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A BULLETIN FOR EVERY BARBERSHOPPER IN THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

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Noah and Katie: Barefoot boy gets the girl with a little help drawing cupid's bow from Singing Cedars chorus pickup quartet. See page 6. Courtesy photo



What can Operation Harold Hill 2.0 mean for your chapter? See pages 13-14

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CARPE DIEM!

Or, how I learned to stop digging and climb out of a hole

By Dick Powell, M-AD President

The holidays were over and it was back to the old grind for George. Up at 6, fight the traffic, bite his tongue at work, fight the traffic, rush through dinner and then race to chapter meeting. And now what?! The parking lot was full. Darn. "Must be some church function pushing us out into the cold," he thought.

But no! Who were all these new faces? What was that buzz of excitement? Was this the chapter he hadn't missed for the last month? He pulled Program VP Joe aside.

"What's going on?" he asked.

Joe grinned, "We found some guys with long ladders!"

Based on what we heard from you during last year's chapter visits, the issue of compelling chapter meetings that give every man something of value and a reason to stick around is still an area with a lot of room for improvement. If your chapter needs help in this area, don't forget the first rule of holes and its corollary. "When you are in a hole, stop digging! Then attract someone with a long ladder!" Read on to learn more about some great ladders that can bring the buzz of excitement to your chapter meetings.

This past year the district participated in the Society's Chapter Visitation Program. Between April and December members of the district staff visited all 94 chapters in the district and reported back to the Society HQ in Nashville. Regardless of size or age or anything else, the following seemed to be common themes for M-AD:

Most everyone wanted help with membership. Whether it was more effective marketing or advice and assistance in crafting effective outreach and recruitment programs everyone indicated that this was their number one desire.

Most chapters also wanted more visits from musical experts for coaching in vocal production and performance.

Finally, virtually all chapters said they wanted help to make their chapter meetings more fun and their performances more entertaining to increase retention.

The great thing about these responses is that they validate the thrust of district and Society programs over the past few years and we have programs in place today to address all of them. Here are just a few for you to choose from:

Operation Harold Hill – this is the resurrection of the most successful membership recruitment program in the Society's history. But this time around the program provides a variety of approaches and tools – and at least one of them should fit your needs and abilities. Just go to <http://www.operation-haroldhill.com/> and check out the details of the program to decide what you want to do. Once you have selected your program from among the choices available, just sign up your chapter and you will automatically be put in touch with a specially trained counselor and coach to help you through the program and help you succeed. The choices you have (do one, do some, do all!) are:

- Away Game**
- Church Letter**
- Speak at a Community Event**
- Fair and Convention Booths**
- Learn To Sing**
- Letter to Former Members**
- A Guide for Interviewers**
- The "I Sing" Button**
- MEMbership Begins with ME**
- Open House**
- Personal Recruiting**
- Turn Your Radio On**
- Social Media**
- Great Times to Recruit**

M-AD Harmony College East – arguably the finest Society music school outside of Harmony University, HCE is conducted each June at Salisbury State University. Individual

members may take a variety of classes to increase their knowledge and skill in all aspects of barbershop. Quartets and choruses can get coaching to take them to a whole new level of fun and entertainment. And everyone gets a chance to see old friends, make new friends, and ring chords all night long! Check out some of the exciting details of this year's expanded program offerings elsewhere in this issue.

Division Vice Presidents and Chapter Counselors – in a previous issue of *Mid'l Antics* I discussed the impact your weekly chapter meetings have on retention. If your chapter needs help in this area, don't forget the first rule of holes and its' corollary. "When you are in a hole, stop digging! Then attract someone with a long ladder!" In the M-AD those folks with the long ladders are your Division Vice Presidents (four of them), your CSLT VP Chuck Harner, and a legion of chapter counselors along with Leadership Academy instructors, and other district officers. All of these men are dedicated to helping you get the most out of your barbershop experience and have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with you about ways to enliven your chapter meetings and provide something for everyone to enjoy. Have you seen "Eight Points to Fun"? Do you know what the "Sock and Marble" program is? Do you run an "ABC" program? These and many other resources are yours just for the asking and when you pick the ones you want and put them to work you will be amazed and delighted at the results.

2012 has just begun, and it is shaping up to be one of the best we have ever had. Don't miss out on the fun and excitement. Enroll in Operation Harold Hill. Make plans to attend Harmony College East. And reach out to your Division VP and chapter counselor to learn how to transform your weekly meetings. I promise you won't regret it. Stop digging and use those ladders! **Carpe Diem!**

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NEXT DEADLINE: April 9, 2012

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

What's happening in M-AD Youth In Harmony



by **Gary Plaag**, VP Youth In Harmony

M-AD Youth Barbershop has gone global through social media! We now have a Facebook page: Mid-Atlantic District Youth Barbershop. If you're a Facebook user, please go to our page and "like" it. That way you'll be

kept informed every time we update the page with news and information about our M-AD Youth In Harmony program. Please tell others about our Youth In Harmony page so they can follow our progress, as well.

It's time to start spreading the word about the 2012 Harmony College East Youth Camp. The camp is open to teen-age and college-age male and female quartet and individual singers. The Youth Camp runs concurrently with Harmony College East on the campus of Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Md. As in past years, we are hoping to have not only our annual robust quartet/ensemble contingent but also a thriving cadre of individual, "unaffiliated" (i.e., not in a quartet) young male and female singers. The unaffiliated male and female choruses will learn a performance song of their own and will perform on the Friday or Saturday night shows just as an established quartet/ensemble does. There will also be a combined mixed youth chorus, an all-male and an all-female chorus made up of all those enrolled in the YIH camp. Pricing for attendees can be found in the regular Harmony College East information.

We are aiming to have the biggest M-AD Youth Camp EVER and we need your help in getting quartets and individuals to the camp. Our goal is at least 15 quartets and at least

20 "unaffiliated" young men and 20 "unaffiliated" young women. That makes about 100 students. But if we had 150 students or more, we could really celebrate. To help make that happen, please reach out to your local public, private and home school music programs and make them aware of this great opportunity. If they need some help getting to Salisbury, offer to sponsor a quartet or a number of students. This is a great way for individuals and your chapter to get involved in the YIH program. When a quartet attends, their music educator attends for free! Each group of four students under 18 years of age needs a chaperone to attend with them. See the M-AD website for registration forms and additional information. Deadline for registrations for the 2012 Youth camp is May 15, so we can be sure we have enough coaches to support the number of quartets and students attending.

Finally, don't miss the Youth Adjudication Finals scheduled for noon on Saturday, March 10, in Reston, Va. This adjudication is being held in conjunction with the M-AD International Quartet Preliminaries at the Reston Hyatt Regency. We usually have about 10-15 outstanding young quartets/ensembles at this event. This is always a highly-rewarding and inspiring event that you won't want to miss!

So, keep an eye on our Facebook page and on the Mid-Atlantic District web page for the latest M-AD YIH news and information. If you need help getting a YIH program started in your area, please contact me at gplaagbhs@gmail.com. I'm happy to help you.

HURRY!
HURRY!
HURRY!



Just Four Scholarships left for Atlantic Harmony Brigade's eXtreme Quartetting weekend .

Apply now. There are only four scholarship awards available left for qualified men (ages 18-22) who are avid quartetters and would like to attend an eXtreme Quartetting™ Harmony Brigade but never did before.

You'll spend a high energy weekend doing wall-to-wall quartet singing with nearly an endless combinations of solid, well prepared quartet partners.

Scholarship invitees are provided with sheet music, high quality learning tracks for 12 championship songs, as well as FREE hotel accommodations for two nights, meals for three days and performance opportunities, a spot in a great quartet contest, tons of networking and as much fun as any International Convention Afterglow.

YOU'LL QUARTET GREAT SONGS ALL DAY AND NIGHT with over 100 good, ready, willing and able singers to choose from!

To request an application write:
ahb.scholarships@gmail.com .

More Scholarship info:
www.box.net/shared/tnkex2x9to48ccbl-2hsd

The A.H.B. Web site:
www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com

The AHB Facebook:
www.facebook.com/groups/31509363244/



Date: August 17-19
Location: Near Wilmington, DE
Show: Saturday, August 18
Concord High School
2501 Ebright Road
Wilmington, DE 19810



No Borders youth chorus a smash hit at Carnegie Hall

On December 26, young men from the US and Canada gathered for a special benefit concert in Carnegie Hall for the victims of the Japanese tsunami.

The 150+ young men's chorus was organized by **Joe Cerutti** who was also the director. Singers were provided music and learning materials in advance for the five songs they performed on stage. They were joined by guest quartets **GOOD TIMES** and **PRESTIGE**, last year's Barbershop Harmony Society collegiate champs.

