Bill Matlach

Jaxon Mabon

Dixie Logan Brown Craig Brown Allen Bush Tom Riggle Ralph Cobb John Charlton Larry Crawford James Snodgrass Graham Driskell Kenneth Epps Frank Savage Charlie Gardner Leo Gilsdorf Robert Hogue James Phillips William Jordan Greg Jordan Douglas Kontak Don Liechty

William Logan Alex Garrison Blake McLane James McLane Steven Warren McPherson Clarke Stanford Norman Myers Larry Pigue Adam Penrose Tony Bowman ALlanson Reynolds Wayne Jackson Damien Silveira Bob Hitch Tony Smith Clarke Stanford William A Sorenson Richard Pilch **Dustin Springer** Linc Parrott Kyle Stringer Alex Garrison Mike Thompson Jack Martin Brendt Waters Donald Nally Norman Williams Duane Hunter Liam Wylie Jeff Wylie **Evergreen**

Mike Niebaum

James Lindgren

Mitchell Pearson

Tim Ostrem

Boyd Ostrem

Tom Gannon

Nick Perry

Dave Perry

Seth Priebe

Jeff Moler

Dean Stromer

Jeffery Rankin

Rick Roenigk

Kenneth Lang

Ray Brown

Logan Sampson

Antonio Sanchez

Alan Pommier

Gary Lindsav

Glen Schmitz

Dale Bieber

Dale Ellis

Joe Silva

Bill Moran

Alex Smith

Caleb Fouse

Zachary Kane

Troy Strifler

VanderVelde

Wayne Philipp

Michael Verga

Troy Doeden

Alex Wagner

Zachary Kane

Ted Bey

John Wallenbrock

James Raspberry

Martin Wissenberg

Matthew

Jeremiah Steager

Kenneth Garwick

Kaden Schilling

Bill Schwagerman

Keaton Petite

Michael Brown

Richard Agueros Dick Wagner

Ben Bagley

Ful Schonborn

Fraser Baguma

Sean Murch Max Beason Bill Sansom Malachi Best Adam Dittmar Dennis Bokovoy Dick O'Bannon Luke Carter Paul Carter Owen Chapman Jim Chapman Ken Chenev Richard Boysen Philip Culbertson Bob Adriance Timothy Dain Steven Azevedo Rick DeMaria Ron Boothe Stephen Diers Dave Diers Adam Dittmar Jason Hill Paul Dufresne Gordon Harris Gary Dunphy Ken Galloway Richard Alan Ewing

Jim Burbidge

Dane Chevassus Colin Ferguson David Rice James Flint Rick Vollmer Chris Glessman Terry McLaughlin Ed Gentz Andrew Gompf Travis Tabares Shawn Graham Jay Krumbholz Gene Hardy Rick Vollmer Matt Herbst John Ludeman Daryl Hillen Stephen Mostardi Padraig Hogan Alex McDonald Lee Holmes John Ludeman Tom Hons Ken Galloway Raymond Horst Richard Ahern Doug Hutson Michael Rinehart Douglas Hyde Frank Dewar Chris Johansen Rich Smith Chance Johnson Spencer Esmond Doug Jones Ed Jobson Aaron Kleer Josh Bodner John M Koontz Steve Mondau Andrew Kopser Francis Gregory Mark Kringle Rvan Olsen

Robert Launhardt

Ron Boothe

Keith Lien

Ron Boothe

William Loud

James Ferguson

David Lundberg

Richard Kniffin

Cameron

Macdonald

Mark Larsen

Orrin Iseminger

Ken McCarty

Ken Galloway

Ful Schonborn

Ben Milositz

Jim Morrison

Ross Reed

Don Leff

Ed Gentz

Ryan Olsen

Redordo Menden

Dale LaFon, Jr Far Western

Richard Adler Bud Adler Guillermo Alvarez Lawrence Good Andy Au Thomas Nichols Mark Bales Todd Plantenga Michael Barakat David Oueen Joesph Beckman Charles Haletky Howard Behnken Jerome Walker Terry Boren Miguel Matanguihan Richard Patton Gregory Bramlet Kevin Holt Paul Carroll Mark Litwiller Nicholas Cola Drake Pvatt Fred Colburn Steve Mathews Timothy Coleman Peter Saputo

Darrell Collard

Robert Carlton Tanner Cory Kevin Palmer Louis Deeley Alexander Randolph Alexander Delperdang John Saffery John Garcia Sang Park Nicholas Reynolds Gianni Giampolo Warren Willard Alex Gilbert Ronald Gilbert Nate Golon James Leedom Miguel Gonzalez-Diaz deLeon Steve Secules Chase Gray Matt Ordaz Mark Halsig Thomas Nichols Dave Harmon John Cotton Scott Higgins Al Leuthe Max Isbell Jack Story Chuck Jarvis David Hawks Dean Jones Kelley Reid, Jr. Cameron Juresich Bill Joor Russ Kidd Chas Walton Gerry Kowalski Louis Regas Jay Larrick Chuck Leavitt James Larsen David Hanchette Keith Lee Richard Postal Andrew Lehto Vance Heron Duncan Low Wally Nicholas Patrick Machado-Derdowski Robert Barry Vance Matzke Eugene Kai Patrick McDonnell Steve Shurtliff James McElwain Jerome Walker Butch Melberg Mark Logan Randy Meyer Nathan Holden CJ Miller Drake Pyatt Denny Mishler Ted Proctor James Montague Richard Lund

