



MIDLANTICS

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SUMMER 2013
A BULLETIN FOR EVERY BARBERSHOPPER IN THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



M-AD SHINES IN TORONTO

ALEXANDRIA MEDALS!

DA CAPO MAKES THE TOP 10

GIMME FOUR & THE GOOD OLD DAYS EARN TOP 10 COLLEGIATE
BROTHERS IN HARMONY, VOICES OF GOTHAM AMONG TOP 10 IN THE WORLD
WESTCHESTER WOWS CROWD WITH MIC-TEST ROUTINE
'ROUND MIDNIGHT, FRANK THE DOG HIT TOP 20
UP ALL NIGHT KEEPS CROWD IN STITCHES
CHORUS OF THE CHESAPEAKE, BLACK TIE AFFAIR GIVE STRONG PERFORMANCES

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... AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

PHOTO CREDIT: Lorin May

ANYTHING GOES! 3RD PLACE BRONZE MEDALIST ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS ON STAGE IN TORONTO.



DA CAPO, Ryan Griffith, Anthony Colosimo, Wayne Adams and Joe Sawyer placed 10th.



'ROUND MIDNIGHT, T.J. Carollo, Jeff Glemboski, Larry Bomback and Wayne Grimmer placed 12th.

All photos courtesy of Dan Wright. To view more photos, go to www.flickr.com/photosbydanwright

UP ALL NIGHT, John Ward, Cecil Brown, Dan Rowland and Joe Hunter placed 28th.

FRANK THE DOG, Tim Knapp, Steve Kirsch, Tom Halley and Ross Trube placed 20th.





GIMME FOUR, Paul Franek, David Ammirata, Will Downey, Joe Servidio Jr., placed 6th.



THE GOOD OLD DAYS, Fernando Collado, Doug Carnes, Anthony Arpino, Edd Duran placed 10th.



BLACK TIE AFFAIR, Will Hartley, Alex McCoy, Ryan Brown, John Maderazo placed 19th.

All photos courtesy of Lorin May.

the **BiG** **BANG** THEORY

... says in barbershop performance



"Dress rehearsal" proves the CO₂ canisters have the desired effect. The chorus is set to wow the crowd.

by Jack Pitzer, Alexandria Harmonizers

Bronze medals are not all the same – especially when you earn one as the third place chorus in the contest at the 75th anniversary BHS convention in Toronto July 2-6. The Alexandria Harmonizers' third place was a major advance from their previous and most recent fifth-place bronze

medal earned by the chorus in 2011. (The Harmonizers went to China in '12 and did not compete. The chorus last placed third in Portland in '02.)

The 110-man chorus earned 2,750 points (out of 3,000) in third place, 91.7%. They sang All the Things You Are arranged by **Steve Delehanty** and Anything Goes arranged by **Kevin Keller**. The

choreography for the uptune, designed and taught by **Carlos Barillo**, helped earn high marks in presentation!

This was the 18th medal earned by the Alexandria Harmonizers, including the four golds in '86, '89, '95 and '98. The chorus has competed at 24 International chorus contests since their first one in 1978.

Master director **Joe Cerutti** and his music team kept the week fun and productive. Rehearsals began on Tuesday evening when the huge Harmo family started arriving in Toronto. **Joe** was instrumental in having lots of folks come to see and hear us, some sang for us and there were some special moments of harmony and fellowship with other choruses such as host chapter and ultimate chorus champs, Toronto Northern Lights directed by **Steve Armstrong**; and with our M-AD neighbors from Dundalk directed by **Rick Taylor** who ranked 21st. Several groups from the German affiliate BING sang for us too, including a mixed quartet with one man and three women, KLANG KUSSE.

Other M-AD choruses in the contest included mic testers Westchester County, NY; Chorus of the Chesapeake from Dundalk, MD who placed 21, Voices of Gotham from Hell's Kitchen NY who were 8th place; and Brothers in Harmony from Hamilton Square, NJ who were 6th place.

Toronto was first, Westminster, CA was second, Alexandria was third, Denver was fourth, and Greater Central Ohio – Alliance was fifth.

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ANYTHING GOES!



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AND there is also the news about the quartets in the competition this year. DA CAPO with **Ryan Griffith**, tenor; **Tony Colosimo**, lead; **Joe Sawyer**, baritone; and **Wayne Adams**, bass, made the top ten. Our congrats to them for that success! M-AD also claims THROWBACK as a district quartet with **Sean Devine** singing lead. His quartet placed seventh. Other M-AD quartets also did the district proud: 'ROUND MIDNIGHT in 12th place; FRANK THE DOG in 20th place; UP ALL NIGHT in 28th place. Congrats to our men on stage in quartets!

The Harmonizer convention week began with rehearsals at the Fairmont Royal York Tuesday, July 2nd. The hard working 15 men in the 2013 front row, **Ben Roberts, Ken White, Scip Garling, Doug White, Randall Eliason, Peter Hubbard, Carlos Barillo, Steve White, Josh Roots, Ken Rub, Terry Reynolds, Chuck Hunter, Mike Vlcej, Craig Kujawa** and **Chris Clark**, met at 7 pm. Then the entire chorus and family gathered for a 7:30 session. There was a lot of excitement with folks having had to get off flights or find parking, getting settled in rooms in a huge and sprawling hotel, and seeing who had made it so far. The chorus members brought their suit coats for practice. As usual there were a number of crews at work such as the guys who continued to add details to the props; av crews who kept the sound equipment running; and uniform folks sewing and adding Velcro. **Bob Griesemer** and **Chris Clark** drove the Harmo truck from Alexandria with

Harmonizers commemorate the the Barbershop Harmony Society's Diamond Jubilee by spelling out the anniversary numeral (75) on the Toronto Fairmont Royal York Hotel's spiral staircase.

our equipment and had to be careful with the CO2 canisters. It was not until Thursday when all 110 of us were on the risers since some guys could not get off work all week, or some guys were working at the convention or competing in quartets.

We were especially honored to have arranger **Steve Delehanty** with us on Tuesday nite to hear his ballad. And coach **David Wright** and his wife **Sandy** came to offer ideas and points to help us with our quest. After our rehearsal we shared songs with Toronto Northern Lights Chorus, who came to hear us and sing for us.

There are many Harmonizer traditions during International convention week. One special one is the surprise on the director. And this year it really worked – we almost gave him a heart attack when after the emotional “day” chord in the ballad, we came back in with the shout of “Anything Goes!!” It was one of our best-ever director surprises!

Finally it was on to the Air Canada Center for the contest. We entered the stage just after intermission – about 6 pm – to a screaming and eager audience. Director Joe saluted each man as we took the stage. We sang and gave it our best! The standing ovation at the end of our package was most rewarding!

Before the scores were announced, the new BHS board of directors was introduced which included **Gary Plaaq, Joe Cerutti** and his fiancée, **Bridgette Winter**, plus M-AD Immediate Past President **Dick Powell** and his wife **Roxanne** (who is also editor of *Mid'l Antics*).

Finally we got the great news. We cheered and applauded the other choruses for their successes and proudly donned our THIRD PLACE BRONZE MEDALS!



BROTHERS IN HARMONY
6th Place

CHORUS OF THE CHESAPEAKE
21st Place



WESTCHESTER CHORDSMEN
Mic Testers



VOICES OF GOTHAM
8th Place



*All photos
courtesy of
Dan Wright.
To view more
photos, go to
www.flickr.com/photos-bydanwright*

You Be the Judge

... just bid on 'the BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE' (in the judging area) at District Contest this fall



by Gary Plaag, VP Contest & Judging

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a barbershop judge? What do judges do while they sit waiting for the next competitor? What do they say to each other? What do they do when they go backstage? What do they talk about when you see them conferring as a group after a performance? What does it sound and look like in the judging area (the "pit")? Maybe you have no desire to know any of this but you want the best seat in the house and have a little extra cash you're willing to part with for a good cause?

Do we have an opportunity for you!

At the past few International Conventions and at some recent district contests in other districts, seats in the judging area have been auctioned off with proceeds going to Harmony Foundation or another district-level purpose.

We are stealing this idea and implementing it for our 2013 District Convention in Ocean City, Md. this fall. We will auction

off one (1) seat for each contest session:

- 1) quartet Semi-finals (Friday night);
- 2) Chorus Finals (Saturday morning/afternoon); and
- 3) Quartet Finals (Saturday night).

Proceeds will go to the M-AD Endowment Fund supporting various district programs, including Chorus Director Development and Youth In Harmony. We have an online auction process so this can be done ahead of the convention. The opening bid starts at \$100 for a seat and the minimum increase is \$10 (but you are encouraged to bid higher!). You can bid at any time but the bidding closes at noon on Friday, September 20!

So if you win "the best seat in the house" what exactly do you get?

- The seat will be at the same tables where the nine scoring judges sit.
- You will receive a badge with your name as a keepsake.
- You will be given the opportunity to score the competitors in your chosen category (Music, Presentation, Singing). You will be given the same scoring sheets that a certified scoring judge receives. You can take any notes you want or just sit and enjoy and then write down a score at the end. Your scores will **not** count in the official contest, but your scores will be entered into the scoring program and evaluated with the certified judges' scores. A few days after the convention, you will receive a graphical analysis of how you

scored in your chosen category for that session.

- You will be invited to visit the Judges' Green Room to partake of beverages and snacks alongside the judges.
- You are invited to observe the evaluation sessions in your chosen category
- You are encouraged to ask the judges as many questions about the experience as you want.
- You are expected to maintain judge decorum – no sharing of information with others outside of the judging fraternity, etc. (You will be advised of this "judge code" after you win the seat.)

[Click here to register for your seat in the pit!](#)

Please note that you will still need to purchase an all-events registration for the convention. Through this auction process you are only vying for the "best seat in the house" in the judging area. If you aren't interested but know someone who is attending who might be, please pass this information on to him/her. It's open for anyone, member or non-member, male or female. It's a great opportunity that only a few people get to experience. You win and the M-AD Endowment Fund wins. See you in the "pit" in October!



Don't miss...

the Mid-Atlantic District Convention's second annual

BATTLE ON THE BEACH

October 4-6
Ocean City, Md.

Early Bird registrations (\$35-45) in effect until Sept.

For info and to register: www.mad-registrations.org/

REFLECTIONS ON HARMONY COLLEGE EAST, 2013

What's the most important event on the MidAtlantic District calendar? Division contest? District convention? International Prelims? If you're into competition, then one of those contests surely gets your full support.

But let me pose a different question.

Why isn't Harmony College East the most valued and important event of all? Why aren't there 1,000 participants, as there were at the combined 2013 Division contests, rather



by Roger Tarpy, VP Music & Performance

than the 340 or so that we got this year at HCE? Why wouldn't your director decide that you're "required" to attend HCE as he routinely does for a chorus contest?

He should, because there are lots of reasons for believing that HCE is the premier event of the year. In fact, I assert that without HCE, the rest of the District events would, in the long run, suffer badly. *Without HCE, the contests would eventually become the playground of only a small cadre of singers.* Competition would become joyless for most audience members, pedestrian for most competitors, and lacking noteworthiness for most contest officials.

The reason is that *without a realistic means to get better, striving to get*

better declines. It's the opportunity to learn how to achieve that leads to the formation of new aspirations. *The person who says: "Why strive? We never seem to improve." has, clearly, never been to HCE.*

Imagine if HCE was widely supported:

- Hundreds of Joe Barbershoppers would discover that they too, not just the gifted singers, can sound better and sing smarter.
- Choruses would discover a new level of competence which, in turn, would make their weekly rehearsals more fulfilling and productive. This is because great instruction leads to better singing; better singing leads to more fun; more fun leads to more energy; more energy leads to more members . . . well . . . you get the idea.

HCE, therefore, really isn't about mere instruction, or information, or how-to-do-it stuff. It is about elevating aspirations, enabling self-discovery, and appreciating the collective spirit of like-minded people.

Please do not get the impression that I'm disappointed by the current state of HCE. I am decidedly not. In fact, having just returned from the school, I am full of pride and gratitude; I'm an ardent believer in its value. Here's why – the good, the bad, and, alas, the ugly.

FIRST, A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

(1) We enjoyed a modest increase in

the number of singers over the past few years – about 340, up by 20 or so.

(2) In addition to many returning faculty, a cluster of new teachers and coaches brought a fresh vitality to the school – folks like **Gene Spilker** (Presentation judge), **Ev Nau** (long time Harmony University instructor), **Tom Gentry** and **Rod Sgrignoli** (Music judges), **Jean Barford** (five-time SAI gold medalist director), **Kevin King** (music teacher and singing tutor), and **Steve Armstrong** (the talented director of the Toronto Northern Lights).

(3) We offered courses that attendees request year after year (Music Theory, Voice Techniques, Presentation, song interpretation, and tutorials in arranging and directing). However, we added a host of new offerings that provided students with an unprecedented range of selection — Physics of Sound by **Ron Knickerbocker**, How to Write Comedic Routines by **Harry Hafflett**, the HCE Chorus led by Steve Armstrong, Quartet Rehearsal Strategies by **Brian Beck**, the History of Barbershopping by **Matt Beals**, and

continued on the next page



ABOVE, HCE Chorus performs Saturday night under the direction of Toronto Northern Light's Steve Armstrong.