The Japanese high school youth "orchestra" the No Borders Youth Chorus appeared with was really a band ... a very large band. When you see 13 French horns, an English horn and an e-flat clarinet, 13 clarinets, trumpets, saxophones, four bass violins, a host of percussionists and four tubas ... you know you are in for something special ... and it was!

The benefit was very successful and you can check out their efforts at the following links:

Come'on Get Happy =

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EchmcaK3HmU>

Tribute to World Peace =

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zvVbvsaSlc>

God Only Knows =

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2gkOkkkuO0>



Joe Cerutti directs the No Borders youth chorus at Carnegie Hall, Dec. 26.

Loudoun middle schoolers proudly wear "I Sing!" for all to see!

Youth proudly proclaim, 'I Sing!' in Loudoun County, Virginia

Youth Festival successes and 'cathedral building'

By **Bill Colosimo**, M-AD EVP

'Cathedral Building.' This phrase, first shared with me long ago by our own District VP for Youth in Harmony, **Gary Plaag**, as he as first chairman of the Society's Youth In Harmony Committee shepherded the earliest stages of what is now an increasingly successful Society-wide effort at encouraging barbershop singing among students, has a very special importance to us as the "key to success" in propagating our great artform among young people. As each stone is laid by a mason to build a cathedral, often over many, many years, the shape of the structure and, ultimately its beauty and function, are slowly and carefully revealed to all of us. It's not "instant gratification," which, as we know, often fades quickly. It is, rather, a permanent, lasting impression which positively influences both the builder and those who are privileged to enjoy the mason's work for a lifetime.

So it is with introducing, encouraging and spreading the joys of a cappella--particularly barbershop--singing among young people. The demands of a student's (and parents') priorities and time, as well as those of

their music educators, are hard to imagine, almost too strenuous to believe, unless one is either an educator himself or exposed to the realities of school or university life day-to-day. Our success in sharing our great art and "hobby" with young people, therefore, rests — and is most fruitful — when we *don't* simply "recruit students to sing with us" in our chapters (which many have tried with marginal long-term — and sometimes negative — effect!) but, rather, build stone-by-stone an environment where our treasured singing style can be introduced, absorbed and executed to as high a degree possible in fun and friendly ways *within a non-threatening and cooperative setting in full agreement with music educators.*

Youth Harmony Festivals, workshops, camps (like that we offer at Harmony College-East each year!), youth adjudications, collegiate contests and the now overwhelmingly successful Youth Barbershop Chorus Festivals are prime examples of how "cathedral building" can work well. Fun, good instruction, improvement of young singers' overall ensemble singing skills (the real "hot button" for music educators like me!), are all part of the formula which is proven to work.

see **CATHEDRAL BUILDING**, next page



CATHEDRAL BUILDING,
continued
from previous
page

Our own ‘Masons’ laid the cornerstone

Over two years ago, a contingent of willing and thoughtful leaders of our own Loudoun County Chapter’s **Chorus of the Old Dominion** (www.odchorus.org) began discussions with their County’s Music Supervisor (who, by the way, had been in a quartet in college many years ago!) and some key teachers to consider a youth festival offering which the Chapter would heavily support, staff and help the school district execute. Wisely, the Chapter quickly enrolled resources from MAD leadership to help them in presenting the concept of a county-wide a cappella festival activity to teachers and staff. Perseverance, thorough information presentation and cooperative planning over *18 months*, with the added bonus of enthusiastic participation of **Adam Scott**, BHS Music Specialist from Nashville, whose visit to our District coincided with the planned event, finally “paid off.” With cooperation and joint contribution of the fine Chorus of the Old Dominion (with some added manpower support from DC’s Singing Capital Chorus, too!), District resources, support from the Harmony Foundation and the Choral Foundation of Northern Virginia, and the Loudoun County School District, the “masons” dreams were realized!

See for yourself!

Pictures included here just give you an inkling of the joy and great music-making that resulted from our “masons” efforts! Two hugely successful A Cappella Festivals were executed — a two-day event for 370 boys and girls from 12 high schools in November, and a one-day event for 170 youngsters from 10 middle schools (and some returning high school students, happily!) in January. Experienced, skilled clinicians and directors contributed to the success of the events. **At November’s high school event, Adam**, who taught and directed 150 boys singing *Under the Boardwalk* and *Who Will Buy*, was joined by **Sheryl Berlin** (Director of Choral Music at Gaithersburg High School, BHS Associate and Associate Director of DC’s Singing Capital Chorus), who guided 220 girls to learn and perform Can



You Feel The Love Tonight and Jeepers, Creepers. The high school performance of these tunes, culminating the prestigious “Honors Chorus” event which had been tailored *exclusively* by the county to feature barbershop... for the first time *ever!*...entertained a packed house of 800 parents, friends and educators, who were prompted to a spontaneous “Standing O” following the finale of *Lida Rose/Will I Ever Tell You*, directed by **Bill Colosimo** and sung by *all* 370 students!

Here’s a YouTube link which you might enjoy, capturing the essence of the event!

(Click below, or search “Loudoun County High School A Cappella Festival November 2011” on YouTube.)

<http://bit.ly/x5OSrL>

At **January’s middle school event, Terry Reynolds** ably taught and directed 50 grade 6-8 boys (joined by members of the Chorus of the Old Dominion and enthusiastic male music educators!) in *Hello, Mary Lou* and *In My Room*. **Gayle Connelly** (a longtime choral educator, *Sweet Adelines* lead singer in *Lucky Day* quartet and Joe’s wife) worked with 120 girls in grades 6-8 to teach and direct *All My Lovin’* and *Consider Yourself*. As with the high school event, a full house of enthusiastic supporters rose to cheer these terrific young people following the show’s combined chorus finale, *Joe Liles’ Let There Be Music, Let There Be Love*. The day’s events were enhanced by the generous and helpful participation of **Sound Advice** quartet (SAI, Vienna-Falls) who both acted as girls’ section leaders and performed on the afternoon show, and **TBD**, the

Terry Reynolds (Alexandria Harmonizers) and Loudoun’s middle school boys (and chapter members!) enjoy Hello, Mary Lou.

Alexandria Harmonizers’ Contemporary A Cappella Ensemble, who rocked the house on the show, too!

Stone by stone...

Over the months since the high school event in November, several key indicators point to the success of these great “cathedral building” initiatives.

First, **FIVE HIGH SCHOOLS** have incorporated songs from the November workshop into other school-wide performances during the school year; both winter and spring concerts! Second, this inclusion was a result of **BOTH** teachers’ and *students’* insistence! Third, virtually *all* the Loudoun high school teachers who attended the middle school event were wearing their “I Sing!” buttons (purchased from Harmony Marketplace by the Loudoun Chapter and donated to the festival)...and they’re part of their “everyday wear” now! (Do you have your “I Sing!” button or snazzy new lapel pin? Hmmm??) Fourth, positive reaction from *parents* of participating students has been overwhelming; not only on the day of the event, but in subsequent interactions with Loudoun Chapter members. The students are being encouraged to continue to learn and perform a cappella music...and parents are a key motivator and stakeholder in the process, too, when they know our best intentions are to increase the skill and enjoyment of their children through the vocal arts! And “way cool I Sing! tee shirts,” specially designed by the Loudoun men and donated for the middle school festival (they also donated brightly-colored tee shirts for *all* 370

high schoolers! Wow!), being spotted throughout middle schools all over the County now...spreading the message that young singers are *proud* to display!

There are many, many more positive results yet to be revealed from our “masons” efforts. But here’s one more which proves the “process” works. Concurrent with the high school event, *another clinician* was conducting a two-day workshop for a girl’s “sight reading choir.” Throughout the weekend, this teacher from another Virginia county watched with interest the ongoing a cappella instruction and performances. Following this event, that teacher—who is a resource teacher for *other music educators in her school district!* — contacted *her* local chapter (also in our District) to learn more about how *she* might introduce barbershop in her school. Quick to respond, that chapter contacted Gary Plaag, who joined a chapter representative and this teacher in an informative, positive dinner conversation about what support we might provide to help her in her efforts. Voila! The “process” works!

Gary encourages all chapters and designate YIH chapter officers to work closely with him to see how our many resources and efforts might be leveraged to begin building *our cathedral together!* He can be reached at garyplaagbhs@gmail.com or gary.plaag@verizon.net. He and his team will be happy to help *your chapter* understand and implement “cathedral building” to work...now and in the future!



TBD, the Alexandria Harmonizers’ contemporary a cappella ensemble, rock the house.

Heart of my Heart

Pick up quartet draws Cupid's bow



When I brought this to the chorus's attention, we had everybody jumping at the opportunity. Leads even wanted to sing other parts just to be involved. So, I let Noah know it was a go.