Evan Mountford

Elijah Rich David Newell Kent Borrowdale Mark Nudelman Jeffery Bunch Mark Olmstead Thom Olmstead David Orosco Jimmie Eacret Ben Oseguera Chase Ferrante Kyle Overholser Dov Antognazzi Joseph Paredes Mark Wolf Justin Pigeon Randy Lerner Gage Pyper Kent Pyper Iskandar Rabeendran Daniel Tom Dave Rees Stan Gile Elijah Rich Gabe Caretto Devin Ricklef Peter Saputo Alan Rodriguez Peter Saputo Adam Rooney Peter Saputo Mark Rossetti Jamie Bedford Christian Ryan Danny Ryan Patrick Savage Robert Couse Brian Sennello Roy Mattice Antonio Serrano Peter Saputo Maurice Shayani Blair Reynolds Terry Shea Steven Perl Dwayne Smith Blair Reynolds Mark Orson Smith Dee Baughman Derek D Smith Jon Pilla Addison Snell Connor Snell Connor Snell Marvin Bertelson Oliver Solares Peter Saputo Ken Stake Lee Smith Daniel Stark James Diggins Caleb Stark Kyle Overholser Zach Stillman Dan McOuigg Rex Strowbridge Jeffery Bunch

Diane Swearingen Douglas Kreitz

Vince Swe

Bob Hitch

Sang Park Mark Tabry David Menestrina Chuck Thurman Raphael Pazo, Jr. Brian Turner Daniel Ryan Ethan Van Steenburgh Kevin Palmer Don VanAndel Stan Gile Arthur White Andy Maurer Michael Williams Martin Redler John Winterton Patrick Harrison Robert R Wintle David Fletcher Jerry Woodward William Wingard Michael Woyak Donald Setterlund Charles Young Harvey Raider Jaysson Yriarte Peter Saputo

Illinois

Thomas Balser Phil Frev Brandon Brylawski Andre Gloeckner Bill Burt Sid Peterson Colin Glaves Richard Mouche Eric Hessler Charles Hessler Arthur Hyland Jerald Hyland Bob Krakora John Oberlin Zachary Krampien Douglas Ferrier Patrick Lin Richard Mouche Caleb Lowry Jay Giallombardo Ole Mercado Jay Bentz Bruce Murdoch John Greven Michael O'Donnell John Morris Craig Reising Donald Koch Ron Ryder Joseph Schlesinger Ed Stellhorn Richard Steingruby Patrick Sullivan Richard Mouche Eric Westfall Mike Westfall Leif Wildman Stan McMorris Josh Yacko Bernard Donahue Addison Youngblood Нидо Геидеп William Zimmermann

Dwight Asselmeier

Kyle Hopkins

Glen Kindness

Michael Bell

Steven Lantz

Ryan Accetta

Gary Locker

Mark Eickhoff

Larry Loeffert

Larry Nofziger

John Long, Jr

Keith Ebright

Kevin Macsay

Michael Madden

David Mallesnee

George Telle, III

Richard Malsch

Joshua Mansel-

Kevin Coolman

Paul Aiello

Pleydell

Eric Macsay

Adam Eastly

Ted Rose

Cameran Macklin

Benii Cates

Johnny Austen Martin Appleseed Rob Rodkey Richard Basnett Andrew Mayse Robert Wallace Mark Reedy Philip Beal Stephen McCor-Kenneth Heimlich mick Bob Beck Bill Markle David Slife Nick McGrew Donald Bees Ted Rose Mitchell Mendoza Jack Keating Benji Cates Chris Benge Robert Moore Dale McKinney Zack Blanton David Clipner Issac Morton Renii Cates Keith Bollinger Benji Cates James Frame Ben Muscato Stanley Bowe Brandon Rauch Mark Eckman Jared Nees Troy Kaper, Jr. Jack Brady Robert Walther Patrick Norris James Longshore Larry Buchman Jerry Buckland Dave Reel Paul Buehler John McCaughan Jim Vighetti William Reen Rob Chappel Stephen Reen John Reen David Calland Andrew Conway Stephen Reen Stephen Smith, Jr. Robert Roesky Peter Coolman Don Swift Dennis Sapos Bruce Hengstler Joshua Donaway Steve Matkovich Robert Seeger Carl Taylor Michael Finney Andrew Caliguiri Jim Rilev Dave Seger Kyle Fisher Jim McIntire Giovanni Castiglione Roger Smith Larry Thaxton Jim Foley R F Miller Walter Snyder John Gordon Alan Free Mason Vandermer Bob Fuhrer Jacob Frv Stephen Gasparec Howie Haskins Kevin Vandermer James Fry Dana Gine Scott Wallace George Jarrell Larry Gleason Chad Wulf Robert Walther David Zavasky Jake Mandator Jeremy Guffin Anthony Woody Denny Setele Earl Heise Ted Rose Michael Wulf James Longshore Buck Hinman Jason Wulf Brandon Žlotnik Jerry Metz

Land O' Lakes

Giovanni Casti-

glione

Ed Baldzicki John Hazucha William Berendsen Stephen Vandenberg Bill Bird David McNaughton Deane Chase Alvin Knutson Roy E Christianson Ruwal Freese Marvin Eggert Richard Kiehne Calvin Evans Bruce Grav David Ferdon John Danilenko-Dixon George Fox George Stathus Taylor Goossen