LEFT, Hot Air Buffoon Harry Hafflett shows his seminar how to "Make 'em Laugh."



Frank the Dog demonstrates their appreciation of Theresa Weatherbee's super coaching. Next year she'll be wearing her Wonder Woman t-shirt.



REFLECTIONS . . .

continued from previous page

the use of Technology in Barbershop Rehearsals by **Mike Kelly**.

THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

(1) The fellowship in the courtyard each evening following the show is simply incredible – many dozens (hundreds?) of singers, young and old, performing for each other, singing tags, laughing and meeting new friends. It is truly an amazing scene which, in my mind, embodies, like nothing else, the joy of our hobby.

(2) The senior's quartet called **Old Mill Four** who were applauded as enthusiastically as any championship quartet for their hilarious presentation of "Honey Lil Liz" in which they used bottles of honey, and cue cards illustrated with wishing wells and hearts.



TAGGING IN THE QUAD



FACES 4 RADIO with THERESA WEATHERBEE
MASQUERADE

(3) The bittersweet performance of **Bring It On**, a girl's quartet from Gaithersburg MD, who were relishing their final year of eligibility after having participated in three previous YIH Camps.

(4) The truly amazing singing of the youth quartet **Sfourzando**, who performed their own arrangement of . . . get this . . . Dave Brubeck's "Take Five."

(5) HI's 1997 Queens of Harmony – **For Heaven's Sake** – who dedicated their rendition of It's Raining Men to the beautiful bald heads atop **Richie Lavene** and **Tom Gentry**.

(6) The quartet **Masquerade** singing I Wish I Could be Santa Claus (in Santa hats, no less!) to their favorite coach



Stephanie Britson.

THE BAD AND THE UGLY

(1) The awful storms on Thursday that played havoc with the travel plans of a few faculty members who were flying in from other districts.

(2) Oh . . . and one more — I thought my pork chop on Friday evening was a bit cold by the time I ate it.

Seriously, that's it for the ugly!

I'm not exaggerating when I say that the weekend was incredible in just about every respect — fun, entertaining, instructive, supportive, and full of great fellowship. **Just think what could happen to you — your skill, aspirations, and, indeed, appreciation of the entire hobby — if you were to convince a friend to join you in attending HCE next year.** By the way, it's going to happen again on June 12-15, 2014 in Salisbury, Md.



OLD MILL FOUR



SFOURZANDO



BRING IT ON

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE



HCE Youth In Harmony Camp ROCKS Salisbury!

This year's annual YIH quartet camp was held in conjunction with Harmony College East at Salisbury University. We had 36 young men, and 25 young women in 16 quartets/ensembles, and 3 music educators in attendance.



(Dale), and *Summer Nights* from *Grease* (Garnett).

This year, members of the M-AD Youth In Harmony team, all former students of the M-AD YIH program, and active participants as collegiate-level quartet competitors, participated as directors and coaches for the YIH camp. **Doug Carnes** of *The Good Old Days* quartet directed the mixed chorus piece, Dave Ammirata of *Gimme Four* directed the men's piece, while **Meredith Didlake** (*Cosmo*), and all four members of *Gimme Four* (Ammirata, Downey, Franek and Servidio) participated in the quartet/ensemble coaching pods. **Anne Bureau** directed the women's piece on Saturday night and incorporated some very exciting visual and sound treatments.

A big "thank you" goes to Sean Devine of *OC Times* and *Throwback* for donating *OC Times* CDs for all the students who didn't get one last year.

For next year's camp, those who participated this year are committed to getting at least 25 quartets/ensembles to attend. We

have already secured *Gimme Four* and *GQ* as our learning quartets for next year and many of the outstanding staff from this year are booked as coaches for next year.

M-AD College Quartets soar

We had three collegiate quartets participate in the International Collegiate Quartet contest in Toronto. *Black Tie Affair* came in 19th with a score of 71.1%, *The Good Old Days* came in 10th with a score of 74.6%, and *Gimme Four* came in 6th with a score of 75.3%. All three will be competing at the upcoming M-AD District quartet contest in October.

That about wraps it up for our YIH program so far this year. As the fall approaches, be sure to contact your local school choral directors and let them know about the 2014 YIH Quartet/Ensemble Camp at HCE June 12-15, as well as our winter YIH quartet preliminary adjudications (date(s)/location(s) to be determined, but likely in January/February). There will definitely be a YIH "finals" adjudication held in conjunction with our M-AD International Prelims contest March 15, 2014, in Reston, Va. Follow late-breaking news on the Mid-Atlantic District Youth Barbershop Facebook page!

YIH women rehearse *Africa* under the direction of Anne Bureau.



The combined youth choruses, under the direction of Doug Carnes, blast the house to a standing ovation with their rendition of *Summer Nights* from *Grease*. To view Tom Guterbach's video of this inspired performance go to: youtu.be/MtY-OnH9d67c You may also view videos of the men singing *You're 16* and of the crowd closing the show with *Keep the Whole World Singing* at youtu.be/7zGkI86Yg8A.

16 quartets participated in this year's HCE Youth Camp. They experienced two days of intensive coaching and performed in two shows.



by Gary Plaag, VP Youth In Harmony

Jacobs, Katie Taylor and Mary Ann Wert), Paul Franek, Claire Gardiner, Mark Kettner (DIX), Eddie Martinez (SWD), Gary Plaag, Carolyn Sexton and Joey Servidio.

Each quartet/ensemble was coached on their own songs in preparation for singing on the Friday or Saturday night show. The women's, men's, and mixed YIH choruses wrapped up the Saturday night show singing *Africa* (by Toto; arranged by Gentry), *You're 16*, *You're Beautiful* and *You're Mine*



Another Fabulous Year for Youth In Harmony at HCE



by Alan Wile, DVP Financial Development & Endowment Fund Chairman

This year proved again that M-AD Barbershoppers are generous to a fault, as their amazing record of giving at Harmony College East was demonstrated once again. That's right ... the extremely generous HCE attendees donated a total of \$1,800 to benefit the district's Youth Outreach program! Many, many, many thanks to one and all!

Responding to repeated calls at every meal on Friday and Saturday to purchase "opportunities," bighearted Barbershoppers came through, time after time, and parted with \$5, \$10, \$20, or more – some more than once (and a few

several times!) ... and did so (more or less) willingly.

Why? Certainly not for the possibility of taking home a collection of prize goodies (although winning an HCE scholarship and a collection of material goods certainly were inviting). No, it was because all the proceeds were targeted specifically to support the district's Youth in Harmony program. Quite a number of purchasers even asked that their "opportunity" tickets be given to the younger singers. What a great bunch of guys/gals!!!!

We, the money-hungry, sweet –talking, diplomatic barkers, are grateful to each

of you who willingly responded to our subtle and sensitive invitations to part with your hard-earned cash. We are especially appreciative of those who didn't wait to be asked but came to the table with money in hand. We really appreciate your friendship, good humor, willingness to be cajoled, and your demonstrated commitment to further the future of barbershop harmony. I've said it before ... and I'll say it again: "Mid-Atlantic District Barbershoppers are THE GREATEST!"

Jim Hawthorne & Alan Wile



Jim Hawthorne prepares to accept any reasonable offer (at \$5 or more) for "opportunities."

"OPPORTUNITIES" – All contributions went to support the M-AD Youth Outreach program.

M-AD Endowment Fund is 'Growing Up'

by Alan Wile, DVP Financial Development, Endowment Fund Chair, HFI Regional Representative

Last spring, we were hopeful that your Endowment Fund would exceed \$100,000 in 2012. As a result of intentional giving by a host of individuals, chapters, and quartets, you did it! Yes, the Mid-Atlantic Endowment Fund is growing ... UP!

Contributions were received over the course of the year in the form of individual donations, through selection of the "donor choice" option available from Harmony Foundation International (HFI) by members of the President's Council (PC), Ambassadors of Song (AOS), and from general gifts. We began 2012 with a balance of \$98,077 and ended with a balance of \$118,077,30 – an

increase of nearly \$19,750.

While the Fund principal is never touched, a portion of the earnings are made available for scholarships for musical directors and those "in the pipeline" to attend Harmony College East and for youth quartets and their sponsor to attend the Youth Harmony Camp held simultaneously at Salisbury University. The "allowable withdrawal" is the lesser of 5% of the beginning fund balance or the interest and dividends earned during the year. **This year, the "allowable withdrawal" was responsible for eight scholarships for directors and partial scholarships to two youth quartets.**

HFI's Investment Advisory Committee meets quarterly to assess the investment performance and compliance with established policy. It is

chaired by Clarke Caldwell (President and CEO) and consists of an investment professional, an investment consultant, the Foundation's Treasurer, and HFI's Chief Financial Officer. The funds are managed by Merrill Lynch's Trust Department in conjunction with Blackrock Investments. During 2012, the portfolio returns were 9.7%.

Want to help send more young M-AD singers to camp and provide musical directors and those on the way up with additional educational opportunities? Give me a call (703-538-6526) or e-mail me (alan.wile@comcast.net). I can help with membership in one of the Society's major donation programs (PC or AOS) or accept direct donations to the Fund.

DVP-Music & Performance Roger Tarpay attempts to purchase a single "opportunity." No Dice, Mr. VP – it's \$5 or nothing. After all it's all for the (much) younger singers!



Do you ever wonder about the District's early history? Read on . . .

DOWN THE HISTORY TRAIL

(first in a series)

By Dee Paris

There were eight chapters in the Greater Washington, D. C. area which were officially known as **Riverside Area East** and **Riverside Area West**.

Dee Paris had joined the two groups together when he organized the Riverside Area Council, a group consisting of one representative from each chapter which met bi-monthly to exchange information on matters of common interest and to organize events.

They conducted an annual novice quartet contest and compared annual show plans to insure the same quartet would not be appearing on two or more chapter shows in the same fall or spring season.

To increase attendance at COTS (Chapter Officer Training School), the Area Council chartered a bus to transport all the chapter representatives.

It was Area Counselor **Walter E. "Wally" NaDeau** who conceived the idea of a chorus made up of singers from the eight chapters in the Council. Interest and excitement in the project resulted in immediate approval by the Council. A contest was undertaken to select a name for the chorus. The contest was won by **Jean Boardman**, founder of the **District of Columbia Chapter**. Thus, the **Chorus of the Potomac** was born.



DEE PARIS, circa 1945 with the 9th Armored Division in WWII – a Battle of the Bulge vet



Many thanks to M-AD Historian Jim Botelle for his terrific work in preparing, transporting and manning our District's Historical Display at Toronto's 75th Annual Barbershop Harmony Society Convention! A terrific way to show the history and pride of MAD!

M-AD celebrates 68 years with display in Toronto

The District of Columbia Chapter had, for several years, presented an annual show in the Sylvan Theatre on the mall. They offered the date to the Area Council and suggested the Watergate Theater as a better location. The Watergate Theater was actually a barge anchored at the bank of the Potomac River near the Lincoln Memorial. It was a beautiful location for a show but with two

'It was a beautiful location for a show but with two drawbacks. There was **virtually no backstage room for the performers and the location was in the flight path of National Airport.**'

drawbacks. There was virtually no backstage room for the performers and the location was in the flight path of National Airport. However, the Council promptly accepted the offer and the 250-member Chorus of the Potomac started their summer outdoor series which attracted as many as 11,000 people to a single performance.

One year, the Chorus of the Chesapeake alternated on the stage with the Chorus of the Potomac and quartets to thrill the Society's Executive Director who had come to see this program. Then came 1963. Wally was shocked to learn that few members planned to attend the Fall District convention in Atlantic City. So Wally promised that if enough members went to the convention he would arrange for the Chorus of the Potomac to sing on the boardwalk. This generated much interest and excitement.

The 1963 Fall District contest was held on a Saturday afternoon. Imagine the surprise of the audience leaving the contest to find the entire 250-member Chorus of the Potomac on risers on the boardwalk ready to entertain them. And sing they did much to the enjoyment of the audience and the satisfaction of the singers! And of course, Wally NaDeau.



Editor's Note: In this 75th anniversary year of the founding of our Society, we are featuring excerpts from one of our earliest published histories – "Keep America Singing," published in December 1948 and covering the first 10 years of our existence. Many thanks to Kevin King for sharing the book he found in his father Fred's library.

TO PRESERVE AN AMERICAN TRADITION

On April 17, 1938, the Tulsa Sunday Tribune asked in a headline "Barber Shop Harmony a Thing of the Past?", then answered its question by adding "S. P. P. B. S. Q. S. U. S. is formed to preserve it."

That is the first record of apparently scrambling the symbols. But, the very first lines of Virginia Burch's article, which followed, prove that the headline writer of 1938 was following copy accurately.