When Noah arrived in Annville Dec. 16, we set it up for him to sneak away from Katie and come to our rehearsal Dec. 20

On that Tuesday night, like most Tuesday nights, I tried to greet everyone when they came in. So when this young man came in with no shoes on,

I knew it had to be Noah. Who else but somebody from California would be walking around

barefoot in December, in

barbershoppers: Ken Bender, bass; Sam Heilman, bari; and Dean Kahl, tenor.

Noah said he had not sung barbershop since high school, which I think was not that long ago. But he got up and belted out a great version of Story of the Rose.

The deed was set, Noah took Katie on Christmas Eve morning to a local college for a walk, which they did every morning at different locales, so this was not out of the ordinary.

On arrival at the Peace Garden, Noah started singing. Katie asked him to stop because there were people around, and those people were, you guessed it, our barbershoppers.

Ken walked up and said, "I know that song, can I sing with you?" And he did.

Next came Sam and Dean. Katie still had no idea what was coming.

When they got to the line, "say you'll be mine forever," — Noah was down on one knee with ring in hand. Katie was beside herself, just hanging on Noah's arm and speechless.

Of course the answer was "yes."

Noah and Katie stopped by this past week to thank us and invited the entire chorus to the wedding in July. We can hardly wait.

Thank you Noah and Katie for letting us be part of your life.

My name is Noah, and I write to you from San Francisco, California. I have yet to set foot in your great state of Pennsylvania, but I have a special request for you guys. While working on a farm in Florida, I formed a friendship with a young lady who hails from Annville. We share a dream of working in agricultural development overseas, and I have been courting her since May. This December, I am spending Christmas with her family, and, pending parental approval, would like to pop the question during my visit.

This is where you guys come in. I've long dreamed of proposing via barbershop quartet. I love singing (as does she), and would love to have three men back me up as I sing my proposal. I would ask my friends, but none of them live in PA, so I am turning to you guys for help. Would any three of you be interested in taking part in this special moment with me?

Who: 3 guys: a tenor, baritone, and bass: You don't all need to be part of the same quartet. No matching uniforms needed - you'll be "innocent bystanders," members of the public who just happen to know the harmonies to the song I strike up while we walk in the park.

When: Date to be determined, probably in the week preceding Christmas.

What: Something short and sweet, probably an adaptation of Heart of my Heart.

Time commitment: one quick rehearsal no more than an hour long, and the proposal (<1 hr).

Why: For the pure joy of it. I know it's a busy season, though, and I'd be happy to provide monetary compensation at the usual holiday rates if desired.

Thank you for your consideration. I know this would mean a lot to her.

Yours truly,

Noah Elhardt

P.S. I guess you all live in a pretty small community, so please keep this within the group so I can keep it a surprise. Thanks! :)

Pennsylvania?

I paired Noah up with three long-time

By Jody Appleby, President Singing Cedars Chorus, Lebanon, Pa.

When it comes to Marriage, men traditionally have a big responsibility---the proposal---and they've got to make it memorable. And that's exactly what Noah Elhardt did.

Noah wanted to propose in a genuine, unique, and completely romantic way, equal to the love he felt for Katie. What better way than barbershop style?

It all started in Oct. of 2011 when we got an e-mail via our website <http://singingcedars.wikispaces.com/>



Harmony College East 2012 – the best value in barbershop...

Harmony College East (HCE) is without a doubt one of the best schools in the country.



by **Ig Jakovac**,
DVP Music & Performance
and Board Member-at-Large

Dean Ron Knickerbocker continues to bring in some of the finest faculty in the world. Last year we had coaches and teachers from 14 of the Society's 17 Districts along with several from affiliate organizations (Harmony Inc. and Sweet Adelines International). We will have a diverse set of instructors and coaches once again this year. The school will be held at Salisbury State University, June 14-17.

Here is what to expect:

- When you arrive on Thursday you will be given your room assignment
- Classes start Thursday evening
- Everyone starts Friday morning with breakfast at the cafeteria followed by vocal warm ups
- You will be involved in either classes or coaching (quartet or chorus) all day Friday with breaks for lunch and dinner

- There is a Friday night show where some of the quartets being coached get to strut their stuff
- Following the show you can sing or socialize until whenever...
- Saturday is similar to Friday
- There is a gala event on Saturday night where both quartets and choruses get to perform for you
- This is followed by more singing and socializing if you have any energy left
- Sunday morning you turn in your room keys and drive home – exhausted BUT VERY HAPPY!!

At our school you will have an opportunity to learn how to become a better singer/performer. There are recommended courses for a wide range of interest levels ranging from those interested in becoming better chorus singers or better quartet singers to those interested in Show Production or those who want to improve their coaching skills. If you have never been to one of our prior schools, please consider HCE 2012 – you will not regret it. If you have attended in prior years, please be aware that we are continually updating/adding courses.

NEW for 2012:

Vocal Techniques (Advanced) - Private Voice Lessons – yes, that's right, private voice lessons!!!

HCE Chorus - sign up to sing under the direction of one of our top directors and then perform with that chorus on the Saturday night show!

Tracks - In order to help you select your courses

we have organized the offerings by "track" – so, for example, if you are interested in becoming a better chorus singer, there is a track called just that – the track contains recommended courses for you to take – there are ten tracks for HCE attendees and two for those who will attend the youth camp. Here is a listing of available tracks:

- Becoming a (Better) Quartetter
- Becoming a Better Chorus Singer
- Courses for HCE Chorus Participants
- Courses for Directors
- Courses for Members of Choruses that are being Coached
- Courses for Musical Leaders (M&P, Section Leader, Chapter Leader)
- Improving Your Coaching Skills
- Show Production
- Youth In Harmony - Quartet
- Youth In Harmony - School Ensemble

Or simply choose from the entire course list. Please check our new web site for all the details; www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com/HCE

On-Line Registration Process - We have completely re-vamped the registration process. Everything is now on-line. Once you login to our new web site you will not only see all of the details of "tracks" and courses offered (printable), but you will also see a [downloadable brochure](#) which gives an overview of HCE. In addition you will not be able to miss the button which says:

REGISTER NOW!

Once you click this button, our new on-line HCE registration process gets started. Here are some highlights:

- You will be asked when you plan to arrive and leave so that we may make the appropriate housing arrangements for you
- You can choose your courses from a set of tracks or from the general course catalog
- You can pay on-line with any major credit card, or your PayPal account via PayPal, or by check (instructions are on-line).
- You will receive an email confirmation of your registration which includes a summary of the courses you've selected. PayPal will send you a receipt.

HCE Champions - In order to spread the word about HCE, one of the best kept secrets in barbershop, we are in the process of identifying individuals in every chapter in MAD who will be advocates for HCE – our "champions" will become familiar with our new processes and will be key advocates in helping to promote HCE at the local chapter level. In addition, they will help those who have difficulty using or accessing the internet.

Let's make this year's school the best ever! I look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions or comments please drop me a line (ijakovac@comcast.net) or call me at 267-932-8344.

M-AD to be well-represented at International in Portland



by John Santora,
DVP Contest
and Judging

Qt. Pre-lims and Division Contests just over the horizon

Congratulations to **Voices of Gotham** and **The Big Apple Chorus**, who will represent our district at the International chorus contest in Portland, Oregon this July. After two years in a row as a crowd-pleasing mic tester, Hell's Kitchen qualifies for the big event. Manhattan returns to the International stage, now featuring their new director, Justin Miller. Best wishes to the competitors, and I hope many of you are making your plans to attend to cheer on our district chorus and quartet representatives in Portland.

I also hope many of you were at the Midwinter Convention in Tucson to cheer on our International Seniors Quartet competitors, Legacy and Youth Reclamation Project. Legacy captured a fifth place bronze medal and YRP finished a respectable eighth. Congratulations!

The spring convention is our District's next upcoming competition, where the quartet representatives to the big show — and to what is now a big show in its own right, the International Collegiate Quartet Contest — will be chosen. Be at the spring convention in Reston, Va. to find out who will carry the M-AD banner to the West Coast.

For those quartets and choruses who haven't registered for competition before, here's a plain English explanation:

- First, in the time period stated in the table, and for the event you wish to register, go to www.barbershop.org, and click on the [Members Only] button to sign in to ebiz.
- Then, select [Contest Entry] and follow the directions on the next screen. Note: You can do this to register either for competition or for evaluation only.
- Note that the 2012 M-AD Seniors Quartet Champion will be crowned at Prelims. Any seniors quartet that has not previously won the District seniors quartet championship is eligible to enter
- Also, seniors quartets can compete at the international Quartet Preliminary/M-AD Seniors Quartet contests or at any division contest this spring to achieve a qualifying score for one of the five (5) spots in the International Seniors Quartet Preliminary contest in October in Ocean City, Md.
- At all contests, 20-minute-per-judge coaching sessions will occur for

All the spring contests are now, or will soon be, set up on the Society's web site. Here are the dates that the eBiz CJ20 Contest Entry site will open and close for the various contests:

Contest	Location	Opening Date	Closing Date
Prelims	Reston, Va.	1/4/2012	2/9/2012
Atlantic/Western	Lancaster, Pa.	2/20/2012	4/18/2012
Southern	Roanoke, Va.	2/27/2012	4/25/2012
Northern	Morristown, N.J.	3/5/2012	5/2/2012

all chorus and quartet competitors.