Ruwal Freese

Alvin Knutson Jared Kassien Donald Pollard Scott Keske Alex Keske Alex Keske Douglas Carnes Bryan Kirchhoff Keith Krenke Spencer Knier Jack Ryback Samuel Koulack Ian McAmmond Justin La Louis Williams Andrew Langer Bruce Schlei Jayden Luikens Connor Wosmek Aqvar Manhas Ian McAmmond Josh Mattonen Rick Lindstrom **Quentin Mayberry** Jim Hatch Curtis Miller Steve Zorn John Morency Dennis Brown David Natzke Bill Bird Brad Nelson Steve Zorn Marvin Odegaard Phil Bachman Thomas Pepin David Ficocello David Roever Clint Mohr Joshua Schmidt Jack Kile Mark Schmidt Todd Friske Jerry Scott Jim Weber Raj Shanker Mike Hickman Jacob Simmer Dennis Brown Christopher Smith Henry Hansing David Sobeski Kevin Brekke Anthony Spranger Boleslaw Kochanowski Joseph Tews Ken Frank Gavin Uhlmacher Lynn Anderson David Walker Edward Boehm James Worden Tom Vandenberg Gary Woychik

William Brennan

Jordan Yaremko

Sean Mueller

Brent Haagenson

Dean Haagenson

Tom Hanks

Scott Finley

Larry Lewis

Paul Huxtable

Allen Johnson

Mid-Atlantic Billy Alfano Robert Harris Matthew Hencken Morgan Ames Nick Andrus John Andrelczyk Barrie Leigh Aaron Pollock John Holler Tad Bailey Aaron Watts James Barrett Cris Revaz gelis Anthony Bellis Andrew Gensey, Jr Kevin Boehm Jeff Bernstein Louis Ponte Bill Tilton Darian Bornmann Kyurak Ko Ronald Davidheiser Ross Borochaner Thomas Moyer Jehwan Lee Garland Bowman Aaron Olinger Samuel Briefs Harold Marshall Rob Brocklehurst Jerry Candrilli Dennis Browning Macaluso Robert Ozman Alexander Burval Glenn Phillips chuca Jordan Busza Matthew Schwartz Joe Carnes Scott Miller Richard Cassenti Louis Ponte Gene Gallucci James Colarusso Aaron Fox Justin Davis Dan Martin Lon Cross Sean Martin Jackson Gibbs Bill Cross Marc Schechter Nick Kozel Stefano DeMaria Nelson Robin Andy Denler Marc Schechter Nathaniel McLaughlan Nick Edelman Michael Flynn Eric Engelhardt Timothy Edwards John Medeiros Allan Dean Edward Evans Francis Equale Irwin Meiselman Alistair Rae Errol Millman John C Evans Max Mellman Justin Shaffern Bill Ferns Thomas Metzner Michael Faid William McKenna Christian Hunter Mike Nelsen Emmett Farley Dave Bankard Alan Fennell Dale Nelson Linsy Farris Grant Wickert Ken Stevens Jerry Felker Beniamin Parker Oliver Armitage Erik Contzius John Flentie Steven Perry John Davis IV Fred Conway Dale Flowers Danny Pseja Walter Ulrich Louis Ponte

Arthur Flynn

Daniel Biondo

Erik Contzius

Mark Gennari

Vernon Rodes

Michael Ges-

Stephen Banker

Les Gesell

mundo

Hardman Jones

David Friedman

Robert Pucciariello

Rernard Tan

Brian Reid

James Popp

Cris Revaz

Cliff Shoemaker

Harris Richman

Joe Dempsey

David Rivera

Jeff Robinson

Randy Rogers

Andrew Gurwood James Barrett Erik Fleischer Charles Rothermel Joe Graeff Andrew Gensey, Jr Thomas Sanders David Heston Jim Hobbs Craig Scott Sam Morgan Jared Babuschak Nicholas Scull Dean Hollmann Charles Feindler Anthony De An-Angel Soriano Lara David Iarkowski John David Maybury Charles Jones Douglas Stites Nelson Robin Bill Thompson Jeffrey Glemboski Bob Andrus James Lawther James Veach Stephen Bartell Louis Ponte Richard Veron Jeffrev Glemboski Marc Schechter Curtis Lefebvre Matthew Von Steven Schwartz Bargen Vance Lehmkuhl David Ammirata Skyler Lehmkuhl Anthony Vraim Joseph Michael Ed Young Bill Walizer Stephen Bartell Wayne Koch Clemente Ma-Thomas J Warren Craig Johnston Stephen Bartell Jon Paul Watts Alan Fennell Brian Madigan Dave Ruppert James Williams Mike Makarski Carl Lund Wally Williamson David Malament William Thomashower Eric Yoder Patrick Shelly Austin Embleton Wayne Zell Ross Borochaner David Wexler Chuck McClay Joseph Mcfarlane Jeffrev Glemboski Bill Ouinn