"The Society for the Preservation and Propagation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in the United States — yes, sir, that's what they call it" she wrote, then told how it started when two Tulsa acquaintances, tax lawyer O. C. Cash and investment man Rupert I. Hall, met by accident in Kansas City. These two Tulsans hailed each other in the Hotel Muehlbach. Their talk drifted to music. They found a mutual interest in the older, sweet harmony songs and the memories and traditions revived by their singing. They had such an interest that they resolved to attempt a revival on their return to Tulsa.

As first moves in that direction, each of them drew forth his own best thoughts and dictated a letter (dated April 6, '38) to friends saying "In this age of Dictators and Government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, not in some way supervised or directed, is the art of Barber Shop' Quartet singing. Without doubt we still have the right of 'peaceable assembly' which, I am advised by competent legal authority includes quartet singing. The writers have for a long time thought that something should be done

to encourage the enjoyment of this last remaining vestige of human liberty. Therefore, we have decided to hold a songfest on the Roof Garden of the Tulsa Club on Monday, April 11, at six-thirty p.m."

This was signed by Rupert Hall—"Royal Keeper of the Minor Keys" and O. C. Cash—"Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman" of "The Society for the Preservation and Propagation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in the United States," thus completely clearing the Tribune from any taint of inaccuracy. Hall says that he and Cash agreed upon the original name at their first meeting. One of the original mimeographed invitations in Cash's scrapbook today shows "Encouragement" written across the original "Propagation," and a line drawn through "the United States," with "America" scribbled above it. Since 1938 Cash has also added "Founder and Permanent" at the beginning of his original title, and the words Barber Shop have become a unit, barbershop, in SPEBSQSA usage.

Cash's personal recollections add color to the factual news account of how those two harmony-hungry souls met in Kansas City, and what came of it. "I ran into Rupert I. Hall, whom I knew slightly, and as I was lonesome that night I asked if he could sing tenor. He gave the typical barbershopper's answer, "I suppose I'm the best barbershop tenor in the United States". I tried him out on 'I Had a Dream, Dear' and he stayed on pitch. We concluded that we were terribly good and canvassed the hotel lobby for a lead and

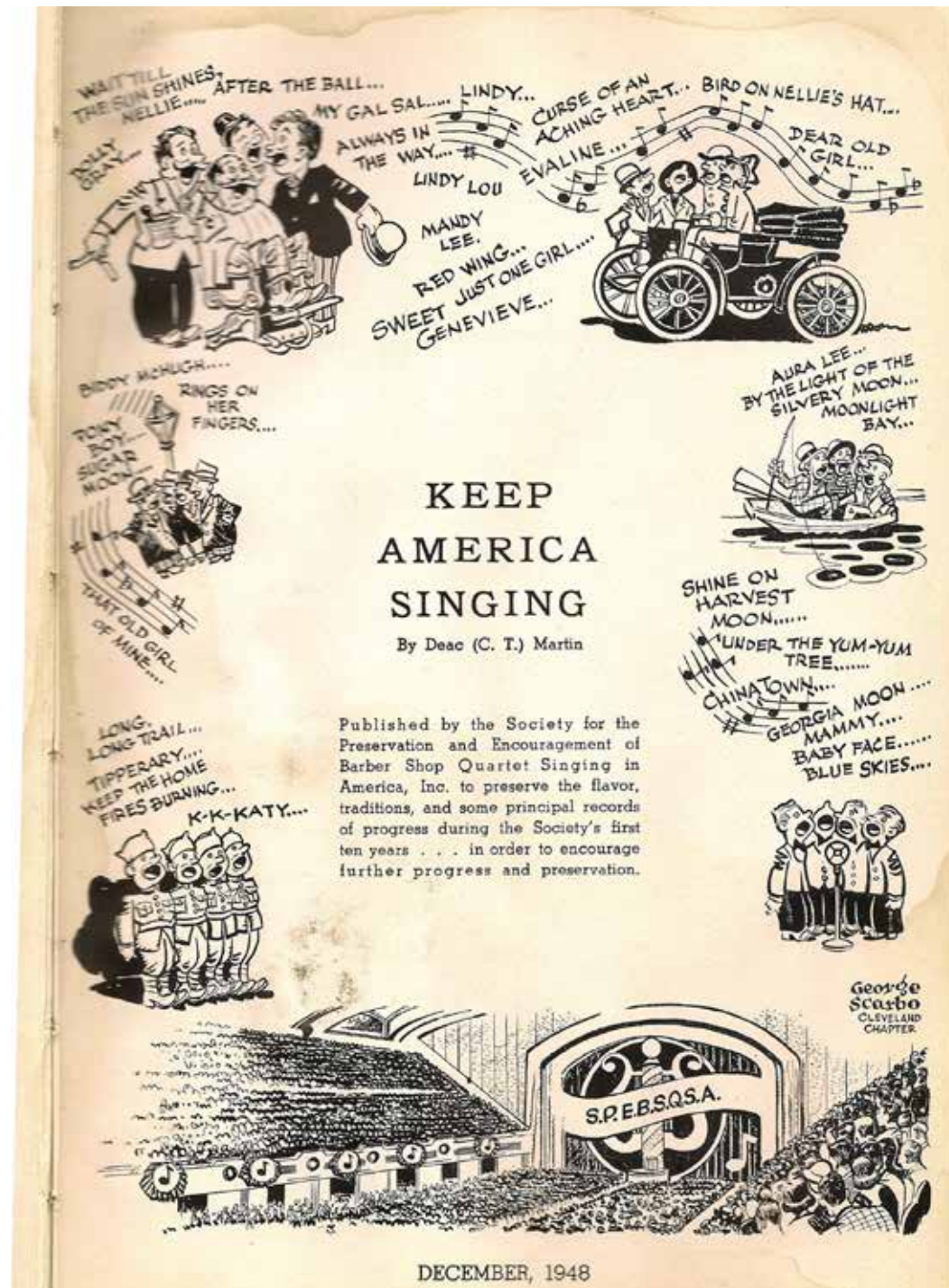
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HISTORY

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bass. We picked up a couple and went to Rupe's room and developed a fairly good quartet." He outlined to Hall the dream of organizing a barbershop quartet club, as he had discussed it with Glen Thompson and A. J. Wells, Tulsans with whom he sang occasionally but not often enough. Hall promised that when he returned to Tulsa he would call Cash "and get this thing started." He arranged for the original meeting at the Tulsa Club, and Cash drafted the invitation. "Then we could think of only 12 men in addition to Thompson and Wells who might be interested. But, shortly after the notice went out to 14 names, our telephones began to ring." So as a result of the assurance that guests would be welcome, twenty-six men turned out to the first meeting of the society with the long name. Explaining that name, Cash says "F. D. R. was organizing alphabetical agencies, and I thought we ought to have a name longer than any of them."

"April eleventh, when we were to meet, was a fine, warm spring day. Rupe Hall got there first and went down to arrange for the feed. Donnie Donovan of Station KVOO, Elmer Lawyer of The Tulsa Paper Co. and I were the next to arrive. The three of us were standing around when S. M. ("Puny") Blevens, well over six feet, showed up. None of us knew him very well but when he asked "What are we waiting for?" we had a quartet." Blevens sang lead, O'Donovan tenor, Cash baritone and Lawyer bass. O'Donovan suggested "Down Mobile," and, although Blevens didn't know the lead too well, that was the first song ever sung under Society auspices.



'HELL HAS BROKE LOOSE IN THE HEN HOUSE'

Cash and Hall say that no one took time to eat much at that first meeting.

"After an hour or so of catch-as-catch-can singing someone suggested that we ought to organize a permanent club. Somebody else asked, 'When do we meet again?' and another enthusiast yelled, 'Tomorrow night, of course!' But we did manage to put off the next meeting for a week. More than 70 attended that one at Hotel Tulsa."

Cash also says that, at that stage, it never occurred to him that anyone outside of Tulsa would be interested. His concept was entirely a local club, singing to itself as an audience.

But chain reactions were inevitable, Rupert Hall reminisces: "Cash, who originated the idea of an organization, and I were busy from then on answering letters, 'phone calls and personal visits from hungry mankind crying for a chance to meet in harmony. We were just literally swamped. It got so bad that the stenographers threatened to quit unless we cut down the letters on harmony, so Cash and I chipped in and had some printing done. Soon we were spending too much of our time and money answering mail and addressing envelopes. We began to get invitations from all over the United States to tell about the movement. Since we both travelled a lot, we did our best to take care of inquiries, but it wasn't long until we had to decide whether we were going to devote our time to harmony or to feeding our families."

It was the third meeting that really started America's rush to the Cherokee Strip country. Cash recalls: "About 150 men showed up at our third meeting at the Alvin Hotel. While Blevens was leading the gang singing someone looked out of our open second floor window and called my attention to the traffic jam. The cops were trying to get it straightened out. But we had important business so we paid no more attention until a reporter (Ralph Martin) of the Tulsa World

HISTORY, continued on next page

HISTORY

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came in, said he had seen the cars jammed and had asked the cops about the wreck. An officer replied 'That's no wreck. It's just some damn fools up there singing!'

The reporter, sensing a story, sought out the sources of the singing on the hotel's second floor, and next Sunday morning, June 1, '38, the World reported: "No, No, Folks -- You're Wrong! That Was Musical History in the Making". In part: "A little yellow moon as thin as a finger nail paring was hanging in the sky Tuesday night as certain astonished citizens coagulated at the base of the Alvin Hotel. They were listening to musical history in the making. The mighty sounds caused one staid and settled taxpayer to voice the consensus fermenting in the group - 'Hell', he muttered in a tone compounded of equal parts of alarm, astonishment and admiration, 'has broke loose in the henhouse'"

It was such colorful handling of the fourth human need — food, shelter, clothing, and music that the wire services which furnish material to newspapers throughout the country picked it up, and the Society was on its way. When the World reporter had asked whether other chapters were to be organized, "I thought pretty fast" says Cash, "and remembered my old friend Everett Baker, Vice President of the Frisco Railroad in St. Louis, with whom I'd busted a few chords. So I said that Baker

was organizing a chapter in St. Louis."

That appeared in the St. Louis morning papers, and about 10 o'clock Baker called Cash and inquired "What have you done? My phone's been ringing all morning. But it's all right. My secretary is taking names and addresses, more than 75 to now, and I'll get the group together in a few days!"

In the meantime, Judge Edgar Shook of Kansas City had promoted a visit of the Tulsa group to his city, and Kansas City was organized as the first chapter outside of Tulsa. But St. Louis and Oklahoma City were soon within the huddle.

Cash recalls that the "first good quartet" at a Tulsa meeting consisted of I. S. (Hank) Wright, Oklahoma City; Ed. J. Reid and Rex Garris, Arkansas City; and Ray Garris, Dallas. They had sung as a group before the first World War, but had not been together for 10 years prior to learning about the new Society. They met in Tulsa and, according to Cash, "knocked the boys in the aisle with 'Shine' and 'Roll Away Jordan.'"



Baker called Cash and inquired, "What have you done? My phone's been ringing all morning. But it's all right. My secretary is taking names and addresses, more than 75 to now, and I'll get the group together in a few days!"



Long Beach Midwinter Registration Now Open

Because of the huge interest created by the very successful 6th Annual International Barbershop Youth Festival in Orlando, we've opened registration early for **Long Beach, California**, scheduled for January 28 - Feb. 1, 2014. Learn more and register at www.barbershop.org/long-beach-midwinter-main.html.



...and the crowd goes wild!

What a contest! The combined Southern and Western Division contest on April 26 and 27 in Reston, Virginia was a great event. 22 quartets from Southern and 9 quartets from Western division competed.

NEWS from SOUTHERN DIVISION



by **Hardman Jones**,
acting VP Southern Division

Mayhem was the Southern division winner with a score of 75.9. In the chorus competition

460 men representing 19 choruses...13 from Southern, 5 from Western, and **Five Towns** chorus competing out of division crossed the stage.

James River was the Southern division winner with a score of 75.3.

Seven quartets and eight choruses have qualified to represent the Southern division in the District contest in Ocean City this fall.

Many thanks go to the **Virginia Gentlemen** from Roanoke for a stellar job of hosting the convention and contests. Kudos and thanks also go to **Events VP Walt Griffith** and the Events team for organizing a great convention.

In July the exciting news from the International convention in Toronto was the third place finish by the **Alexandria Harmonizers** in the chorus competition and the top ten finish by **Da Capo** in the quartet competition.

WOW! We are so proud of Da Capo and the Harmonizers and congratulate them on their outstanding performances.

Finally, many thanks go to **Jim Rogers** from Richmond for his outstanding service as Southern Division Vice President for the past two years. Earlier this spring, Jim and **Ann** decided to retire and relocate to a warmer climate close to the ocean...all the way to Murrells Inlet, South Carolina.

So...in May, he relinquished his duties as Southern Division VP. Jim has been a loyal and extremely important member of the **Richmond Virginians** and the Southern Division for more than 21 years.