- Youth quartets and ensembles will again be adjudicated at the spring prelims. Don't miss this thrilling display of youthful exuberance for our hobby!
- Collegiate quartets may compete at Prelims or at any division contest, except Northern, for the right to become the M-AD representative to the 2012 Harmony Foundation Inc. Collegiate Quartet Contest in Portland. Scores of 70 percent or higher automatically qualify a collegiate quartet.

Finally, if you find that you can't attend our District or International conventions, consider signing up for the webcast. There are links on the District web site and on the Society's web site that will guide you through the process. You can watch and listen as your favorite quartets and choruses compete, and you can hear what the "state of the art" at International will be, as our competitors continually set the bar higher and higher.

Lock and ring; it's why we sing!



Western Division News

by Don Myers,
Western Division Vice President

The end of 2011 has come and with it the beginning of new plans for the great new Year of 2012.

But I'm getting ahead of myself.

The 2011 winter season has been a very active couple of months with plans and preparations for the Atlantic/Western Division Convention. By now, choruses will be starting to gear up for the spring convention. From my contacts so far, it looks like the Western division will have 13 choruses competing, with the possibility of two more being added to the mix.

Imagine, we could see as many as 30 choruses competing at the new combined convention weekend May 18-19 in Lancaster, Pa. What a great Barbershop weekend that will be!

On a V.P. note, I had the honor to install the officers for the Pretzel City Chorus, Reading, Pa chapter Dec. 9. The Chapter did something a little different at the installation. Along with installing the new Board of Directors, we acknowledged all members of the chorus who acted in a supporting role for the chorus. Of the 57 men in chorus, we awarded Certificates of Recognition to 27 who had an active role within the chorus. The positions ranged from Sunshine Committee to Riser team to Valentine Co-coordinator and so on. Quite impressive. Sometimes we forget that the chapter exists and thrives because of the tireless efforts of the behind the scenes folks.

The New Year is coming with lots of exciting things for the Western Division, and there will be more information coming your way very soon, so climb on board and.....ENJOY!

MAD Website Upgrade for 2012

by Mike Kelly, M-AD Webmaster & CIO

**CHECK OUT
OUR FRIENDLY,
NEW WEBSITE!**

www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com

The District has a new website. Oddly enough, it 'looks' just like the old site, but it's been completely overhauled.

The first thing you'll notice is that those pesky numbers don't show up in the URL anymore. The address is now permanently set to: www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com

New website features:

Shortcuts - makes it easy to get to popular pages.

For example: www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com/Members takes you straight to the 'Members Search' page. (see www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com/Shortcuts for a complete list)

Profile Pictures and Bios for Quartets, Choruses and Members - upload a picture for yourself, your quartet or chapter! (Only chapter officers can upload for their chapter.) [shortcut: [/Bios](#)]

Improved logon features. You can now be "**Always Logged ON**". There's tons of information you can get from the MAD website when you're logged on, not the least of which includes phone numbers, addresses (with Google map links), email addresses of members, chapters, quartets and District officers & committee members. [[/MyAccount](#)]

Consolidated convention information - All convention information is now available on

one page per convention. Contest dates, times, deadlines, tickets, maps, hotels, judges, stage-time schedules and order-of-appearances can all be found on a single page [[/Conventions](#)].

Improved Calendar functions - Events on the District "[5-Year Master Planning Calendar](#)" are now linked with Google Calendar ([subscribe here](#)). Quartets and Choruses can promote their shows & performances with our On-Line calendar [[/Calendar](#)] The "[Cleared Events](#)" calendar is now integrated into the on-line calendar.

MADAQC - The "MAD Association of Quartet Champions" page has been revived, and includes new Champ statistics, bios and pictures. [[/MADAQC](#)]

Improved Archives - Score sheets have been organized into a single archive page, sorted by year back to 1998. [[/Scores](#)] [Mid'l Antics](#) (back to 2004) and [Hi-Notes](#) (back to 2003) are also consolidated and archived on their own pages. [Contest videos](#) (back to Oct 2008) are still on-line.

New email delivery options - allow you to select which email notifications you get from the District. If you don't want to receive Hi-Notes, you may opt-out of Hi-Notes delivery. You can always opt-in again at any time. You may also opt-in or opt-out of Mid'l Antics notifications as

well. Furthermore, you may also opt-in or out of receiving ALL emails from the District, however we recommend against this, as we occasionally send important information about conventions and events. Please check your Opt-Out settings here.

Smart phone support provides ultra-fast page loads on your iPhone or Android.

New Harmony College East on-line registrations (see the HCE article from Ig Jakovac in this issue).

Site map shows you a complete list of all pages on a single page.

Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and Operations Teams documents are all available on-line.

Advertisements for Chorus Director Opportunities and listings of available Chorus Directors.

List of all District champions (Choruses, Quartets, Seniors, Collegiate), Hall of Honor, BOTY, Recognized Directors, Man of Notes, and Public Relations Honorees.

Improved "I Forgot my Password" functionality.

There is an information page for each and every Member, Chapter & Quartet.

Your Chapter info page includes your officers, a link to your public performances, and a complete list of members.

Your Member info page includes all of your registered quartets, chapters (including your office position(s), and any District, Judging or Society position.

Printable District Directory - info formatted for printed pages.

List of deceased members - provides a complete list of members (by chapter and year) who have passed on. If you have chapter affiliations or year-of-death for those lacking that information, please let me know, and we'll re-affiliate them. Also let me know if there's somebody who should be added or removed from the list.

If you have any comments or find any errors on the new website, please feel free to send me an email webmaster@midatlanticdistrict.com



Notes and reminders for chapter treasurers, new and old



By Bob Eckman,
M-AD Treasurer
Bob.eckman@comcast.net

The New Year brings lots of activity for chapter treasurers. For both new and “seasoned” treasurers, section 1.2 of the BHS Treasurer’s Manual has a very comprehensive To Do list. Here are the highlights for the first three months of the year (including a little catch up from December). My list focuses on external requirements (IRS, banking, BHS HQ), vs. internal requirements such as budget preparation and monthly reports to your Board.

December

- Read the Treasurers Manual
- Obtain necessary papers from your bank to effect signature changes due to changes in treasurer and president (whoever you have as authorized check signers).

January

- Read into the board minutes the names of persons authorized to handle money for the chapter (the Bond List).
- Have the president appoint a Financial Review committee
- If any individual or quartet

received \$600 or more for services from the chapter in 2011 complete IRS Form **1099-MISC** and mail to the recipient(s) by January 31.

February

- If you mailed any Forms 1099-MISC in January, file with the IRS Form **1096** together with copies of the 1099-MISC by February 29.

March

- Review the chapter’s prior year (2009) Form **990-N, 990EZ** or **990** and start preparing to file the 2010 990.

I will have more on the 990 filing in the next issue, but here are a few hints in the meantime:

- ✓ The 2010 treasurer should prepare or help the current treasurer prepare the 990 filing. He understands the data and can do the current treasurer a favor by passing along his knowledge of how it was done previously.
- ✓ There are instructions on the BHS website on how to file the various 990.

- ✓ Most importantly, EVERY chapter has to file one of the 990 forms, based on your gross revenue. The filing is due by May 15.

Anyone can download and print the Treasurer’s Manual, templates and attachments from the Society website. You don’t even need to sign in. Just click on the Documents link in the top menu bar and look under the Business and Finance header for the Chapter Treasurer link (and there’s lots of other good material there too).

As District Treasurer I’m available to answer your questions. Please feel free to use me as a resource. If I don’t know the answer we also have a wealth of Leadership Academy Treasurer instructors and experienced chapter Treasurers in the District. I look forward to talking with you.



District BOTY 2011



Submit your chapter’s candidate now!

Your District leadership is pleased to announce the revival of an important award recognizing the dedication and talents — in all phases of our barbershop activity — of special men whose efforts have earned them the distinction of being named “Mid-Atlantic District Barbershopper of the Year.” While many of our chapters bestow this fine award for service within their own group, it is an additional honor to be selected among chapters’ award winners to be recognized by our District fellows in a special way.