Northeastern Richard Anderson Troy Bagley Norman Springer Cyril Barbour Brian Yager Robb Barnard Fred Kingsbury Rich Barstow Ronald Keith Glenn Baxter Jasper Farrington Kevin Berstene Sebby Massa James Boucher Richard Parsons Alan Braley Juan Lavalle-Rivera Steve Brewer Timothy Giroux Christopher Burke, Jr. Richard Pilling Andrew Butler Tony Nasto Ben Caito Theodore Trevail Charles Chaet Carl Jeckel John H Clement Jack Dodge

Rich Gervais Frederick De Graw Joe Holmes Alfred Dinaut Hal Higgins David Els Van Fryman Michael Evans Walter Dowling Stuart Gillies Ryan Gillies Bud halsey Donald Cotugno Aaron Harmon Ben Clark Randy Hensley Scott Moss Jacob Hetman Theodore Trevail Anise Hetman Theodore Trevail Peter Hilman Hank Pedicone David J Iverson George Perkins Kenneth Karpowicz Keith Bell Jack Kearney John Wick Newton Kershaw Donald Burns Kevin Kidd Bruce Smith Matthew Mc-Shane Hugh Dickie Alexander Misner Jon Misner Charles Muntz Franklin Gould James Orrigo Barry Walker Xavier Ortiz-Reyes Terry Bradway John Paton Robb Topolski George Perkins Leslie Richmond Anthony Preston Chris Preston Bill Quinn Duane Paul David Ray, Sr Juan Lavalle-Rivera Glenn Rosa Tony Lopes Philibert Ruhmann David Hentchel Derrick Sheppard Fred Wilson Neil Shively John Wick Peter Short Robert Sarty Patrick Simpson Ralph Simpson Galen Smith Earl Lohnes Oliver Stanton Richard Parsons

T I Dardis

Kyle Steimle

John Knight

Edward Crowley

Michel Perrault

Glenn Taulton Walter Crowley Jonathan Taylor Alan Bone Brian Toney Zach Dunn Joshua Turpin Dan Boland Laurence Weissbrot Dave Humphrey Edward Winkler Harry Bird Greg Young Barry Walker

Carolinas

Ronald Altman William Fulton Tom Bell William Jones Thomas Casbarro Jeffrey Fowler Tom Cerniglia Richard Geiger Mark Flasch Jim Valieant Larry Franzese Larry Lane Edward Harris Darryl Poovey William Haves Erik Lindstrom Alan Heath Tim Gugan Anthony Heim Adam Gray-Heim Chris Hunt Erik Lindstrom Severt Jacobson John Arnold Daniel Kelly Dick Parker Bradley Langan James Coble Jeffrey Neumann Steve Curulla Thomas Olson Francis Kucheravy Robert Pucciariello Bernard Tan Henry Reyna Stephen Harmon Charles T Roberts Mark Stock Caleb Rodriguez William Adams Richard Rosenberger William Adams Larry Rushing Ron Sickenberger Duane Wallace Bob Burns, Jr. Bill Williams Mark Thompson

Ontario

John Armstrong Richard Faulkner Steven Barcroft Douglas Doull Paul Bird Richard Faulkner Dwayne Bragonier Rodney Shepherd Fred Bulbeck

Randy Carter Gregory Kuzma James Buren Brother Giles Bill Vermue Hanover Taylor Craig Jerome Lurtz Murray Hale David Anderson Wayne Crosbie Nikolaus Lutey Hari Gupta Dan Latulippe Claude Denis Craig McCardell Hari Gupta Brent Genzlinger John Dingle Ronald Montange Roger Wilson John Pennington Trevor Dring Max Principe Ted McAlpine Jay Wort Joey Gallagher Joseph Reges William Strang Robert Schuessler Mark Hambleton Allen Rivet Dan Pearson Roger Davidson Richard Hardy Peter Scheiwe Hari Gupta Roger Boyer Charles Hope Chuck Shinska Ralph Dekker Scott Turner Ryan Jagoe Eric Smith-Dave McCaffrey Denslow James Ernest King Chuck Moerdyk Cecil McBeth John Sterbenz Anthony Lee John Paul John Lee Kevin Taylor Kephane Loemba Randy Campbell Hari Gupta Bradley Lynn Dave Potter

Edward McDowell

Paul Dockstader

Vince Meekes

Edwin Johnson

Steve Norkett

Hari Gupta

Terry Poole

Greg Allen

Bryce Robbins

Paul Greaves

Hari Gupta

Pioneer

Bill Webb

Geoffrey

d'Allemand

Bill Colosimo

Jordan Dann

Ted Pageau

Dennis Foss

Mike Guigar

John Paul

Grant Fry

Jacob Swanson

Donald Diubaldo

David Anderson

Robert McCaffrey

Gary Hafemeister

Roger Davidson

Patrick Hefner

Roger Holm

Greg Henk

Roy Gurney

Darin Hodde

Jonathan Hodde

Mike Burke

Jamie Carev

Caleb Crawford

Charles Kitchka

Pierre Boivin

Nick van Berkel

Robert Watson

Kenneth Koehler

Dan Pearson

Christopher

Nichols

Rocky Mountain Charles Archibald

Gene Miner

Jim Barkley

Jerrold Baker

Jerry Bimka

Ted Cluett Robert Blackstone Stephen Lunsford Jakob Blev Eric Annis Sean Brogan Scott Corev Bart Cameron Michael Louden Daniel Cerise Brett Foster Dennis Coleman Bob Lano Kenneth Cotter Carol Morrell Webster Crist Greg Piper David Daignault Rick Haines Diamond Jim Davis Gene Miner Dennis Doyle Jim Lucev Jay Dudik Kelly Michaelis Davin Easton Curt Kimball Donnie Frank Paul Rowe Bill Gohl Jim Lucey David Goodwill Gene Miner Noah Grewell Jason Weisser John Hays James Krall Matthew Jenkins Matthew Hart Eric Johnson