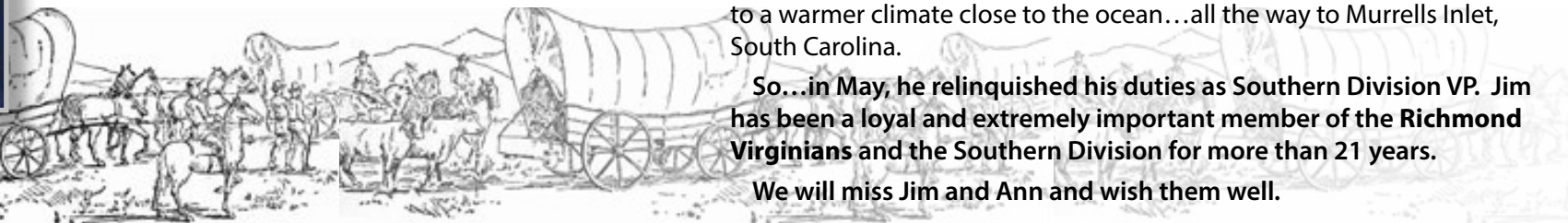
We will miss Jim and Ann and wish them well.



ABOVE: James River was the Southern division winner with a score of 75.3.

LEFT: Mayhem was the Southern division winner with a score of 75.9.

Seven quartets and eight choruses have qualified to represent the Southern division in the District contest in Ocean City this fall.



southward ho, the wagons!

In late April five Western Division choruses and nine Western Division quartets took out bank loans, updated their passports, got all their shots, and formed a wagon train to reach the far off wilds of Virginia. There they found assembled near the banks of the Potomac in the land of Reston thirteen choruses and twenty-two quartets from the Southern Division, one chorus and one quartet from the Northern Division, and three college quartets.

Rejoicing at their good fortune, the hardy pioneers of the Western Division joined in the fun and celebrated long and loud with their brethren from the far away reaches of the Great Mid-Atlantic.

NEWS from WESTERN DIVISION

by Don Myers,
VP Western Division



The **Virginia Gentlemen** ran a marvelous convention and the weekend was wonderful from every perspective.

There was even a wine-tasting festival in Reston Town Center on Saturday to the joy and delight of many.

Singing filled the halls, laughter rang long and loud, and celebration was the order of the day as a total of nine choruses qualified for the fall district convention in Ocean City. **Harrisburg** is the Western Division Champion with a score of 66.3 and **MADMEN** is the Quartet Champion with a score of 76.2. Both qualified to attend the Fall Convention in Ocean City, Md. **Hartford County** placed second with a score of 64.6 and also qualified to compete in the Fall Convention.

Congratulations to all.

Harrisburg founds new Youth Outreach chorus

In other news, the Harrisburg, Pa. chapter announces the formation of a youth outreach chorus, meeting each Monday night from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The first evening there were 20 young men from the Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg, Mount Joy and State College, Pa. area.

Coordinator for the group is **John Cosgrove**, the Youth Outreach Chairman for the Keystone Capital Chorus. Music Director is **Bob Bennett**, Director

of the Keystone Capital Chorus. The following Monday saw 17 attending with 3 others having prior commitments. Also attending were 3 music educators.

Harrisburg is excited to be the catalyst for this endeavor and will be promoting this to the Harrisburg Metro area with hopes of engaging a larger group of young singers and their music educators.

In 2014 the Western Division will combine with the Atlantic Division for a joint Convention to be held in Harrisburg, Pa. May 16 and 17. Three additional choruses have already indicated they will compete in 2014 Convention.

Don't be left out of this great event. You don't even have to compete to enjoy the fellowship and excitement and get great coaching. Just register to appear for "evaluation only". No one will see your scores except you and you won't appear in the official scoring summary. If you are a chorus or quartet that wants to improve for yourself and your audiences, take this opportunity to return to the competition or convention stage. Take a chance and enjoy the experience. ***You won't be disappointed. I guarantee it.***

See you all in Harrisburg next spring.



ABOVE: Harrisburg is the Western Division Champion with a score of 66.3.

RIGHT: MADMEN is the Quartet Champion with a score of 76.2. Both qualified to attend the Fall Convention in Ocean City, Md. Hartford County placed second with a score of 64.6 and also qualified to compete in the Fall Convention.



it's all about fun and fellowship

I was so very proud of our Northern Division participants' improving their performances from last year. The evaluations given by the judges goes a long way to help improve each participant's performance.

NEWS from NORTHERN DIVISION

by **Oley Olson**,
VP Northern Division



I am sorry that some of the chapters in the Northern Division missed both the opportunity to benefit from the evaluations — a real help to

improving their next performance — and the chance to enjoy the fellowship with other barbershoppers outside of their own chapters.

How a chorus finishes relative to the other competitors is not nearly as important as how it did competing against its own last contest performance.

Lastly, I was so proud of the **Sussex High Point Harmonizers** who had not competed for six or seven years — and yet they came in seventh! I am sure they also improved on their scores from years ago. If you had the opportunity to have seen any of their members after the competition you would have thought they had won the entire competition.

The most important point to understand is this chapter will have a fantastic summer as they entertain their hometown crowds with their improved performance and the pride they now exude.

For those chapters who did not participate, this could be your story next year. We'd love to see you there!



ABOVE: *Big Apple Chorus President John Ward gleefully accepts the Northern Division first place trophy from M-AD President Bill Colosimo.*

LEFT: *Gimme Four, a college quartet, won the Northern Division quartet contest and qualified for the District Contest in October with a score of 77.4 — the highest in the district!*

Twelve quartets and seven choruses have qualified to represent the Northern Division in the District contest in Ocean City this fall.

Sussex High Point Harmonizers, under the direction of Assistant Director Richard Taylor, competed in the division contest for the first time in over six years. Welcome back, fellas!



it was a mega-contest!

This year's combined Atlantic-Northern Division Convention, hosted in Cherry Hill, N.J., was a show to behold, and it proved to be challenging yet rewarding. Because there were almost 50 quartets entered to compete, the starting time had to be moved earlier – to 2 pm Friday. What a long day and a lot of singing!

NEWS from ATLANTIC DIVISION

by Rob France,
VP Atlantic Division



Two quartets, Collegiate International Prelims

Two collegiate quartets did what seems to be natural for them, and qualified to represent MAD in Toronto. **Gimme Four** qualified with a score of 77.4 and **Black Tie Affair** with a score of 72.9. **Gimme Four** is also the Northern Division Champion. **Black Tie Affair** is the Northern Division Novice Quartet Champion. Very nice work, men!

Atlantic Division-Quartets

Low Down Sound sang their way to Atlantic Division Quartet Champion with a score of 75.2. Following up in the second slot is **Faces 4 Radio**, with 73.5. The **Atlantic Harmonizers** locked up third place with a score of 70.9. Novice Quartet **The Late Entry** clinched the Novice Quartet Championship, scoring a 63.1.

Atlantic Division-Chorus

The **North Pennsmen** chorus from **Lansdale, Pa.**, are the Atlantic Division champs, posting a score of 74.7 with 54 men on stage. The North Pennsmen are also the AAAA Plateau champions.

AAA Plateau Champions is awarded to **The Mainliners** from **Bryn Mawr, Pa.** with a score of 71.9 by 32 men.

AA Plateau champions are the **First State Harmonizers** from **Milford, Del.** achieving a score of 61.8

Overall we heard 44 quartets Friday, and 22 choruses Saturday, for a total of 722 competitors. 12 Choruses are through the gate (1512 points, or 63%) to District Convention in Ocean City, Md. Oct 4 & 5.

with 19 men on the stage.

A Plateau Champions are the **BucksMont Squires of Song**, of **Abington-Levittown**, scoring a 49.7 with 18 men.

The **Garden Statesmen**, of **Princeton, N.J.**, are the Atlantic Division Most Improved Chorus.

Special Thanks

A Special thanks to **Frank the Dog**, who served as "mic-coolers" after the quartets had finished. We were treated to a preview as they are on the way to represent MAD in Toronto.

Also special thanks to **Garry Warlow** and the **Neshaminy Men's Choir** for singing at the opening AND the closing of the chorus segment of the convention. These boys are all heavily involved in scholastic and athletic endeavors and many are in honors classes, on dean's lists, and achieve elevated status for their efforts. And they sing, too. Many thanks to the boys in the choir for their hard work and dedication.

The MidAtlantic District wishes to extend sincere thanks to **Garry Warlow** for establishing a Barbershop/a cappella singing group in **Neshaminy School District** and coordinating their involvement in our convention. This was a huge opportunity for all of us to support and be blessed by an active **Youth In Harmony** program.



ABOVE: The North Pennsmen chorus, under the direction of Anne Bureau, are the Atlantic Division champs, posting a score of 74.7 with 54 men on stage. The North Pennsmen are also the AAAA Plateau champions.



RIGHT: Low Down Sound sang their way to Atlantic Division Quartet Champion with a score of 75.2.



BELOW: Neshaminy Men's Choir, under the direction of Garry Warlow, sings for the closing of the chorus contest.

For more photos visit: www.midatlanticdistrict.com/Photos

Do You Wanna Be a Judge?

Your chance to apply to become a Contest Administrator, Music, Presentation, or Singing judge is just around the corner.

Every three years, just prior to Harmony University, judges in all four categories must attend judge Category School in order to

2013 Contest & Judging Update

by Gary Plaag,
VP Contest and Judging



recertify and those who have been candidate judges-in-training have the opportunity to join the judging ranks as certified judges.

This year, 2013, is a Category School year. After Category School concludes at noon on July 28, those interested in applying to become judges in one of the four categories

(CA, MUS, PRS, SNG) have until December 31, 2013, to submit their applications.

Information about applying to be a judge and the certification process can be found in section VI. APPLICANT AND CANDIDATE REGULATIONS of the Contest and Judging Handbook, located as a .pdf at the BHS website: www.barbershop.org/competitions/contest-a-judging-system.html.

Applications should be submitted through the Mid-Atlantic District Contest and Judging VP.

Paired Division Conventions

The pairing of the Southern/Western Division conventions in Reston, Va. this spring worked out great. But what a surprise we got as the combined Atlantic/Northern Division convention started to take shape!

As many of you already know, we had an overwhelming number of quartet and chorus competitors: 44 quartets and 24 choruses. This earned the quartet contest the moniker "Quartet-mageddon" and required a 2:30 p.m. start of the quartet contest on Friday instead of the advertised 6 p.m. start.

The large number of chorus competitors required a 9 a.m. start for the chorus contest on Saturday. In order to handle the potentially large number of evaluation sessions, we had to enlist a quadruple panel of judges (4 in each category vs the normal 3 per category) and a "fixed" evaluation schedule (rather than by order of appearance or order

This earned the quartet contest the moniker 'Quartet-mageddon'

of finish).

This was a tremendous logistical undertaking for the Events and Contest and Judging teams, as well as the Contest Administrators and the

scoring judges. Miraculously, we finished all contest sessions and evaluation sessions right on time!

I offer a huge "thank-you" to all who were involved in this event for your flexibility and understanding as we worked through what could have been a very unpleasant experience for everyone.

2013 District Contest Qualifiers

The quartet and chorus qualifiers for the Fall District convention can be found on the Mid-Atlantic District website.

Quartets qualifiers are listed here: www.midatlanticdistrict.com/pdf/2013-DistrictQualifiers-Qtets.pdf

Chorus qualifiers are listed here: www.midatlanticdistrict.com/pdf/2013-DistrictQualifiers-Chorus.pdf

Scratches from the quartet and chorus qualifier lists will not be filled with groups not originally on the qualified list. Congratulations to all those who have qualified for the District contests in October.

The contest entry process for the 2013 Fall District Contest is now open. Contest entry closes Wednesday, September 4, 2013 (30 days prior to the contest start date of October 4, 2013). The link to enter the contest for both quartets and choruses can be found on the Mid-Atlantic District website homepage.

Do You Wanna Be a Director?

Magic of Harmony Show Chorus

Magic of Harmony show chorus is a 45 member chorus, located in Newport News Virginia. We rehearse weekly on Tuesday evenings and in addition to one show and Sweet Adelines spring competition, we do outside performances once or twice a month. We have two assistant directors, who are currently leading the chorus and an active membership of women who support the chorus both with singing and with the business of

the chapter. We have three registered quartets at this time.

For more information, interested applicants can visit our web site: magicofharmonyshowchorus.com, and go to the director search page.

Interested persons can obtain more information and/or apply by contacting:

Julie Allen
juliaaallen@cox.net
757-851-5490

The following choruses are seeking front-line directors:

Arlingtones

The Arlingtones (Arlington, Virginia) The Arlington chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is seeking a dynamic director who can attract and retain new members and who has good conducting and leadership skills. Familiarity with the barbershop style and with BHS would be helpful.

Established in 1957, the Arlingtones are an important part of Arlington's musical community. Traditionally, the

chapter has done two shows per year and competes annually in the Southern Division contest. The chorus and its chapter quartets also make numerous other appearances in the community.