Accordingly, each Chapter President (or a designee) in M-AD is invited to submit the name of his Chapter’s 2011 Barbershopper of the Year for consideration by a committee of District leaders, chaired by the District’s EVP, along with a brief-but-thorough description of the nominee’s credentials which not only earned him his Chapter award, but might spotlight how his efforts (in your view) positively impact our District as a whole. Only one nominee per Chapter, please!

Ideally, nominations should be *emailed* to billcatps@aol.com, with the narrative as an attached document OR in the body of the email, with the subject line “District BOTY” (please). If email is not possible, hard copy nominations may be mailed to:

Bill Colosimo
5730 N. 22nd Street
Arlington, VA 22205-3243

(If you have already submitted a nomination by mail, you need not re-send.)

The deadline for RECEIPT of nominations is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**.

Announcement and presentation of the award will be made from the stage during the Saturday, March 10 evening Show of Champion in Reston during the District’s Spring Convention.

(Don’t worry...the award winner will be advised of the award in advance, but will not forfeit the award if he is unable to attend the Convention.) Announcement of this award will also be prominently featured in the next issue of *Mid’l Antics*.

Thank you, in advance, for your participation in this important process!



One of the Three Amigos from the Mid Atlantic District serving on the International Board of the BHS would like to report to the District that the Mid Winter Convention was a fun and rewarding convention to attend. Our own quartets, **Legacy** (fifth place with a scoring average of 70.2) and **Youth Reclamation Project** (eighth place with scoring average of 68.0) acquitted themselves in fine fashion. Our youth chorus **Tri-Star** sponsored by the Montclair, New Jersey Chapter (and the only youth chorus to have competed each year the event has been held) came in second in their AA plateau with an "excellent" rating.

- On the business front, the Board interviewed candidates for the CEO position. President Alan Lamson issued this statement after the convention:
In July of 2011, the CEO Search Task Force, appointed by Society President Alan Lamson, was charged to solicit, accept and review applications for the position of Society CEO and present qualified candidates to the Board of Directors for consideration. The task force's robust and thorough process sought candidates with a unique set of skills and qualifications to lead the Society into the future. During the Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson, the Society Board conducted interviews with the candidates presented by the CEO Search Task Force, and, while the slate of candidates was excellent, the Board has decided to continue its search for our next CEO.

- The District Presidents also met during the convention and their moderator Mike Ott made a report to the Board and those attending the meeting. In his report he discussed the good work and good will achieved by the every chapter visitation held in 2011 and urged that it be repeated in 2013. The Districts set a goal to have 90% participation in the Operation Harold Hill Program which will be the key program to achieve growth in membership in 2012. The DPs also identified 46 at risk chapters which require their attention this year. They also established 3 goals to improve their effectiveness. First, improve communications between **Society Operations** teams and DPs; Second, create and implement an on-line version of Legacy training for DPs and EVPs; and Third, create and implement computer based CSLT instruction courses for **chapter officers** with annual updates.

- Your Board continues to try to improve the financial footing of the Society which is under stress because of the continued membership loss. Much of our effort in the past year has been aimed at stopping the steady decline of membership. The Youth Programs have begun to have a positive effect but still the membership declines. Membership as all of you know, starts with the Chapters. It is only effective if each member invites a friend to a Show and or a Chapter meeting and "hooks" him on barbershop. Lets make that a fundamental part of our Barbershop experience each year.

the Three Amigos
 (a.k.a. Rick Ashby, Gary Plaag, and Joe Cerutti)

2012 Ads available at 2011 Prices

Quartets and choruses may advertise in our 2012 convention program books at 2011 prices. Your ads will be seen by dedicated barbershop fans and help boost attendance and increase your profits.

And if you place an Ad in the Spring Convention Program and you choose to repeat the same ad (no changes) your ad price will be **reduced by 20%** for each of the remaining 4 Division Conventions.

All Convention Program Books are now in a 4 ¼ x 11 inch book format and ads will cost:

Full Page	\$ 100.00	3-3/4" x 10-1/2"
Half Page	\$ 80.00	3-3/4" x 5-1/8"
Quarter Page	\$ 60.00	3-3/4" x 2-9/16"
Inside Front Cover	\$150.00	3-3/4" x 10-1/2"
Inside Back Cover	\$125.00	3-3/4" x 10-1/2"
Outside Back Cover	\$150.00	3-3/4" x 10-1/2"

Ad Copy deadline for the Spring Convention is Feb 25, 2012.

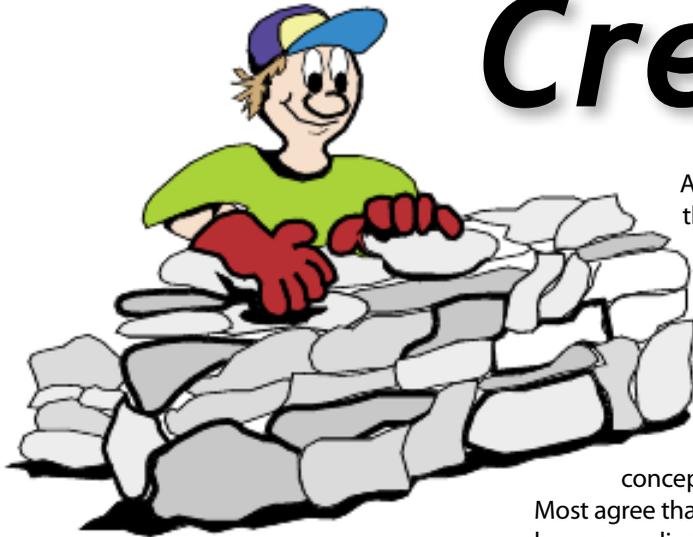
Submit ads not later than 2 weeks prior to any convention as:

- **BLACK & WHITE, Camera Ready Copy with**
- **images in JPEG format.**
- **Include payment in full.**

You can email your copy to Program2012@aol.com (the earlier, the better!).

Questions? Contact Walter Griffith at IMABARI1@aol.com .

Creating a wall of sound



by Roger Tarpy,
VP Chorus Director Development

The most important challenge faced by any director is the task of getting the chorus to sound good. It's a daunting task, of course. Even the most conspicuously successful directors in our society consider this to be a life-long challenge, a process of continuous discovery more than a final end point in their musical program.



But such a discovery process surely involves taking note of the techniques, tools, ideas, behaviors, attitudes, and policies that seem to be related to good singing – staying in tune, breathing correctly, or matching vowels are good examples. Indeed, this is exactly what the BHS educational program is all about.

In this article, I'd like to talk about creating a "wall" of sound. Good-singing groups have this; poor or marginal groups do not.

A wall of sound has to do with the flow of music, the never-ending ring of barbershop chords. It's pure tonality without distractions. It's clean-flowing, in-tune, singing without white spaces or choppiness.

To get a handle on this concept, let's start with vowels.

Most agree that the "music" in barbershop harmony relies primarily on vowel sounds. The pleasing tonality and the familiar barbershop ring happen when we sing vowels.

There are consonants, of course, and they, too, are part of what we sing. Some have tonality or pitch, but with the exception of a few (e.g., "m" and "n") it's pretty minimal. They don't add to the "sound," per se. Their primary function is to modify the vowel sounds so that the listener can determine what syllable is being uttered.

Here, then, is a way of thinking about the wall of sound: There are three parts to any syllable. The first is the entry point (typically a consonant), the second is the pitched part of the syllable (the vowel sound), and the third is the exit point (often another consonant). **It stands to reason that if our music resides in the vowel sounds, and that if any given syllable is comprised of one or more consonants and a corresponding target vowel, then a wall of sound is achieved when the musical part of the chord (the vowel sound) is maximized and, generally speaking, the non-musical parts (the unsingable**

consonant sounds) are minimized.

Consider a simple example: the syllable "back." In this instance, a wall of sound is promoted by (1) getting quickly through the "b" sound, (2) sustaining the "a" sound for as long as appropriate given the note length, and then (3) getting quickly through the "k" sound to the next syllable. The first and third steps must be executed to communicate that the syllable is "back" and not "sap." But if the consonants are sung in a loud and percussive manner, the wall of sound would be jeopardized, because they would act as the aural equivalent to road bumps. (See Endnote).

Here are some specific suggestions for creating a wall of sound.

SYLLABLE ENTRY. Listen for gaps or interruptions at the initial entry point of the chord due to (1) slow entry because some singers are taking a breath or are indecisive about the correct word, tempo, or syllable onset, (2) scooping into the pitch, or (3) over articulation of the consonant.

Try to fix these problems by (1) asking your singers to "flick" the consonant more cleanly, (2) having them decrease the emphasis on the consonant, or (3) have them change the initial consonant to one that is similar but is less percussive (for example, changing "zone" to "sone" – the "s" pops out much less than the "z" but the syllable is no less discernable in the context of the lyrics).