Justus Kane Aaron Sutton Bob Kasper Blake Ostler Denver Killpack Bruce Winters Travis Lassle Daniel Cerise Eric Madsen Nekoda Yeager Logan McKenney Kelly Michaelis Jesse Moore Scott Corev Evan Moss Kenny Wiser Zachary Olpin Bart Cameron James O'Rourke Matthew Hart Rafael Ortega Darin Drown Daniel Overmeyer Grady Weiszbrod Andrew Payne Conner Wassom Ted Pierce Gene Miner Jamie Ritz Jim Witt Derek Simpson Brett Foster Aidan Stephenson Eric Cain Randy Uselman Allen Lyon Spencer Van Heel Brett Foster Chad Walz Donald Kready Christopher Wiggins

Pete Anderson Seneca Land

Gene Miner

John Taylor

Henry Zietlow

John L Williams

Lambros Alamond Matt Slocum Tyler Bechard Amanda Harris Bill Bennett John Rice Dominic Bidwell Amanda Harris Allen Bidwell Sagan Harris Brennan Carman Amanda Harris Benjamin Casper Lee Shepter Nate Cherrier Amanda Harris Freddie Corper Kerry Grant Antonio Devereaux Sagan Harris Adam Donle Amanda Harris Keith Edwards Gene Evans Kyle Fioramonti Sagan Harris Destin Furcinito Amanda Harris

Robert Hesselberth

Amanda Harris John Kenney Steven Fanning Josh Knapp Clay Monson Christopher Leach Tom Jones Chris Leonard Matt Slocum Alex Lodge Amanda Harris Jon Lunden Amanda Harris David Lunden Gene Evans Matt Manley Sagan Harris Aaron Michalko Lee Shenter Hugh Miner Gene Evans Matt Nartone Tito Reyes Edward S Novak Ken Reger Michael Perry Amanda Harris Nick Peta Amanda Harris Jordan Pever Sagan Harris John Pierce Kerry Grant Bayley Raponi Schuyler Cunniff Justin Grower Wayne Robl Joshua Lipson Jonathan Riviere John Kerr John Simpson Tyler Lisiewski John Simpson, Jr. Carl Ekblad Dillon Singerhoff William Mankins Bob Kelchner Phillip Peterson Paul Smith David Martinez Tito Reyes Ronald Henkel Bren Stace Bill Mattson Sagan Harris Richard Eade John Mauri Jamie Stevens Sagan Harris Jerry B<mark>rumm</mark> Garrett Strang Irwin Meiselman Tito Reyes Errol Millman Bryan Straub Ronald Montange Amanda Harris John Pennington Ray Toland Mike Nichols John Casserly John Harnish Kimberly Torrey Paolo Pineda

Donald Morgan

Ryan Hitchcock

Bradley Babiack Thomas Keeping

James Eldridge Sunshine

Doug Ploetz

Ignacio

Armando Villa-

Sagan Harris

James Witherington

Joshua Fowler

John Felver

Jerry Rispoli

Jim Grein<mark>er</mark>

Jim Hobbs

Dan Sham

Tim Stewart

Dave Sardo

Paul Smith

James Ladd

Doc Sprankle

Edward White

Bill Updike

Gordon Butler

Gordon Smith

Cal Allen Kenneth Schroeder Hans Boden Tom McCarroll Peter Bouer Donald Abrams Jay Brigham Gale Nitz John David Broadhead John Machtley, Jr.

Raymond Corriveau Lee Romano Clinton Cottrell Alan Case Adrien David-Jody Armand Sivelle Alan Moore Kevin Hunsicker Micah Baker Matt Doctor Brooks Harkey Raymond Garofalo Riley Barmore John Doramus Robert McGuire Greg Shuss Brian Beaudine Andrew Ekblad Wendell Peters Carl Ekblad Layne Bennett Ken Engel Tim Weitzel David Erdman Nathan Benson David Ervast, III Brooks Harkey Jonathan Riviere Chris Boggs David E Firth Terry Mercing David Doheny Sr Nicholas Firth Dick Lay, Jr. David Doheny Sr Josh Bradley Chris Fuse Zachary Ma-Thomas McGowan cLaren Charlie Goodrich Don Bush Sam Townsend Mike Holland Bob Cahill James Harrington Mark Harrington Griff Wooten Ryan Hastle Bevan Carr Todd Hastie Marlin Miller Kevin Hawthorne Dane Castillo BT Hatley Joe Jacquat Jon Houghton Adam Christa Sam Townsend Sean Morgan Jonah King Kevin Collins Joshua Fowler Manny Lopez Robbie Landon Gary Cooper Jeffrey Walters Matthew Kaskel Michael Latiolais