The chapter is now in a re-building mode following the deaths of several members and the departure from the area of others. The current director has served in that position for 14 years.

The chapter webpage (www.harmonize.com/arlingtones/) provides further

information about the chapter.

Interested persons should contact: John Becker jpb2375@gmail.com Home: 703-841-0647 Cell: 571-236-9063

www.thearlingtones.com

Find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheArlingtones)

True North Guiding Principles

1. The ____ Chapter holds as its highest priority the ever-increasing quality of its performing ensembles, to provide satisfaction for singing members, the best possible performance experiences for patrons, and increased recognition in the community.
2. Guests and members of the ____ Chapter always feel welcome and are: acknowledged for their skills and interests; engaged in useful roles to benefit the Chapter's activities; included in as many musical activities as possible; and included in opportunities to celebrate the Chapter's and individuals' successes.
3. The Chapter promotes and supports members' participation in musical and administrative leadership training opportunities.
4. The Chapter promotes and supports non-performing activities which involve members and their families and friends to further grow our bonds of friendship.
5. The Chapter identifies and participates in opportunities to provide service to our community, District, and Society, including, supporting vocal music education in schools and community organizations; charitable giving; participation in District, Society, and other chapters' events.
6. The Chapter seeks to align itself with other music organizations on a variety of levels, with an eye toward mutual understanding, growth and support.
7. The Chapter maintains, and seeks to grow, a secure, stable financial footing.
8. The Chapter places a high priority on effective communication to promote the Chapter and keep our members, families and patrons informed of our activity, taking advantage of as many traditional and innovative vehicles as possible.
9. The Chapter Board is responsible for guiding the Chapter by these Principles, holding designated officers responsible for planning and day-to-day execution of goals and strategies related to them, thus allowing its primary focus to be on the long-term health and growth of the Chapter. Every effort is made to insure EVERY Chapter member plays a role in the accomplishment of at least one of these guiding principles.
10. All decisions, actions and outcomes associated with Chapter activity are measured against their alignment to these Guiding Principles. If an activity or initiative undertaken by the Chapter does not directly affect these Principles in a positive way, the action or initiative should be modified or abandoned.

Journeying toward 'True North'

Using the guides we're given . . . TOGETHER!

In January's issue of *Mid'l Antics*, I wrote on the topic of "True North," a destination toward which I suggest you and your chapter should strive, relying on fundamental "guiding principles" (provided again here to refresh your memory).



By Bill Colosimo,
M-AD President

I asked you to seriously consider ways in which your personal contribution and your chapter's commitment to relying on these principles would significantly enhance your barbershop experience and help sustain and grow your chapter our Society.

I am gratified to see evidence in virtually every article and feature you'll read in this terrific issue of *Mid'l Antics* that this aim toward "True North" is paying dividends! We see:

- Success stories of chapters' positive initiatives and activities related to engaging young people in our beloved art form;
- Increasing participation in the fun and overwhelmingly successful conventions and contests we offer;
- Quartets "in action" to entertain the public with quality performances which engage hearts and introduce new folks to our style and way of life;
- Incredible educational opportunities offered in which individuals and ensembles can increase their skills in music and leadership to bolster their chapters; and
- Increased activity in shared "barbershop experiences," like picnics, joint performances and other social activities, which increase our satisfaction (the FUN!) as a result of our engage-

Every one of us has gifts to offer on our journey toward "True North." Don't presume just "coming, singing and leaving" is enough.

ment in this amazing "life" of barbershop!

In each of the examples you'll see here, one key element is clear...again, a true indication of reliance on "guiding principles," and not just "one person" or "personalities." Virtually ALL these successful initiatives rely on the active involvement of LOTS OF PEOPLE, whatever their contribution or skill, to make them successful! This fact cannot be overstated. In every successful enterprise you'll see published here, many, many willing men and their families (and friends) have been enrolled to contribute their talents toward a common enterprise...and the results are fabulous!

During the first six months in which I have been privileged to be your President, I have witnessed "up close and personal" this remarkable resurgence in unity of diverse resources and dedicated people to "make things happen." In every case of ensemble, chapter or district-wide successful initiatives, more and more individuals have stepped up to contribute. I have no doubt that YOU, faithful reader, are among them! And, if by chance you haven't stepped up yet to become more involved in "making things happen," I sincerely ask you to examine the "True North Guiding Principles" restated here to see in which of these areas you might commit more of your time and energy. Every one of us has gifts to

offer on our journey toward "True North." Don't presume just "coming, singing and leaving" is enough.

Here are some of the "little things" you can do to subscribe to these worthwhile "Guiding Principles" ("GP"):

- Practice that tough segment of music at home (GP #1).
- Greet a guest warmly (GP #2).
- Grab a few guys to usher at a local high school performance or community event (GP #5).
- Sell a handful of annual show tickets and one ad for the program (GP #7).
- Be sure your email address and contact information is up to date in your Chapter Secretary's records and online in the eBiz database (GP #8).

District Board uses same GP

Of course, if your district (and Society) leadership is urging you to subscribe to and act on this guide to "True North," we should be, too! Right? Well...we are!

The District Board which I'm proud to lead is working diligently to insure that the governing documents and practices to which we and our chapters are held accountable are up-to-date and forward-thinking! Division and District Convention and Contest Regulations having been unanimously approved at this Spring's House of Delegates Meeting are just the tip of the iceberg.

Right now, the Board is about to undertake a thoughtful and thorough review of our "State-

TRUE NORTH, continued on next page

TRUE NORTH

continued from previous page

ment of Policy," to determine what needs revision to both accurately reflect the "right way" to do things and to insure a solid, accountable foundation for prosperity and growth of our association of chapters! Concurrently, the Board is committed to many more "listen and learn" opportunities, in which BOD members or teams of members visit groups of chapter leaders to receive and share valuable information from which we can all benefit.

Meanwhile, the District Operations Team, under the very capable leadership of **EVP Ig Jakovac**, represents

the "functional areas" of responsibility which are working hard to provide the greatest possible opportunities for you, your leaders, your ensembles and your chapters to thrive and grow. Just read the other pages of this issue... and you'll readily see the titles "VP" in the bylines of the articles in which remarkable initiatives are paying dividends! I am grateful for the tireless work of these folks.

Finally, I am buoyed to witness first-hand your Society leadership — the Society Board and our new **CEO Marty Monson** — in its quest to dramatically overhaul our "strategic planning" process to align most effectively with district and chapter needs in mind! In fact, a major focus of the Board, staff and the District Presidents Council (which I moderate) is the set of "primary chapter

needs" as documented by visits with all chapters during the 2011 Chapter Visitation Program. This is a significant step forward in insuring our future by capturing and responding to real chapter-centric needs with programs at the Society and district levels to help you find "True North!"

In addition, the Society and Harmony Foundation are aligning their public message more and more to cross over "traditional lines" of communication and collaboration with the public and other amazing music and educational organizations. Rest assured the Society you love is being fitted for big-time success and growth!

As I wrote in January, the journey toward "True North" might seem daunting. But, in exercising discipline

inherent in sound guidelines (principles) and reliance on capable guides (people!) to help us, we open the door to freedom to explore new and exciting ways which enroll all of us to make our barbershop experience more satisfying...not only for us, but for those we wish to attract to join us!

So, friends, please join me. Keep your eye on "True North." Don't be discouraged, but ask for help. Don't be negative, find ways to make it fun. As always, I encourage you to contact me personally if there's anything I or my fellow leaders can do to help you! And, whatever you do, do all things with joy and a song in your heart!

Welcome DELA Class of 2013!

As noted in previous issues of *Mid'l Antics*, our Honor Chapter **DELASUSQUEHUDMAC** meets annually in the two week window before Thanksgiving at Allenberry on the Yellow Britches in Pennsylvania.

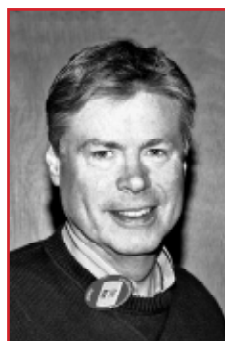
Approximately 20 guests join over 80 members for a weekend of fun, frivolity, and harmony. And of course, lots of "sticky buns" with every meal! Following the meeting new members are elected from among the guests and these new members are honored (i.e. "roasted") at the annual DELA breakfast held in conjunction with the M-AD Preliminary Quartet contest and convention in the spring.

While that event was reported in the last *Mid'l Antics*, **Terry "eagle eye" Jordan** was quick to point out that we had neglected to specifically identify the three new DELA members elected this year. So here they are along with a short summary of their barbershop biographies. Next time you see them be sure to congratulate them (and ask them to bring you some "sticky buns" from the meeting this coming November!).



BILL EBERIUS – A Society member for 21 years, Bill is currently a member of the Dundalk & Harford, Md. chapters. At the chapter level he has served as Program VP, member of the board of directors, chorus director, assistant director, associate director, section leader, quartet coach, show director, web master and Learning CD maker.

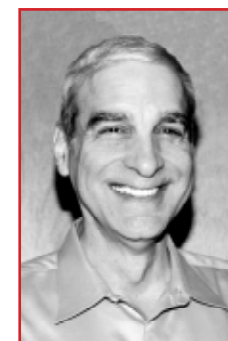
Bill currently serves on a Society committee to transcribe unpublished handwritten arrangements. He has completed 37 at last count. Bill has also sung in **Chairman's Choice**, **Bayside Chord Exchange** and **ShowBiz**. He is the official arranger of 34 songs, and has taught barbershop at three high schools. Bill is a certified chorus director, and has seven Men of Note awards.



ERIC HERR – A Society member for 34 years, Eric is currently a member of the **Bryn Mawr, Pa. & Cherry Hill, N.J.** chapters. He was previously a member of the **Delaware County, Pa.** chapter. At the chapter level he has served two different chapters as a bulletin editor and at the district level he has served as the M-AD Vice

President (Marketing & Public Relations), and a COTS and leadership academy instructor numerous times.

Eric also served as the 2010 International Convention Coordinator for Public Relations/Media Logistics. He has sung in the **Accolade** and **Signature** quartets and in his spare time Eric is an on-air traffic and news reporter for several Philadelphia radio stations, a contributing editor/photographer for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and an adjunct faculty member in mass media at Drexel University & Burlington College.



STEVE STOJOWSKI – A Society member for 15 years, Steve is currently a member of **Nassau Mid-Island** chapter. At the chapter level he has served as secretary, treasurer, member of the board of directors, section leader, and assistant chorus director.

His service to the M-AD includes ten years as a COTS/Leadership Academy treasurer faculty member; three years teaching "Quarteting as a Business", and two years as the assistant treasurer for the district events team. He also served for nine years as a certified BHS COTS instructor and is the Chairman of the Joint Audit Committee of the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Foundation, Inc.

He has sung with the **AfterGloWorms** for the last ten years and appeared briefly with them in the 2009 full length motion picture, "*Handsome Harry*".

Steve was honored by BHS as the Society's Outstanding COTS Treasurer Instructor in 2005.

Create a for the song

‘An added bonus is that the chorus will learn much quicker in this fashion, and many of the men will develop a keen excitement for the song from day one.’

prepare remedies – Though identifying difficult passages and notes is not technically part of the process of creating a song interpretation, a director may make certain interpretive choices based on this information. For example, if the Chorus II section in the new up-tune is particularly demanding or difficult, a director might opt to avoid choreography during that part of the song as a means of keeping the singing at a high level.

- **Start teaching the chorus how to sing the song well from the very beginning** – Pounding notes is never very satisfying for the director or for the singers, but your chorus will be overjoyed at learning how to sing a good chunk of a new song well right from the get-go. The director’s preparation will pay off in large dividends, for the director will know how (s) he wants the phrases to go and can teach them to the chorus right away. An added bonus is that the chorus will learn much quicker in this fashion, and many of the men will develop a keen excitement for the song from day one.
- Many directors get frustrated because the chorus takes so long to learn new music, or spends lots of time relearning new songs over and over to clean up ingrained habits. We directors can help ease the burden by getting to know that new song inside and out before presenting the song to the chorus. After all, if we don’t know where we want the song to go, how can we expect the men in the chorus to know?

Glenn Phillips directs the Patapsco Valley and Queen Anne’s County Chapters in the Mid-Atlantic District.

A common theme I have noticed over the years from varied and diverse barbershop chapters is a seeming ‘uncertainty’ when teaching and learning a new song. Often the learning process begins by pounding out the notes, singing every syllable with similar emphasis, and singing one note at a time rather than phrase to phrase. The learning process continues this way for weeks until the singers get some idea of what the notes and words are, and then the director gingerly starts creating a dynamic package for the song.

Many problems result from this process, particularly because the singers ingrain and maintain bad singing habits this way, and they also learn the song as a collection of notes and words, not as a living, breathing piece of music. While the use of quality learning tracks enables the chorus to hear the song as a finished product, the singers learn the musical interpretation of the tracks and not the director’s interpretation. The bottom line is that the men ‘learn’ the song one way, complete with bad habits, and then must re-learn the song in a different way altogether.