TARGET VOWEL. Listen for problems with the vowel sound in the syllable. One might find (1) vowel mismatching, (2)

changes in the intensity over the note's duration, or (3) a mismatch in the turning of a diphthong. For instance, the chord for the syllable "rain" can't ring if some singers are sustaining "eh" while others have already gone to the secondary vowel sound, "ee".

What are the typical fixes for these problems? Just what you would guess: (1) spell the correct vowel sound and have your singers practice it repeatedly, (2) correct for differences in the color of the vowel target by emphasizing either taller or brighter vowel placement, (3) get your chorus members to practice singing a vowel sound with sustained energy by having them "point upward" with their finger throughout the chord, (4) get your singers to become aware of not turning a diphthong too early by having them direct the change with their hands.

SYLLABLE EXIT. Listen for problems as the singers exit the syllable, such as (1) a drop in energy at the end of the syllable, (2) an improper breath, (3) an over-articulated consonant sound, or (4) a slurred or under-articulated consonant.

Again, the fixes are obvious. Get your singers to (1) finish the word sound, (2) flick the consonant, (3) increase the intensity or volume, especially for chords that are held, or (4) tie the final consonant of the current syllable to the initial sound of the next word.

One final point. You, as director, are in charge of this whole process. **Getting your chorus members to be more aware**

of this issue is your responsibility. You need to be astute at hearing the problems and then be good at providing a fix. (Hint: check out the revamped program at Harmony College East this June).

But there is a second sense in which you are involved. **You may, inadvertently, be the source of the problem.** Think, for a moment, about your hand skills. Do you avoid excessively energized downbeats which can trigger an over-articulation of an initial consonant? Do you move your hands, gently, over the duration of held vowels, thus avoiding confusion about when to transition to a secondary vowel or to the exit point of the syllable? Do you use the up-and-out twirling motion to cut off a diphthong? Are your downbeats and cutoffs clear and decisive? Do you avoid mouthing the words so that the singers are able to execute a clean entry and exit?

If you're having trouble creating the kind of wall of sound that you'd like, give some thought to improving your hand signals. (Hint: check out the revamped program at Harmony College East this June).

Note: There may be occasions, of course, where the director may not wish to minimize the consonant sounds. Consider the syllable "love." Rather than flicking the "l" and "v", it may make more sense, interpretively, to stress these consonants. Examples of this sort, however, don't negate the more general principle – creating a wall of sound requires singers to get through the entry and exit points quickly, but to sustain the target vowel sound.

You gotta know the territory!



by **Christian Hunter,**
DVP Membership

Those familiar with Rock Island, from the opening scene of “Music Man,” know “you can talk, you can talk” but to be a successful salesman, “You gotta know the territory.” The curtain has just opened for Operation Harold Hill 2012, the biggest membership recruiting drive since, well, Operation Harold Hill in 1996. Well, we don’t need Mr. Hill telling us we got trouble here in River City. You don’t need me to tell you our membership numbers continue to decline entering 2012. Chances are you arose from the holiday slumber to attend your first chapter meeting of 2012 to find fewer attendees than the same time last year, and the year before that, and so on. This year the Barbershop Harmony Society and your Mid-Atlantic District are “all in,” putting forward massive efforts to help your chapter recruit members perhaps at a historically high level.

You’ve heard this before? Not since 1996 has there been a unified recruiting effort of this magnitude. And, in today’s world we are poised for greater success. You see, in 1996 there was a target for 2,880 new members in six months time. The goal was reached as a result of the impressive effort of folks from the chapters, districts and Society leadership using such things as a telephone, newspapers and, wait for it, snail mail. Today we have a goal of 3,200 new members by New Year’s Day. We have so many advantages over OHH 1.0 in 1996 it seems the odds are in our favor. For instance, with the internet and email we have the instantaneous communication of information internally, from new programs to stories of recent chapter successes, and externally, Facebook events, Craigslist ads and Meetup.com. We have sixteen additional years of experience recruiting

men into our chapters with numerous new programs. We have the entire Society and District focusing time, effort and budgets to grow our chapters.

For a sample of the tools available to you, I encourage you to go to www.operationharoldhill.com. You will find resources never before assembled on such a scale. There are recruiting programs galore with short videos explaining the basics of each. New programs and initiatives will be added such as “Supercharging Your Chapter” (coming live to M-AD!) and CORT – the Chapter Orientation and Retention Team. There is “stuff,” actual resources, for each of the suggested programs with even more on the way.

The Society’s success will emanate from YOUR chapter. The efforts of each man in your chapter are needed to make a difference. Your leadership and membership will surely acknowledge that the time is now and no time like the present to turn the chatter and rhetoric into action, into recruiting drives and programs, into new members.

Operation Harold Hill is aptly named to highlight the support your chapter will have from your very own “Harold Hill.” Each participating chapter is assigned a man who will encourage you to success, to help you choose recruiting programs that fit your chapter and to share new ideas that other chapters have used to bring in new members. Perhaps he is a past Society President from Arizona, a past Society membership maven from Nashville or a veteran District leader from Boston. He will stay in touch and be available to you as a dedicated resource for your recruiting efforts in 2012.

What’s more, your District Vice President of Membership, yours truly, pledges to be yet another resource for you. I will be looking to originate new membership programs right here in Mid-Atlantic as well as to bring some of the most exciting initiatives to the forefront. I will look to your chapters for successes to share with others and to provide tools for education and communication for any members of your chapter interested in helping spur membership efforts.

Operation Harold Hill includes a framework of goals for each and every chapter in the Society. Each chapter will fall within one of five categories based on the official member count as of the end of 2011. Your chapter can reach higher and higher levels of recognition and awards based on the number of new members (meaning new to the Society or brought back after more than six months of lapse) as shown in the following chart:

	A 1-11	B 12-25	C 26-50	D 51-75	E 76+
Notable	1	3	5	7	9
Bronze	3	5	7	9	13
Silver	4	7	9	11	15
Gold	5	9	11	13	17
Diamond	7	11	13	15	20

Not only will there be recognition of chapters, but there will be opportunities for rewards for individual recruiters. For each “man of note” the recruiter will be entered into a drawing for a trip to the 2013 International Convention in Toronto or one of four scholarships to Harmony University in St. Joseph, Missouri. Did you know the “man of note” pins have been redesigned to highlight the new program?

If you look at the goals you may have observed that the Notable or Bronze level could have been achieved last year by your chapter, maybe with little or no effort. You are not alone, many chapters did very little for recruiting and relied on “walk-ins.” However, data suggests those chapters that put in the effort reaped much greater results. Think the Diamond level is unattainable? We know that’s not the case, we’ve seen chapters that have grown in huge leaps in a short amount of time by putting in the effort.

So your chapter is ready to join in the parade? My suggested first step is to encourage full chapter “buy in” to participate. This could take the form of a board resolution or simply a high energy announcement at the next chapter meeting that would be fitting of a pep

rally. To enroll all that is needed is for a chapter officer to go to www.operationharoldhill.com and click on “Chapter Enrollment Login” and enter his BHS member number. If you are a chapter officer but can’t get access, check with your chapter secretary or president to make sure the officers reported to the Society (via eBiz) are up to date. Once you are in to the OHH website, its just a simple click or two for registration of your chapter. No fine print, no disclaimers.

Once you are signed up, a Harold Hill will be randomly assigned and should be reaching out to the designated contact shortly to introduce himself and to see how he could help. He will already know a bit about your chapter and will be looking forward to working with you.

As of this writing, our District is already showing a dedication to growing in 2012. We have just over 25 percent of our chapters enrolled in OHH and they are making progress with their membership plans for the year, and possibly beyond. Both chapters and individuals have committed to recruiting as many new members this year as they can. We still have a ways to go, however, with 70 chapters yet to sign up. What do you say, will your chapter be the next to enroll, the next to reach the notable plateau, the next to gain more new members this year than the past three combined? I hoped you’d say that!

With all things hesitate to reach out help!

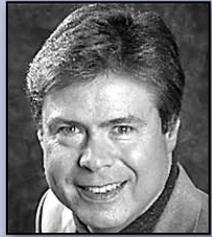
membership, do not to me. I am here to help!