Ralph Gonzales Doug Peterson Aiden Gross **Brooks Harkey** John Hagen Terry Ermoian John Richards, Jr. Robert Herrera Brooks Harkey John Herrick Terry Ghiselli Thomas Sanders S Vincent Hotho Mike Blackwood Steve Jimenez Zachary MacLaren Art Johnson Martin Schmidt Robert Karnes Don Bybee Andy La More Nathan Flynt Benjamin Tilford Brennan Lacy Roger Morton Jonathan Riviere Devin LaTray Jack Mitchell

Crocodile Lile

Calvin Doody

John Epperly

Ricky Bugher

Daron Praetzel

Charles Myers

Mike Blackwood

Jeffrey Garrison

Edward Sturm

Steve Floyd

John Gardner

Bill Smith

Evan Estes

Joe Fields

Bill Wiard

Christopher Waite Robert Tunick

Southwestern

Stephen Markelz Edward Garland Ryan McCord Charlie Lotspeich Alex McCord Charlie Lotspeich David McCord Charlie Lotspeich Andrew M Miller Larry Walton Callahan Murray Brooks Harkey Peter Nolten Tom McClusky De De Persaud Jack Mitchell Robert Powell Rick Lay Austin Praetzel Andrew Bowerman Daron Praetzel Stretchy Reed Albert Schellhaas Trey Robbins Travis Gidley Mike Roberts Alan Melville Brian Rowe Don Klick Gary Stamper Max Cain Jason Stauffer Brooks Harkey John Stehling Tim Lowrance Gene Stout Andy La More Jess Thomas John Cunningham Jack Wesley Michael Valderas Brooks Harkey Mitchell Watkins, Jr. Mark Bray Zachariah Webb Harold Blackshear Josiah Webb Harold Blackshear Dennis Westberg Jimmy Garcia Josiah Wheeler Roger Armstrong David Willard Terry Mercing Mason Williams Terry Ghiselli Jeff Wyatt Bradley Bartel Art Zacharczyk Martin Schmidt **No District** Kenneth Brumm Jerry Brumm Roger Rhodes Pete Stephens-Brown

Jim Witt

Why "No District" on these lists? Men can now join the Society without joining a chapter or district first

Dozens of men joined the Society in 2016 without first joining a chapter or district, or even necessarily knowing a Society member or first visiting a chapter. Each simply visited barbershop.org and clicked "join us."

After consultation with district and select chapter leaders, the Society Board last year changed the requirement that members must belong to a Society chapter or district. The move is a small but important first step in a broader membership strategy. In an ever-changing social landscape where the consumer expects to help set

the terms, this and coming strategies will help strengthen both the Society and individual chapters.

A large number of these first-time members stated that they either didn't live near a chapter or presently had no time for chapter life. They simply wanted to be part of the Barbershop Harmony Society, whether or not they were ready to attend chapter meetings.

Many have since joined Society chapters. The new members listed under "No District" on pages 26-27 are all first-time members who have not yet joined a district or chapter. The dozens of men who later joined a chapter or district are included in the appropriate district. Not included on this list are past members who reinstated their membership without joining a chapter or district.

Chapter and district membership is still required to hold chapter office or compete in chorus contests. Quartet competitors (exception: youth quartets) must at minimum belong to a district.

For more information, go to bit.ly/bhsjoin or bit.ly/ bhsmembers2016.

New members reported between Jan. 1 and Nov. 1, 2016 who did not list a recruiter on their application

Dolson

Cardinal

Deane Breymeyer Robert Budreau Brady Burke Isaac Byrd Cameron Carnes R Lance Harris Scott Keeler Spencer Petree Troy Sleeman Earl Walker Hagan Zoellers

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Nick Bashaw Donald Darst Luke Davis Atte Heikkinen Nate Imparato Phillip Johnson Sean Koos Andy Meyer James Moris Kip Opheim Jason St. Sauver Sean Stewart Adam Umland

Dixie

Daniel Cohn David Frey Charles Hamilton Caleb Hayes Andrew Henry Bill Hilliker Andrew Markham Johnny Proffitte Logan Sawyer Samson Tucker Ron Wills

Evergreen

Steven Anderson Robert Bradford Alex Ceaicovschi Matt Chapek Benjamin Chenev Brad Clark Jason Collinge Patrick Corev Jim Durand Duncan Eastman Frederick Eichner Ken Hammer Jerry Harris Gary Hoffman James Jahnsen

Richard Johnson Kyle Lancaster Doug Long Matt McKee Riley McNeer Javier Ocampo John Pigott Perry Pike Stephen Praus Craig Prichard Thomas Riedel William Ritchie Liam Simpson Jonathan Soh Max Tuppan

FarWestern

Matthew Armstrong Bill Wilkinson Fred Baker Illinois Jason Block Daniel Borup Chris Hines Dylan Brown Jan Hook Grant Klobuchar Christopher Burlando Jeff Camp Aidan Tibben Julian Canjura Peter Cho Jonathan Cline Raymond Coulter Michael Cowles

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Ben Laboy

Larry Linder

Juan Macias

Martin

Ansel Lundberg

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Rick Ulrey

Francis Welsh

Leo Wiggins

Dan Zabronsky Northeastern Antone Benevides Anthony Brown Matthew Clark Jonathan deAraujo Ralph Desorbo Cullen-Thomas

Tim Donovan Peter Hennigar Clive Hughes Jim Hundt Mitchell Hunt Ryan Jordan Jean-Marc Le Doux Gary Lessard **Bob Levitt** Stephen B Martin Yusheng Qin James Rushton Robert Rutherford Steven Shaw