I strongly urge directors to create a vision for a new song **before** the chorus ever works on it. Preparation is the key, and there are many ways to begin crafting a musical interpretation for a song, along with a visual presentation if appropriate.

- **Start with the poetry** – Read the song lyrics several times to determine what message the composer is trying to relay. Say the words as you would say them in real life; this helps suggest a natural ‘pulse’ in the way the chorus might sing each phrase, particularly with regard to the use of rubato in the barbershop ballad. Consider how you might resonate the most special song lyrics: words such as “sweet”, “love”, and “dear”.

- **Examine the melody** – The song melody will give its own hints as to appropriate means of interpretation. Study how the individual phrases arch and combine to form the overall phrasing. Take particular note how the melody and lyrics inspire and complement each other.
- **Consider the arranger’s contributions** – A good arranger will choose chord progressions that complement the song melody and overall chord structure. The arranger adds embellishments and “barbershop swipes” to add spice and variety, which enhance the song’s musical interest. Sometimes the arranger will use repeated words or phrases in order to suggest evolution in the meaning of the lyrics. You might also find a key change or two which provide their own excitement.
- **Create a musical template** – Write down all of your ideas on paper, come up with an overall theme and direction for the song, choose an appropriate interpretation, and write it out in full. Please note that it is okay for you to readjust and make some changes later on in the learning process; if you try an idea and it simply doesn’t work out, there is no harm in coming up with Plan B. There is, of course, a vast difference between making changes here and there, and not having a plan in the first place and making everything up along the way.
- **Consider the benefits of choreography** – Whether you have in mind a full-blown choreography scheme for a new up-tune, or a few poignant moves to make a new ballad more endearing to the audience, you will undoubtedly develop some great ideas while engaged in the process of creating your interpretation. Please note that it is not necessary to complete the choreography package before the chorus knows the new song pretty well, but you would be wise to take advantage of the creative process and write all your ideas down.
- **Identify traps and difficulties within the voice parts and**



by **Glenn Phillips, VP Chorus Director Development**

Brothers bring crowd to tears

Performance earns chorus 6th place in the world

by Larry Melton, President, Brothers in Harmony

"The Brothers In Harmony, under the Direction of Mr. Jack Pinto...", will echo in our minds at every rehearsal the rest of this year. Finishing in sixth position at the International Competition in Toronto was an honor considering the stiff competition and was a tribute to the hard work and growth of our chorus in 2013. Both songs that we performed, Love Letters and Tears in Heaven, were arranged for us by the talented **Steve Delehanty**.

In 'Love letters', we sang to a distant loved one, who we knew loved us because she told us so.

In Eric Clapton's song, Tears in Heaven, Steve's masterful arrangement built through bell chords into repeating reframes, 'would you know my name, if I saw you in heaven?' The emotional challenge we all experienced upon moving out to the edge of the stage, kneeling, and begging, heads down, for a positive response, was striking.

Throughout the week, we had a great time in Toronto!



The Brothers in Harmony kneel on stage at the conclusion of Tears in Heaven, an Eric Clapton song arranged by Steve Delehanty.

Old Line Statesmen sponsor the Boyz

The sun was shining as children from ages 5 to 18 entered the Baker Memorial Chapel at McDaniel College singing a tune that dates back to 1885. The Children's Chorus of Carroll County used the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation to steer this year's spring concert, said Diane Jones, the co-founder and director of the Children's Chorus of Carroll County.

"I just love to hear these children sing," Jones told an audience of more than 300 people, filled with parents, grandparents and music lovers alike.

This year, Jeff Liebknecht began a boys choir group for boys who are undergoing changing voices. Liebknecht typically works with the Old Line Statesmen Barbershop Chorus, a chorus that has an average age of about 50. He said he doesn't notice much of a difference between working with pre-teens and teenagers compared to adults.

"Whether they're 13 or 63, they're all children," Liebknecht said. "I treat them all the same."

This year, Liebknecht was asked if he could work with the boys for an all-boys choir group. A few years ago, he worked on a boys group, but it didn't stick.

This year, The Boyz were armed with black emblazoned button downs with their names stitched on the pocket and fedoras.

The Boyz choir group also worked with Charlie Im, an intern working on his master's degree in music education at McDaniel. Im said it is a challenge to have a male role model in singing, and he's glad he can do that for boys who are undergoing changing voices.

In addition to the boys chorus, the Children's Chorus of Carroll County also has a girls chorus, named the Leading Ladies, which is directed by Jones. Among the members is Abigail Funk, 17, of the Gamber area. Funk said she joined the Children's Chorus of Carroll County around the age of 11 through a friend.

The young singer took on the role of an assistant teacher for children who are from 5 to 8 years old. The program has given Funk the opportunity to travel as far as London, and learn extensively about voice, she said.

"The choir has opened up so much for me," Funk said.

Sunday, music from the Civil War era filled the chapel, from more classical hymns to a modern version of The Blue-Tail Fly, more commonly known as Jim Crack Corn. As the end of the show approached, children from ages 4 to 18 sang the final song, I Love a Piano, in perfect harmony and received a standing ovation.

from The Carroll County Times, staff writer Kelcie Pegher. kelcie.pegher@carrollcountytimes.com.



Leading the group Jeff Liebknecht, second from left, leads the Boyz group during their performance in the Children's Chorus of Carroll County Spring Celebration 2013 at McDaniel College in Westminster April 14.

Band of Barbers take First Place in 2nd Annual Bucks Youth in Harmony Festival

By Jeff Doran, Bucks County Country Gentlemen

The 2nd Annual **Bucks Youth in Harmony Festival**, sponsored by the Bucks County (Country Gentlemen) Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, was held April 16 at Lenape Middle School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Five youth quartets representing *Lenape, Tamanend and Unami* Middle Schools performed admirably before an enthusiastic audience.

The Quartet Contest was conducted in the format of a Barbershop Harmony Society competition. Well-known personalities from the Society had the enviable task of scoring the evening's contestants. The quartets were all fabulous and represented themselves and their schools very well.

And the winner was: *Band of Barbers* from *Tamanend Middle School*. 2nd place went to the *U-Tones* from *Unami Middle School* and rounding out the top 3 was the *Tigertones* from *Tamanend*. As the winners of this hard-fought contest, the *Band of Barbers* members were invited to attend this year's Harmony College East. In addition, the Country Gentlemen intend to make a donation to the *Tamanend* vocal music program.

Two of the quartets (*The Larls* and *The Harls*) from *Lenape Middle School* were so enthused by the evaluations and coaching by the judges that they formed an octet which they called the *Acafellas* and worked

on their singing and performance techniques. They entered the Festivals of Music competition on May 17th at Dorney Park, a large amusement park, in Allentown, Pa. and came away with a first place trophy and a rating of superior in their category. They also received a section award for the baritone section and **Carl Krauss** received a solo award for his solo in *The Longest Time*. Congratulations to: Tenors **Finn Campbell & Karl Grey**, Leads **Jackson Weimer & A.J. Treon**, Baritones **Nick Ferrara & Connor Hopkins** and Basses **Carl Krauss & Colin McCann**. You guys make us proud!

This year, the invitation to attend was extended to other Mid-Atlantic chapters in the local area with great response. Sharing in the fellowship of the evening were over 100 additional BHS members representing the *Delchordians, Philadelphia Sounds of Liberty, Bryn Mawr Mainliners,* and *Abington-Levittown* chapters. An old-fashioned sing-out followed the



The winning quartet, *Band of Barbers*, show their gold medal form. From left to right: **Tyler Gittelman** (tenor), **Andrew Cohen** (lead), **Ameer Dunn** (bass), and **Ben McLaughlin** (baritone). Photo courtesy of Rob France.

competition and was punctuated by a rousing performance by the current Mid-Atlantic District quartet champions, *Frank the Dog*. It was truly a special evening.

Based on the increasing success of this youth initiative, the Bucks County Chapter has intentions to expand this program beyond middle school into the local high schools.

For "the rest of the story," on how the boys have been included in ongoing chapter activities, see www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10152748413905436

For more information on the *Country Gentlemen* and our *Youth in Harmony* program go to: www.BucksCountyBarbershop.com.



Registration for 2013 No Borders Youth Chorus has OPENED!

After two successful performances, the No Borders Youth Chorus has officially been invited to return to Carnegie Hall to participate in the 2013 US/Japan Goodwill Concert December 26. The No Borders Music Consort (NBMC) has been working with the event producers, music arrangers, and guest performers to complete contracts and start [registration](#) earlier than in previous years. Registration for the 2013 No Borders Youth Chorus is now open and will close on August 30 or when maximum capacity for the Carnegie Hall stage has been reached.



ADDING THEIR GRATITUDE - *The Barbershop Harmony Society's Nassau Mid-Island Chapter* used a recent rehearsal to musically salute a group of dedicated workers present on Long Island to help local residents still coping with the ravages of Hurricane Sandy. After being serenaded with a variety of songs in four-part harmony, the *Sandy Relief* volunteers joined the *Long Island Harmonizers* chorus to proudly sing *God Bless America*. The workers from all over the U.S., received the melodic thank you at *Calvary Protestant Church* in Baldwin, LI where a group of more than 160 men and women are headquartered while offering rebuilding help, supplying food needs and furnishing other assistance.

Testoster-Tones bring Fountain of Youth to Keystone state

By John Cosgrove, VP Youth Harmony
 Youth Chorus Administrator
 Harrisburg, PA Chapter
www.kccsing.com

This summer the Harrisburg, Pa. chapter decided to host a Summer Youth Barbershop Chorus for young men in our region. It has been a great success and the young men are having a blast.

Our plan was to reach out to young men between the ages of 13 and 26 who would like to form a Barbershop Harmony Singing group. No experience necessary, no cost to participate.

My goal was to have at least 12 young men we can work with and develop a few songs they can sing on their own as well as have them learn a few songs they can sing combined with the men's chorus.

First night we had about 15 and after word of mouth and guys reaching out to their friends we now have about 25 young men very excited and learning every week about as fast as Bob Bennett our director can teach.

The chapter is very supportive of having them join us Aug 3 for a night with the Harrisburg Senators baseball and singing the National Anthem before the game along with the men's chorus.

Their big debut will be at our annual pasta dinner and show "Pasta in the Barbershop Style" Aug 24 in Harrisburg (tickets still available www.kccsing.com).

We are currently working on plans to continue this activity into the fall! The Central PA T-Tones (Testoster-Tones) have arrived!

Side note, 'who piped the Geritol into the rehearsal?'

On July 16 we held a combined rehearsal with the Youth Chorus and the Men's Chorus. The young men without a doubt had a great time and were amazed at the performance of the men.

My real "a-ha" moment was looking at the faces of our

I decided to 'just do it'

men singers as the young guys performed for them. I wish I thought enough to take a picture of the smiles on all the chapter members' faces as the young men showed them what they can do.

This gift of music is a 2-way gift and the reaction of the men in my chapter was a side effect that I did not even consider when I started this program. Post rehearsal tag singing happened that night for the first time in years...well after 10pm.

I highly recommend this as medicine for your chapter!



ABOVE: About 15 young men came out for the Harrisburg chapter's first Summer Youth Barbershop Chorus rehearsal.

LEFT: T-Tones turn out to be just the medicine the chapter needs, as the excitement of mentoring the youth re-energizes the rehearsals.



Take me out to the ballgame!

Three years ago the **Heart of Maryland** (Patapsco Valley chapter) chorus sent the Baltimore Orioles an audition tape of O Canada and the Star Spangled Banner. The Orioles organization was delighted to find a group that could perform both songs well and invited the chorus to perform for a home game featuring the Orioles and the Toronto Blue Jays. And they have done so for the last three years.

This year they decided to use the event as part of a year-long membership growth strategy. Led by **Membership VP Tom Nisbet**, the chapter issued an invitation through members, Facebook, and the Heart of Maryland website to men who might want to learn the songs and then join the chapter on the field in Camden Yards. Following a month of promotion, 15 guests showed up for the first rehearsal and within two weeks 22 men had committed to join the chapter for the performance.

On July 13, 47 men appeared and performed to thunderous applause from 45,000 fans. In the weeks since, many have returned to experience even more singing with the chapter, and four men have already submitted membership applications.

Tom said, "This was a great way to introduce men to barbershop and our chapter. And the fact that many of them want to join us full time is icing on the cake."

Now that the chapter has relationships with over 20 potential recruits, the campaign will continue with invitations to join in performances of the holiday chorus and a "Sing to Your Sweetheart" program to supplement chapter quartets on Valentines Day.

by Dick Powell



Under the direction of Glenn Phillips, the Heart of Maryland Chorus, augmented by 22 guest singers, performs the Canadian and U.S. national anthems to the applause of 45,000 fans at the July 13 Baltimore-Toronto baseball game.