For more information about how Operation Harold Hill works and what it can mean for your chapter, go to the Society website: <http://www.barbershopharmony.com/>

Operation HAROLD HILL
WWW.OPERATIONHAROLDHILL.COM

New Year's Resolutions



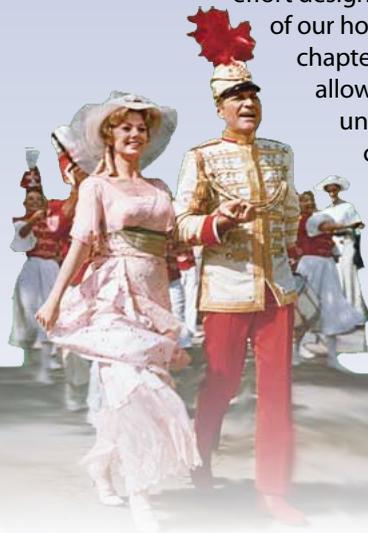
by **Eric Herr**,
DVP Marketing & PR
ewh14@comcast.net

The New Year is always a great time to wipe the slate clean and start anew with some fresh ideas to get our barbershop harmony message out to the community, jump start membership and create new incentives to keep our existing membership engaged and coming back for more. For sure, these are some lofty goals, but challenges that us Marketing and PR guys should all be ready to handle...right?? That said, here are just a few key suggestions to help keep us all on track!

Membership: First, as many of you may be aware, "Operation Harold Hill" is building up a strong head of steam and pulling out of the station full speed ahead. For those who may be unfamiliar with this program, named after Professor Harold (The Music Man) Hill, from the famed Oscar winning 1962 movie classic, is an outreach effort designed to help boost both awareness

of our hobby and membership in your chapter. The beauty is that this initiative allows each chapter to create it's own unique campaign through specific chapter goals, needs and wants.

A wealth of ideas are available by visiting www.operationharoldhill.com. While "Operation Harold Hill" is clearly about developing and perpetuating membership, it is and should be an integral part of your chapter's overall marketing and public relations master plan as well! Meet with your other officers and get a coordi-



nated game plan together. All Aboard!

Media: Another way to fine tune (pardon the pun) your efforts for 2012 is to be sure you know the media players in your area and the means by which your target audience gets their daily dose of news and other information. What are the newspapers, radio stations, TV stations in your area? What are the names of people in charge of the Arts and Entertainment categories? What are their e-mail addresses, phone numbers and other contact information? All of these questions need to be answered, along with their guidelines for editorial content, format, and submissions. Don't miss out on getting your event publicized because you didn't get the information to the right person, in the right format, and on time!

Along those lines, be sure your media list is current. People in the media business often get shuffled around within the same organization or change jobs altogether. A word to the wise...Update your lists at least every six months. And in this age of instant information, texting and being constantly "plugged in" 24/7, it's easy to be complacent and just depend on a quick e mail or text to get your messaging job done. There are times when you absolutely need to pick up the phone to follow up and make that personal connection with your media contacts. Get to know them and give them the opportunity to know you! Trust me, if you want to separate yourselves from the rest of the pack, there is no substitute for a one-on-one conversation. Whether it's by phone or an in person visit, when push comes to shove and you want and need that extra coverage, the personal touch clearly gives you the added advantage...hands down!

Money: Finally, money to fund various efforts always seems to pose challenges, especially now, with a less than certain economic outlook. Now is the time to build bridges and form strategic alliances with every organization that you can think of. Swap mailing lists, do joint performances and don't forget to keep tabs on who is doing the big bucks advertising in your area. Chances are, if a company is doing some heavy duty advertising, they just might be able to underwrite one or more initiatives that your chapter has planned. Keep up your great work, always keep your eye out for great opportunities and keep movin' forward!



Saturday
Feb. 25
7:30 p.m.

Roosevelt Elementary
811 Saint Georges Avenue
Rahway, New Jersey 07065

51st Annual Rahway Novice Quartet Contest

- Longest running Novice Contest in the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Great proving ground for new quartets
- Wonderful performance opportunity for all novice quartets as defined in the rules of the contest.

Contest limited to the first 15 quartets that register with contest chairman, Alan Hirst of the Rahway NJ Chapter:
aghirst@yahoo.com.

Quartets can register on-line and get more information at the Jerseyaires web site:
www.jerseyaires.org

Remember, **only 15 quartets** can compete so **DON'T MISS OUT!**

We look forward to seeing you on the 25th!



Why have Leadership Academy?



by **Chuck Harner**, DVP Chapter Support & Leadership Training (CSLT)

The answer should be obvious, Leadership Academy (LA) is where our chapter leaders for the coming year learn the knowledge and skills (tricks of the trade) needed to carry out the duties of the offices to which they were elected in an efficient and effective manner. Since M-AD attempts to rotate the faculties of our LAs, feedback reports indicate that even "old dogs", guys who are repeating in office for the umpteenth time, always seem to pick up some new knowledge or a new skill. In particular, there always seem to be changes that the Society has made that affect the Secretary and Treasurer curricula.

Nevertheless, only 93 officers (about 17% of the possible 558 officers for 2012 who should have attended) from 38 chapters (about 41% of our 93 M-AD chapters) attend the 2011 LAs. That's a decrease of 59 students and 9 chapters from our 2010 LA attendance. The unexpected October Southern LA (SLA) snowfall only accounted for 10 men in the decrease. In an attempt to create conditions that will be more favorable for attendance of our 2013 officers, the M-AD Chapter Support and Leadership Training (CSLT) team (see the M-AD website for the team composition) recently met and briefed the M-AD Operations Team on our recommendations.

The coming LAs are planned for October 27,

2012 (Southern) in Northern Virginia; November 3, 2012 (Northern) in Morris Plains, NJ; and January 5, 2013 (Central) in Newark, DE. The CLA is planned so that those who couldn't attend either the SLA or NLA, in addition to those regularly attending this session, plus those from chapters that had late elections can attend a LA session. In addition to the six curricula tracks available in 2012 (President, Secretary, Treasurer, VP Membership/Chapter Development, VP Music & Performance, VP Marketing & PR), a VP Program/Operations track is planned to be added in all LAs and a VP Youth in Harmony track is planned for the CLA.

Available funding is a problem affecting all chapters and individual Barbershoppers. In an attempt to mitigate the financial burden of our LAs, the CSLT team has recommended the following pricing to be in effect up until two weeks before each LA starts:

Number Attending	Price Per Student	Total Cost
1	\$45.00	\$45.00
2	\$42.50	\$85.00
3	\$40.00	\$120.00
4	\$37.50	\$150.00

5	\$35.00	\$175.00
6	\$32.50	\$195.00
7 or more	\$30.00	\$210.00+

Those who delay registration until later than two weeks before the scheduled LA start date will pay \$45 per student. So, plan your chapter elections for early October in accordance with the Standard Chapter Bylaws and register for attendance of these new or repeating officers at the upcoming LAs soonest.

Finally, although none were produced in 2011 as promised, the District Presidents Council has charged the BHS staff with producing videos for all

LA curricula in 2012. These would not be a replacement for LA attendance, but an hour long video that new officers could review in order to be better prepared to ask specific questions to their faculty member during the LA. In addition, the videos would provide curricula "high points" and recent changes for those who could not attend any of the scheduled LAs.

If you have any questions that were not covered during your last LA session, fell free to call the faculty member for your session or see the 2012 Who Do You Call? document posted on the M-AD website.

"OK, so how do you get someone else to do your job?"



Every day should start with a song. Terry Reynolds leads administrators at the Northern Leadership Academy.

tribute to Bob

**BOTY Bob Anthony
joins the heavenly choir**

*By Ralph E. Griffith
President, Blue Ridge Barbershoppers
Warrenton, Va.*

On October 3, 2011, the Blue Ridge Barbershoppers presented the Barbershopper of the Year award to Robert "Bob" Anthony. Bob joined the chorus in 2004 and immediately reinforced the Bass Section with his ability to sing, with volume, the really "low" notes.

During the past seven years, Bob has been an inspiration to the members of the chorus in spite of his many health issues, never complaining and always willing to do any tasks asked of him. He continued to serve the chorus until his health issues finally prevented him from actively participating in chorus activities.

The chorus, on several occasions, traveled to Bob's home so that he could join us in singing. He loved Barbershop singing.

On November 17, 2011, Bob lost his battle with cancer and died in his home in Warrenton, Va. The Blue Ridge Barbershoppers had the honor of singing at the funeral reception at his request.

Glenn Williamson, the chorus director, recently received the following letter from Joan, Bob's wife, which reads as follows:



Blue Ridge Barbershoppers present the chapter's 2011 Barbershopper of the Year award to Bob Anthony the month before he lost his battle with cancer.