John Short

Stephen Stein

Carolinas Jace Brinson Ray Clemen Gregory Collins Victor Cross, Sr Joseph Dryer Donald Florence Nathan Horrell Edgar Horton Steven Karan David Koppenhofer Norman Luckett Mason McMonegal Brooke Pearson Franklin Pierce Tom Robinson, Jr Corbin Thompson Gregory Topp

Ontario Brandon Boeyenga Andrew Carolan Gerry Churchill Alexander Daicar Matt Dolgin Jason Harren Ben Hearn Paul Heppelle James Kilpatrick Jon Lee Kenneth Locker Pedro Marques Alan Mounsteven Thomas Neumann William R Orr Anthony Pacheco Ron Reedyk Max Tinline

Pioneer

James Sasinowski William Sclesky Jeffrey Slingsby Alexander Smith-Denslow Austin Suthers Robert E Wood Thad Zaremba

Rocky Mountain

Alec Arana Mavion Bricker Steven Butler Chase Butler Taylor Fugate Casey Haynes Jorge Hernandez Robert Lepage Matt Nixon Ricky Parkinson Kenneth Rozas Roland Tietjen Troy Waycott Grady Weiszbrod

Seneca Land

Joseph Adams Jr Lea Boatwright Lochlan Cahoon John Denega Gregory Heidelberger Michael Susco

Sunshine

Gregg Appel David Babbitt Phil Babel Ted Beerman Burt Bice Geroge Bingley Johnny Boatwright Jeffrey Boyer Alexander Burney Ken Carlson Bryce Cline Keith Enrooth Roy Gravener Timothy Keatley **Dudley Lytle** Anthony Mathews Daniel Pesante Thomas Pomroy Dean Qualls Rod Richie Alex Ruble Richard Strzelewicz

Adam Windish Pat Wren

Southwestern Tom Allen

Ricky Barringer Bryan Casey Curtis Conway Thomas Davis Joe Duren Ken Grimm Miguel Guzman Anthony Holder Larry Howard Charles Loesch Frank R Martinez Matthew McManamey John Narvarte Max Nelson Harry Porter Angel Ricci Dylan Sprehe John Stone Andy Swalwell Russell Van Patten Paul Wilson

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

From "barely on the radar" to stars of NAfME

Organization fills closing concert with barbershop harmony, including VM and Main Street

ehind the scenes and in plain sight, the Barbershop Harmony Society is reshaping the way music educators look at the art form and the impact our organization can make in the classroom and the world.

A brilliant showcase concert featuring the fabled **Vocal Majority** chorus and beloved medalist **Main Street** quartet closed the 2016 National In-Service

Conference of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME.) "The standing ovations (more than seven throughout the night) started in the back — among the high school honors students," reported Jeremy

K. Gover, BHS audiovisual producer. "I looked up and saw these kids standing and whistling and screaming for Main Street and knew that something big was happening."

A chorus of male chorus directors led by Dr. Jim Henry performed a barbershop set that also drew warm approval.

"Two years ago, when NAfME held a national conference, we were barely on

their radar," said Joe Cerutti, Director of Outreach. It was a good step forward, but a far cry from this year, when the entire two-hour closing show for the convention was essentially all barbershop harmony.

"Two years ago, we had a booth, and the amount of traffic and interest that teachers and students had for our presence helped us secure a few workshops for the 2015 conference." When 2009 champ **Crossroads** performed last year, the whole place exploded—and the top leadership at NAfME stepped up and grabbed hold of the many ways the Society is actively supporting music educators.

Crossroads subsequently was honored in the summer of 2016 with NAfME's Stand for Music Award and was featured at the Hill Day collegiate

summit in Washington, D.C.

This rich and growing relationship set the stage for a dynamic week in Dallas this November. "Director Greg Clancy and the leadership of The Vocal Majority made sure the chorus treated the event as a command performance," said CEO Marty Monson and the audience rewarded them with ovation after ovation.

"It's amazing that the kids are so eager and proficient," Marty said. "We don't have a barbershop problem with youth. They don't say 'we want to try barbershop' they already know it. They come up to us and ask if we want to sing a tag with them!"

Traffic at the exhibit booth was universally positive, according to Advocacy and Partnerships leader Sherry Lewis. "They know what we're talking about, and they're eager to get

their hands on the resources." Free music, Music Educator Guides, and information on our

formation on our programs found receptive teachers. "It's what they want to do, and they know it's working."

Jim Henry set the bar high for his male chorus directors ensemble: "I want them to be shocked at how much we accomplish in a short amount of time." With just three rehearsals, he tuned up a performance that had their peers cheering before the final chord had concluded. It's this kind of experience that an educator can bring back to his colleagues and supervisors and say, "Look, our professional organization believes in the art form and the depth of support that BHS is offering with no strings attached."

Jim also had the opportunity to speak to more than 300 future music education majors attending the conference, and forged a quick rapport with his



rap-along from Broadway's hit musical Hamilton.

Staff Music Educator and Curriculum Specialist Wayne Grimmer used local youth choruses to demonstrate the Adaptable Arrangements Harmony Method which is being piloted at various schools across the country. Joe Cerutti rounded out the week with a seminar on "Music, Money, Men: How Barbershop Can Help Your Program."