Abe was there to give his address



21 Gun Salute

HUNTERDON Harmonizers
Barbershop Chorus

Lebanon July 4th enhanced by Hunterdon Harmonizers

Rusty Williams, Ron Newsom, Mark Bentley, Matt Matthew, Rob and Kyle Lucchesi entertained a massive crowd at the annual Lebanon 4th of July Parade town picnic.

God Bless America, Armed Forces Medley, God Bless the USA, and The National Anthem thrilled the audience. The Harmonizers are invited each year to provide the emotional thanksgiving for the great country we live in.

The audience of Lebanon showed it's appreciation with several rounds of applause. It is always a great event.

*by Ron Newsom, editor
In Tune, Volume 15 No. 3
July 2013*

'In Support' of Youth in Harmony

Talk about supporting young future Barbershop singers!

Frank the Dog quartet, while singing at the Lansdale, Pa. chapter's annual Barbershop Songfest Picnic, encouraged a new future harmonizer to join them in singing a tag for the audience of 250 Barbershoppers.

*by Bruce Aldinger,
Marketing and Public Relations
The North Pennsmen Chorus*



Eight-year-old Benjamin France (son of Rob France, Jr. from the Bucks County, Pa. chapter and lead in the Cross Keys Connection quartet), belts out a lead note in harmony with Tim Knapp (Tenor), Steve Kirsch (Bari) and Ross Trube (Bass). Normal Lead Tom Halley (on hands and knees) graciously provides "ground support" as Benjamin fills in for him.

Lansdale Songfest Attracts 12 Local Chapters

By Ig Jakovac

The **North Pennsmen** chapter from Lansdale, Pa hosted their 28th annual songfest in Sellersville, Pa. The rain did not keep the 258 attendees from enjoying hot dogs, pretzels, chips, birch and regular beer and lots of camaraderie and song amongst the dozen chapters that came along.

Each of the 12 chapters who attended regaled us with a song. In years past, we had both quartets and choruses sing at least two songs and got lots of complaints especially from the groups that were later in the program (i.e. their audience started to disappear as the night grew later and later). We now have all groups sing one song and International qualifiers are asked to sing two. This allows a reasonable end to the "formal" festivities and encourages folks to get together with old or new friends and sing a song or a couple of tags.

Not only did we have our 2013 Atlantic Division Champions **Low Down Sound** present, but we also had **Band of Barbers** who are all 15 year olds and recently placed 1st at the second annual Youth in Harmony Festival sponsored by the **Bucks County Chapter**.

Our 2013 District Champion Quartet **Frank the Dog** not only entertained us with their wonderful performance but also got some great audience participation.

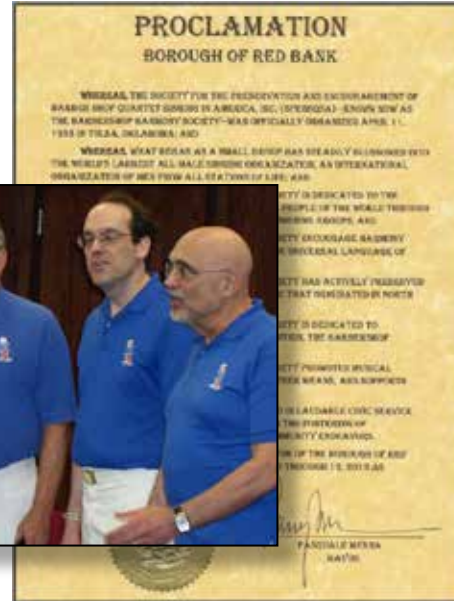
Sean Devine joined us and talked a bit about the **Harmony Foundation** and also "picked up" a quartet, **Sean's Kids** who sang for us.

Chances for a 50/50 drawing were sold and the proceeds presented to Sean for the Harmony Foundation courtesy of the host chapter, the North Pennsmen Barbershop chorus of Lansdale, Pa.





To celebrate Barbershop Quartet Week, the Red Bank Area Chapter sent a quartet to the Borough Council Meeting to serenade those in attendance after the reading of a proclamation naming the week of April 7 in honor of barbershop harmony. The quartet surprised the mayor with a rendition of Happy Birthday to You to celebrate the day's other important event.



President Fred Spages holds the Proclamation of Barbershop Harmony Week presented by the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders to Director June Noble and the members of the High Point Harmonizers.

‘Happy Birthday, Your Honor’

Alert executive board member **Jim Weythman** jumped on the opportunity being promoted by the Barbershop Harmony Society to have the week of April 7-13, 2013 designated Barbershop Quartet Week in our community and made arrangements for the Mayor of Red Bank to issue the appropriate proclamation.

So, there he was singing lead as part of his quartet, which included **Terry Schmalzried**, tenor, **Andy Ferreira**, bass, and **Carl Ryder**, baritone, attending the April 10 Red Bank Borough Council Meeting, along with **Chris Papa**, spare lead, designated photographer of the proceedings.

With ample press coverage of the, immediately following the opening pledge of allegiance, official business was suspended, affording time to Mayor Menna to explain he was about to read the official proclamation, but first would like to speak of his personal admiration for the Red Bank chorus.

He then proceeded with a fairly full, glowing and accurate description of all the activities that the chorus does in the

community. This included its streetwalking singing in both summer and winter, with added appreciation from the Red Bank merchants, its two big shows in spring and winter, as well as its participation in patriotic events, such as the annual 9/11 memorials, which the mayor also attended.

Then, after the proclamation reading, the council members settled back and were serenaded with Down Our Way and My Wild Irish Rose, which delighted both the officials and the small audience in the room.

But, the quartet had another surprise. Clued in by his secretary, they segued right into Happy Birthday to You, aimed at “Your Honor”, with the broadly smiling board members joining in and singing right along.

Finally, with many “Thank you’s!” and “Great’s!”, the singers departed so the council could get back to the remaining agenda for the evening.

by Chris Papa, editor

Atlantic Gazette, Volume 81, Issue 5, May 2013

Yay, Sussex!

Re-vitalized chapter garners local recognition

Members of the High Point Harmonizers attended the April 10 meeting of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders in Sussex. The Board presented the Proclamation (exactly from the suggested International Proclamation) Proclaiming the week of April 7 - April 13 as Barbershop Harmony Week in Sussex County.

The Proclamation was requested by Chapter VP of Public Relations **Rich Taylor** through a series of emails in March. This is the first public event since the chapter revived itself in late 2012.



YOU'RE INVITED!

The 2013 M-AD Trailblazers Rally will be held the weekend of September 6-8, 2013 at the Capitol KOA in Millersville, MD.

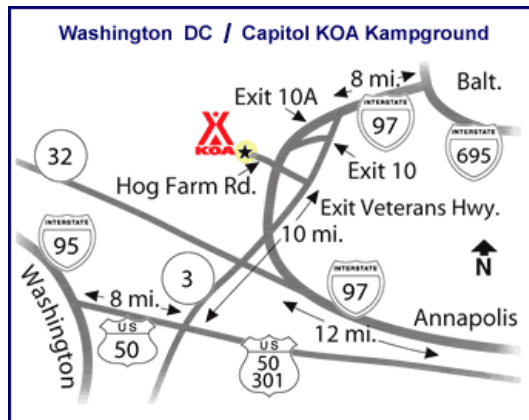
A full weekend of camping, music, fun, food and BARBERSHOPPERS being BARBERSHOPPERS

The only planned events for the weekend are a Saturday evening Pot-Luck dinner immediately followed by a campsite afterglow. The rest of the weekend we will just wing it.



There will be no featured guest quartet but we encourage all area quartets to attend the event and add to the lively merriment. Feel free to bring sheet music, songbooks, pitch pipes and tags.

Capitol KOA is located off of I-97 on Hog Farm Road.



If you are interested in attending the dinner and afterglow or want to camp out with the trailblazers, please contact wagonmaster David Kelly at whiterosechorus@aol.com

For more information about the event go to: irishdragon.com/trailblazers.html

The original trailblazers began getting groups of barbershoppers together for weekend camp outs back in the late 1960s and events have been organized ever since. This picture is from an event from years past.



Vocal Spectrum
2006 International Champions



GQ 2012 Sweet
Adelines Rising Stars

The Biggest & Best East Coast Barbershop Harmony Show of the Summer!



Atlantic Harmony Brigade Chorus

Atlantic Harmony
Brigade
2013



Saturday, August 24, 2013 - 7 pm
Concord High School
2501 Ebright Rd. Wilmington, DE
(just off of Naaman's Road)

Purchase Tickets Online

\$ 25 reserved seats
\$15 early bird general admission thu June 3
\$20 general admission after June 3
at

August 24
7:00 p.m.
Wilmington, DE
Get Your Tickets
NOW!

www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com
(click on ShowTickets)



Faces 4 Radio . . . the early years

...as represented by **Gimme Four**. From left: Joe Servidio Jr., bari; Will Downey, bass; David Ammirata, lead; Paul Franek, tenor.

Faces 4 Radio . . . now

F4R joined over 400,000 people on a beautiful day in Philadelphia, performed six sets in front of the Academy of Music, got to ring some chords on the stage of the Perelman Theater inside the Kimmel Center, and introduced our new friend Rock it the Robot to barbershop harmony!



Gent's Nite Out entertains governor

Harrisburg Chapter quartet Gents Nite Out strolled among hundreds of guests at the 3rd annual Arts in the Garden program on the grounds of the Pa. Governor's Residence on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in June. Gov. Tom Corbett couldn't resist joining them in a classic pose. (from left) Carlo Masciulli (T), Don Myers (L), Tom Corbett (Gov.), Al Ranieri (Ba), Barney Margolis (Bn).



Da Capo wows Manhattan Transfer crowd

Da Capo opened for The Manhattan Transfer as part of the Premier Concert Series at the Ferguson Center in Newport News, Va. The crowd (pictured above at the beginning of their set) leaped to a standing ovation at the conclusion of their set. Superb!

Wonder what your favorite **Q** is up to?

Check out the following links!

DA CAPO OPENS FOR THE MANHATTAN TRANSFER (and gets standing O!)
www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=674701132544924

ACHORDING TO DAD SINGS FOR 68TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=789362250114&set=o.388885474524567&type=2&theater

'ROUND MIDNIGHT THANKS BARBERSHOPME (hilarious special effects)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=b50rDc5brlw

PLEAD THE FIFTH SINGS FOR FLEMINGTON'S MAYOR
www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2013/04/barbershop_quartet_serenades_f.html#incart_river

3 WISE MEN ON FOX45 BALTIMORE FOR BARBERSHOP HARMONY DAY
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10200767700088730>

Top 10 Reasons Frank the Dog Loved Toronto

10. We spent a week away from our wives and families and found that they still love us after we returned. Then promptly began doing a week's worth of house chores.
9. Ate great food, and drank just enough without embarrassing ourselves.
8. Were prepared and taken to the stage by two great coaches (**George Gipp** and **Al Baker**) and were cheered on by our coaching team. There is a glimmer of hope we achieved some of what they've been teaching us to do.
7. Achieved our goal of "delivering an emotional experience to the audience", as several fans reported they were choked up at our rendition of "I Won't Send Roses".
6. Were so proud of our other MAD brothers – **Da Capo, Up All Night, Alexandria Harmonizers, Gimme Four, 'Round Midnight, Chorus of the Chesapeake, Brothers in Harmony, Black Tie Affair, Voices of Gotham, The Good Old Days.**



5. Received crazy shout-out fan emails from friends and family, read live during the webcast and shown on the jumbo screen in the Air Canada Centre.

4. Stood on the most professional and biggest barbershop stage in the world, and felt at home.

3. Partied with many friends and fans on Saturday night in what seemed like the "Center of the Barbershop Universe" – the Fairmont Royal York Hotel.

2. Laughed, cried, barked, teased, worked, worried, stressed, adjusted, planned, risked, and lived to sing another day.



And the number 1 reason why Frank the Dog loved Toronto?

1. **Made the Top 20.**



**2013 District Contest
Ocean City, Md.
Oct. 4-6**

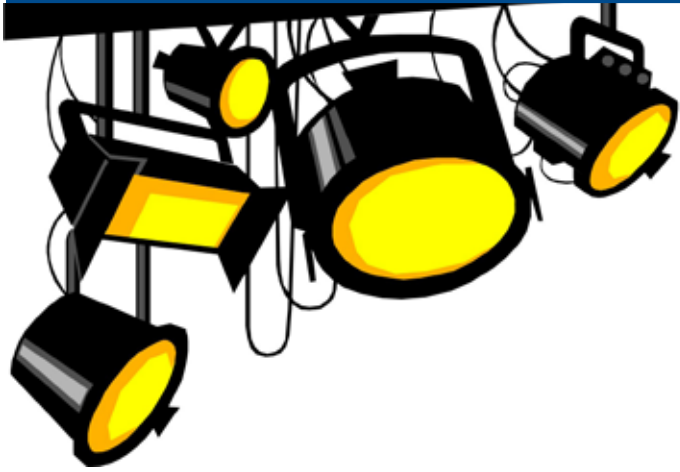
Here is an alphabetical list of those choruses and quartets that qualified for and were invited to the 2013 District Contest in Lancaster. Contestants, please remember to submit your entries on the Society's eBiz CJ20 Contest Entry Web site by August 31.

CHORUSES

- 1 Alexandria
- 2 Hell's Kitchen
- 3 Hamilton Square
- 4 Dundalk
- 5 Manhattan
- 6 Five Towns College
- 7 Westchester County
- 8 James River
- 9 Lansdale
- 10 Bryn Mawr
- 11 Richmond
- 12 Fairfax
- 13 Cherry Hill
- 14 Queen Anne's County
- 15 Hunterdon County
- 16 Princeton
- 17 Harrisburg
- 18 Loudoun County
- 19 Bucks County
- 20 Norfolk
- 21 Somerset Hills
- 22 Allentown
- 23 Harford County
- 24 Lancaster
- 25 Ocean County
- 26 District of Columbia
- 27 Roanoke Valley

QUARTETS

- 1 Up All Night
- 2 Gimme Four (Clg)
- 3 MADMEN
- 4 Mayhem
- 5 Low Down Sound
- 6 Flatiron Four
- 7 Faces 4 Radio (S)
- 8 On Tap
- 9 Black Tie Affair (Clg)
- 10 The Good Old Days (Clg)
- 11 ACME Chord Company
- 12 Achording To Dad
- 13 Atlantic Harmonies
- 14 American Idle
- 15 Capt n Billy s Whizbang
- 16 Legacy (S)
- 17 Sfourzando (Clg)
- 18 My Uncle Murray
- 19 Why Not?
- 20 Masquerade
- 21 Riverline
- 22 The Monorail Four
- 23 The Establishment
- 24 Anthology
- 25 29 Seconds
- 26 Youth Reclamation Project
- 27 Shameless
- 28 Distinction
- 29 Main Ingredients
- 30 Quatrain (S)



Introducing . . .

JOSH EHRlich

'The simplicity of guys singing together, constantly trying to improve their own skills while working to create collective magic is something that I'm deeply grateful to have discovered.'

by Scott Braddock

When one thinks of genius, it can often call to mind romantic images of oft-written about visionaries changing the course of history; a mustachioed German physicist whose mass-energy equivalence formula is known by children worldwide; a Greek philosopher whose "gadfly" wise man's paradox ends in his own dramatic hemlock-induced demise; or a bald American inventor who when the light bulb went on above his head, quite literal ones now illuminate our homes. The list is miles long. All of them geniuses. All of them declared lunatics at some point in their lives.

Here in New York City lunacy is no stranger, and for one musical prodigy it is in fact a way of life. In a dimly lit microscopic apartment on a cozy corner of New York's colorful Hell's Kitchen neighborhood, amid brightly colored and starkly contrasting paint and posters adorning the walls, and the tangy, dissonant smells of oven-baked tofu and scented candles tickling the olfactory senses, one can find genius hard at work.

On an ordinary day one may find **Josh Ehrlich** sitting at his piano, adding his own score to the invading cacophonous symphony of bus motors, construction, and club music, or perhaps on his roof, deeply inhaling the dirty air while practicing yoga.

But July 5th, 2013 was no ordinary day for Ehrlich. That remarkable Friday, *Voices of Gotham*, arguably New York's best all-male a cappella chorus, gave an electric performance at the Barbershop Harmony

Society's 75th Anniversary Convention, rocketing themselves into 8th place internationally, and society-wide notoriety.

What did this mean for Ehrlich? Well, quite a lot, as he was not only standing in the third row, but arranged over half of this gallant group's performance set. The most notable of the two songs, Anthony Scalzo's 1998 pop hit *The Way* made famous by Fastball, raised many eyebrows, as it is the most contemporary piece ever performed at a BHS convention, and as such was not recognized by many audience members over the age of 40. For a society whose median age is 66, that is saying something.

"From those that knew the song, I received a lot of great reactions and even saw a tweet on the jumbotron that VoG had turned a pop song into a beast of a barbershop arrangement. I now feel more positively about twitter", said the somewhat technologically impaired Ehrlich.

A 27-year-old Yale graduate who first directed his college a cappella chorus, and then went on to become the music director of an exclusive private high school, Ehrlich explained the motivations behind



Composer/Arranger Josh Ehrlich arranged the 1998 pop hit *The Way* for *Voices of Gotham's* ground-breaking performance in Toronto.

his controversial arrangement: "'The Way' tells the story of an aimless young couple determined to find 'an exit to eternal summer slacking,' before ultimately asking, 'Where were they going without ever knowing the way?'" said Ehrlich, while sipping V8 and

absentmindedly running his fingers over the piano keys.

"Once I began working on the arrangement, I couldn't stop asking that question of myself. I, too, was hoping to find eternal summer slacking in the form of sustaining the giddy and carefree life of harmony I'd found in college."

Scholarship to HU

In that case, in what is perhaps the most perfect ending to the story, Ehrlich has been selected to receive a full-ride scholarship to attend Harmony University this summer. Harmony University, while not eternal, is a week-long college for the acca-obsessed that will give Ehrlich the opportunity to further hone his skills as an arranger, director, and musician.

"I'm extraordinarily excited to be given this incredible opportunity", said Ehrlich, whose excitement levels already exceed those of a normal person's. "I intend to utilize it by learning as much as possible about arranging, composing, and conducting. And of course meeting people and impressing them so that I may

find opportunities to continue to make a living through music."

Through what he learns at Harmony University, Ehrlich will be able to add to the already impressive library of arrangements he calls his own, which range in every style from Broadway musicals translated into Hebrew (for the kids up at sleep-away camp, of course) to Rat Pack jazz standards. But he holds a special place in his heart for barbershop.

"There's no other musical world which reveres harmony like BHS", said Ehrlich, his eyes lighting up like the menorah that graces his dining room table. "The simplicity of guys singing together, constantly trying to improve their own skills while working to create collective magic is something that I'm deeply grateful to have discovered. And as an arranger, there's no other organization so filled with singers dedicated to perfecting every cadence and every chord."

Along with *Voices of Gotham*, Ehrlich plays in a bluegrass band, a 90s cover band, music directs off-off Broadway shows around town, and moonlights as a jazz pianist. Future plans include obtaining a graduate degree in composition or conducting, and writing a musical.

"I'd also like to continue arranging barbershop for as many quartets and choruses who'd like to enlist my services, but most of all *Voices of Gotham* as it's an ensemble which is quickly becoming one of the best in the world, and contains many of my closest friends."



Hail and Farewell

After his many years of valued service to our fine District as Atlantic Division Vice President, **Neil Keihm** is stepping down. Neil will continue to serve us as Assistant Secretary for Show Clearances and as "host" for the Central Leadership Academy. ALL of us have been well served by Neil, especially his Atlantic Division Chapters and Chapter Counselors he's helped shepherd. He has given hours and hours of service, and has long been asking to be "relieved" when the time was right.

I know you all join me in thanking Neil for his service, his dedication and his ever-present positive attitude!

I am pleased to announce that **Rob France** (Bucks County Chapter) has been named the new District Vice President-Atlantic Division, effective immediately. Rob has demonstrated through his successful chapter presidency and his advocacy of innovative programs, including the resoundingly successful Bucks County Youth Festival (Competition) over the last two years, that he is ready to "take the reins" and help his chapters strengthen and grow.

Prior to joining the **Country Gentlemen**, Rob has been involved in volunteer leadership in various capacities including serving as president and other roles in a prominent Amateur Radio club in Hunterdon County New Jersey.

Rob is also involved in leading a local Cub Scout den (yes, he is trying to form quartets AND teach the boys Morse code!).

Rob has added singing Barbershop Harmony to his fledgling side business, soundkat production Ministries, where he partners with area churches and other clients to address Audio/Visual concerns. This involves analysis, design, acquisition, installation, and tuning sound system equipment. This also includes conducting training seminars to train technical team staff in the operation of their system.

In his spare time, Rob works for a consulting company, Solutions3 LLC, specializing in solutions which comprise People, Process, and Technology in order to adopt ITIL® Best Practices and ISO/20000 certified solutions for Information Technology departments in both commercial and federal accounts.

Rob and his wife, Lisa, have just celebrated their silver anniversary. They have two adorable children, Laura (11) and Ben (8). All of the Frances are inclined towards music and technology to some degree.

Bill Colosimo, president M-AD



Society HQ has announced that seven M-AD chapters have been recognized for membership growth during this past year's Operation Harold Hill. Chapters that enrolled in the program were assigned to different levels based on their membership at the start of the year and were eligible for recognition based on exceeding a minimum number of new members gained during the year.

Congratulation to **Harrisonburg** (6 new members), **Lansdale** and **Nassau-Mid Island** (7 new members), **Carroll County** and **Hell's Kitchen** (8 new members), **Wilkes Barre** (9 new members), and **Alexandria** (15 new members). Well done!

In addition, the District is proud to note that had the newly re-vitalized **Sussex County** Chapter officially enrolled in this program, their gain of 9 new members would have earned them the only **Diamond** recognition in the Mid-Atlantic. Very well done, indeed, gents!

LETTERS

Thank You from Voices of Gotham

What a blast, eh?

Every year I look forward to meeting and greeting barbershop friends from around the world as we convene to find and celebrate the best music and performances our hobby has to offer. This year was certainly no different! I sang songs and tags with people from at least four continents.

As President of Voices of Gotham, I sincerely congratulate all our fellow M-AD competitors. I know it took countless hours of unceremonious practice to get ready for your big moment in the spotlight. Your efforts do not go unappreciated. We would also like to thank everyone from M-AD who came up to wish us well, put on a "Live in the Seventh" wristband or offer such kind words following our contest set. We are proud to represent M-AD!

Live in the Seventh!
Doug Brown, President
Hell's Kitchen, NY Chapter

Thank You for Southern Hospitality

On behalf of my fellow members of the Long Island Sound Chorus - Five Towns College Chapter of BHS, I want to thank all those who showed us a great time with true "Southern Hospitality" at your contest and convention this past weekend. Because of a date conflict, we needed to compete out of our home Northern Division. But, even tho' we weren't home, you made us feel right at home. It was great to see some our M-AD friends one extra time this year. Your warm reception to our competition performance was truly heartwarming.

Congratulations to all competitors and attendees. We look forward to seeing you again soon at HCE or District.

Tom Brucia

FTC - Long Island Sound Chorus

Thank You for support

Gimme Four was proud to represent the Mid-Atlantic District by placing sixth in the world at the Barbershop Harmony Society Collegiate Quartet Contest.

We were also glad to have shared the stage with our brothers The Good Old Days and Black Tie Affair.

All three quartets currently sing with the youth chorus, Tri-Star, and surely held our own at such a competitive contest.

We are looking forward to making the cut in Vegas next year.

David Ammirata

Lead, Gimme Four

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Rube Goldberg device powers personal grooming with barbershop harmony

from the May 2013 Nassau—Mid-Island Toosday Toons, Chiz Bell, editor emeritus

Thanks to Reuben Garrett Lucius Goldberg, known affectionately as “Rube,” the powerful effect of barbershop singing was illustrated in a most interesting way when the cover of a recording, released in 1959 under the “Warner Brothers” label, carried a creative contraption by the master cartoonist in which a singing foursome begins a series of actions and reactions that ends up giving a barbershop customer “everything from a haircut to a manicure.”

Goldberg, an American cartoonist, inventor, sculptor, author and engineer, was best known for his series of popular cartoons depicting complex gadgets that performed simple tasks in indirect, convoluted ways. He was the first president of the National Cartoonist Society and a founding member.

As for the recording itself called “Barbershop In Stereo” (imagine that!), that excellence went to a barbershop quartet known as the Play-tonics, who were distinguished in their own right. The four were Mid-Atlantic District Quartet Champions in 1954 and between 1956 and 1957, earned two consecutive medals in the Society’s International Quartet Contest, rising as high as 2nd.

On the hard-to-acquire disc they sing Coney Island Baby, If You Were the Only Girl In the World And I Was the Only Boy, If You’re Irish, Come Into the Parlor, Harrigan, Sunbonnet Sue, You’ll Never Miss the Water, Oceana Roll, Chocolate Whiskey And Vanilla Gin, and I’m All Dressed Up With a Broken Heart. Also: My Ideal, When You Wore a, Tulip, Sweetheart of Sigma Chi, Doin’ the Raccoon, Collegiate, and Varsity Drag.



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NEXT DEADLINE:
Sept. 20, 2013

Want to see your name in “print?” Have you or your quartet or your chorus had an amazing barbershop experience? Tell me all about it: editor@midatlanticdistrict.com

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TAG TIME

If You Were The Only Girl In The World (alt. tag)

Dom Finetti

Learning tracks and sheet music may be downloaded for free at [www.barbershoptags.com/tag-1840-If-You-Were-the-Only-Girl-in-the-World-\(Alternate-Version\)](http://www.barbershoptags.com/tag-1840-If-You-Were-the-Only-Girl-in-the-World-(Alternate-Version))