A recounting of the successes of the week in words and pictures only scratches the surface of the impact we are making, said Marty, returning to

Jim Henry's session with the 300 future music education students. When the



meeting had concluded, "One young guy came back to me and said, 'Can I sing a tag?' Then two more came over. In this room, there are 30 kids singing

together, barbershop harmony. When I'm talking to these people, they're

just videoing everything. I asked, 'Have you heard this before?' and he replied, 'This is what goes on in the hallways of my school every day.""

Where once we had to scramble for attention and legitimacy, the Barbershop Harmony Society now stands as an exemplar of a mobilized, energetic force for growth in music education

"When I show up to these things now, we're the poster child," said Marty. See a video recap at: bit.ly/bhsnafme2016.

- Brian Lynch, BHS PR & Marketing

Chapter and quadruplets help spread harmony in Iowa schools



If you've seen the 15-year-old Milwaukeebased Vintage Mix quadruplets in action, you know what great ambassadors they are for four-part harmony. They recently took some time out from headlining shows (and driver's ed) to embark on a mini school

tour. Here's their report:

"We were able to go into five schools to include elementary, middle and high schools. All of the schools were very gracious, giving VMQ a half hour to 45 minutes to talk and sing. A school in Hazel Green, Wis., actually planned an assembly to include all elementary and middle school students in addition to the high school choir students. We were so impressed with the response of the students everywhere. This would not be

possible without the support of BHS, in addition to the support of the Dubuque Music Men Barbershop Chorus. We definitely see the importance of a supportive local chorus and teachers that are willing to promote barbershop in their school!'

AND JUST FOR FUN ... My quartet, The 4 Flakes, was on the pier in San Pedro, Calif., waiting to board a cruise ship. A family nearby was having trouble

aettina their widowed father to board for a surprise trip. We offered to help. They

replied, "Please do." We sana, "How Can We Miss You If You Don't Go Away?" He smiled and trotted up the ramp.

Jim Shilladv

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between Sept. 1 and Nov. 1, 2016. Email updates to customerservice@barbershop.org.

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Central States Willis Duerksen

Central Kansas, KS Anacortes, WA

Charlie Greene Kansas Citv. MO Tom Hart Manhattan, KS Harold Matt Elkader, IA

Dixie

Ron Jenkins North East Tennessee TN Robert Whitledge Cleveland, TN

Evergreen

James Colligan

Ted Dillistone Nanaimo, BC Joseph Hamernik Anacortes, WA **Bob Pearson** Canby, OR William Snow Anacortes, WA

Far Western

Norman Bone Los Angeles, CA Lvnn Brittan Santa Rosa, CA Jack Edwards Sedona, AZ Martin Fuchs

Long Beach, CA Fullerton, CA Richard Schulze Palomar Pacific, CA E Glenn Theobald Sun Cities, AZ

Johnny Appleseed

Robert Huston Western Reserve, OH George Kniess Pittsburgh South Hills, PA Robert Reed Cincinnati, OH Robert Thompson Northcoast, OH Jim Yasinow Cleveland East, OH

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Jim Stockton Alexandria, VA Mt. Vernon, VA

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Ontario

Cal Cressman Kitchener-Waterloo Michael Downing Simcoe, ON

Seneca Land Thomas Mazik New Bethlehem, PA

Sunshine Wayne Bensman Greater Sun City Center, FL Jim Burgess Greater Pinellas

Martin - St Lucie, FL Richard Sause Sunrise, FL Manny Torres Gainesville, FL Paul Willcox

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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.



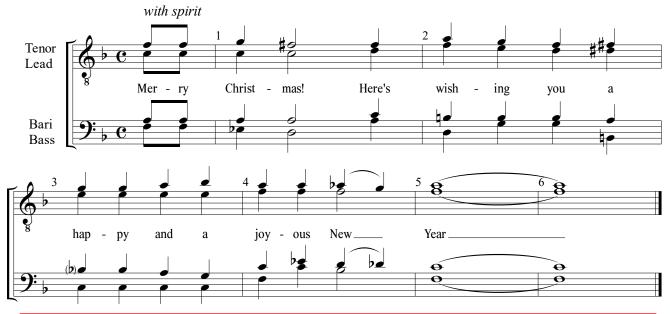
Finish out the year with a Burt Szabo original

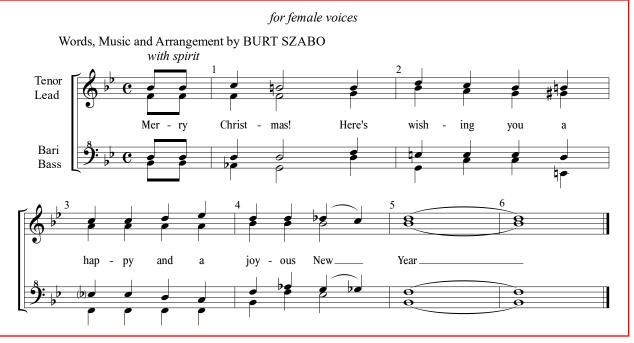
y favorite time of the year is upon us and Burt Szabo, fine composer and arranger of music and tags, has given us a barbershop

gift for the season. Spread the joy of singing and put smiles on faces with this special source of "ear candy!" Thanks, Burt! ■

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