*Dear Glenn,
Our sons Peter and Graham join me in thanking you for your wonderful sustaining friendship with Bob in the Blue Ridge Barbershoppers. His affiliation with the Barbershoppers meant so much to Bob, and it was such a lovely gift for him to receive the Barbershopper of the Year Award before he died. Will you please convey our family's deep appreciation to the Barbershoppers for their many kindnesses to Bob?*

*Sincerely,
Joan*

The Ches-Mont Jubilaires
Pottstown, Pa. Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society
~ present their ~
27th Barbershop Show
"Grandpa's Attic"
~ featuring ~
The Ches-Mont Jubilaires
Barbershop Harmony Chorus
Under the direction of Brett Thomas
with Chapter Quartets
Downtown Sound ~ Sound Generation
Off Broadway ~ Time Frame ~ Vocal Ease
Special Guest Quartet
Top Shelf
Mid-Atlantic District Quartet
Saturday, March 24, 2012 ~ 2:00 p.m.
Berean Bible Church
2675 E. High St., Pottstown, Pa. (near Cutillo's Restaurant)
Adults \$10.00 ~ Students ~ \$5.00
For Tickets call:
610-323-9078 ~ 610-326-4451 ~ 610-323-9068
Tickets also on sale in auditorium lobby
Visit us on the Web at: www.jubilaires.com



For info and tickets, [click here](#).

Exciting news from the Dapper Dans

By Michael D'Andrea, V.P Music and Performance
[Dapper Dans of Harmony - Montclair Chapter](#)
doncannoli@optonline.net

The Montclair Chapter, Dapper Dans of Harmony, had a very busy, fulfilling Holiday Concert Season again. This year the Dans entertained at 12 locations for a variety of assisted living homes, rehabilitation centers, residential care facilities and Veteran's Homes as well as local hospitals in the Passaic/Essex county area.

In keeping with our status as a non-profit organization, all visits were free of charge. As always, the members of the Chorus received the same amount of joy and satisfaction as our audiences did during this special time of year.

Under the tutelage of Director Mark Paul, the music team and chorus has begun a performance requirement program. After a 3-day retreat, the music team formulated an extensive, ambitious and exciting program for this year's calendar. The consensus of the members is positive, with each man exhibiting cooperation, genuine interest and (we have even managed to include FUN in our weekly teaching/learning sessions). We are confident that this attitude will result in continued interest, success, and improvement.

The Dapper Dans are once again sponsoring the Tri Star Youth chorus in competition at the Mid-winter Convention in Tucson, Arizona. This will be fifth year that this chorus has participated in this worthwhile musical experience and the young men, ages 16 - 24 -- some seasoned veterans -- have been practicing many hours to ensure a polished performance as a representative of the Dans and our District. [editor's note: Tri Star earned an Excellent rating at the January Mid-Winter adjudication, making all M-AD chests swell with pride.]

We once again thank the Dapper Dans, the Mid-Atlantic District and all those chorus members and friends, who have so generously supported Tri Star and will thankfully accept donations from any District Chorus or BHS member to help defray the enormous cost of travel expenses. Donations may be sent to:

TRI STAR CHORUS c/o Mike D'Andrea 84 Rolling Views Drive, Woodland Park, N.J. 07424.

In conclusion, I am pleased to announce that the Dans have enrolled in the HAROLD HILL PROGRAM and have been assigned our own Harold, Paul Arnone, from the NED. We are delighted to have his assistance and we anticipate a great deal of interest and enthusiasm being generated by our chorus members, resulting in new membership.

We wish all our brothers in Harmony a Happy, Healthy, Successful and Musical New Year.

Old Line Statesmen perform at benefit concert for Domestic Violence Safe House



The [Old Line Statesmen Chorus](#), the Carroll County Maryland chapter, is pictured performing the Fred King arrangement of Service 5 Medley.

Directed by Jeff Liebknecht, the chorus gave a lively salute to all veteran and active service men and women.

This event, "With One Voice," is held annually on a Saturday in November in Westminster, Md.

"With One Voice" is an evening of fine music held to benefit the Carroll County Domestic Violence Safe House, a partnership between Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland and Human Services Programs, Inc.

This year's concert raised nearly \$8,000 for this worthy cause.

The Old Line Statesmen have performed in all concerts since the event inception.

The Old Line Statesmen was chartered as the 101st chapter in the Mid-Atlantic District in September 1983. For more information about the Old Line Statesmen, visit our website at www.oldlinestatesmen.org or e-mail oldlinestatesmen@live.com.

Statesmen recruit new members



Since June 2011, the Old Line Statesmen, the Carroll County, Maryland Chapter has held two guest nights which have yielded seven new members. The 'new guys' enrich the chorus not only with their voices but with various backgrounds and vocations.

Well-planned and advertised guest nights with the support of current chorus members can bring new life into a chorus. We have enjoyed a 22 percent increase of 'new men on the risers' since our annual show in June 2011! Consequently, we will continue with productive guest nights at least twice per year.

Pictured from left to right are six of our recent recruits: David Jhembo (prospective member), previous music teacher and now software engineer and new members Jim Bird, semi-retired mechanical engineer, Russ Vriezen, retired from sales and marketing, Dave Koontz, retired from the Marine Corps and postal service, Jay Francies, financial advisor, and Bill Yanke, an accountant who previously sang with the Chorus of the Chesapeake. Not pictured are Wayne Dumonchelle, communications specialist with the federal government and Hal Roach, retired from the federal government.

Slow dancing in the home

Harrisburg BHS, SAI chapters combine for first holiday show

By **Bob Fisher**, President, [Harrisburg Chapter](#)

The "somewhat-mature" residents of a retirement village, dressed in casual garb – some pajamas and bathrobes here and there – and sporting hearing aids, various canes and even a few wheelchairs filled the Harrisburg holiday stage. But they weren't *real* retirement center residents. They were, to quote comedian John Lovitz, **"only acting."**

It was the first joint holiday show by the Harrisburg Chapter and their Sweet Adelines counterparts, Greater Harrisburg Chorus. The two groups had put on holiday shows of their own (this was the BHS chapter's 10th annual) and the choruses had appeared together before, but this was the first time for holiday music. "We worked most of the year to coordinate our efforts," said Chapter President Ernie Giovannitti, "and in the end it came off very well."

The premise was that one wing of the retirement center was putting on a show for the rest of the facility (*ala* Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland on a stage in a barn). The ladies were all ready for rehearsal (of course), but the men had apparently decided not to show up. ("Probably off watching some dumb football game," one lady in curlers piped up.) So they decided to do a dry run of *their* part, much to the delight of the attentive audience on a sunny, cold December Saturday afternoon.

The ladies were directed by Claire Domenick and featured quartets Notwithstanding and Girls Aloud.

Turns out the men did indeed decide to show up and under the direction of Bob Bennett, Jr., and Asst. Director Paul Zieber, ran their "rehearsal" for the combined show. The men were augmented by quartets Gents Nite Out, Union Station, 33 1/3, City Island and Saints & Singers.

Intermission gave both groups the opportunity to change into their finery – sparkly gowns for the ladies and tuxes for the men. The ladies opened the second act and then the men slipped onto the stage, some of them waltzing with the ladies who were singing "Slow Dancing at the Home." With both choruses on stage – nearly 100 strong – they joined in eight-part harmony with Tom Gentry's arrangement of "My Grownup Christmas List" and "If There's Anybody Here from Out of Town," before the audience joined in bringing the curtain down with "Silent Night."

Oh, one more "small" detail: The choruses received a sustained standing ovation!



Harrisburg Chapter and Greater Harrisburg Chorus Sweet Adelines prepare for their joint holiday show.



Many thanks to those PR guys and editors who sent in information on their chapters' upcoming shows and activities. And also, many thanks to those of you who are sharing your electronic bulletins with ye ed. There is an amazing amount of good craft information circulating out there as well as some really nifty PR ideas. Thank you for sharing.

Barbershoppers have got to be the busiest people on the planet. And you know what they say . . . "If you want to get something done, ask a busy man (or woman)." So here's what I'm asking: please, please, please when you plan a show or have some sort of noteworthy community event will you drop me a line with the particulars? While I love perusing your websites, there are 100 chapters in this district and even more quartets, so it's a sure thing I'll miss something important if you don't bring it to my attention!

Thank you! -Rx

EDITOR@MIDATLANTICDISTRICT.COM

After the 2012 International Convention in Portland, Oregon ALASKA BARBERSHOP MIXED CHORUS CRUISE

JULY 8 - 15, 2012

ON HOLLAND AMERICA LINE'S m/s OOSTERDAM

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Ron & Jo Black

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'Round Midnight

'Round Midnight is an award-winning "a cappella" quartet of music educators from New York City. They sing primarily in the barbershop style and demonstrate how close harmony can be applied to different musical genres such as R&B, pop, jazz, and rock. The group is a three-time Semi-Finalist in the Barbershop Harmony Society's (BHS) International Barbershop Quartet Contest and they are also the BHS 2010 Mid-Atlantic District Quartet Champions. <http://roundmidnightquartet.com/>

For a brochure with all of the cruise information, please call or email Edward Pio at 831-206-0450/edwardpio@gmail.com or Jo Black at 916-253-9293/jomamabass@gmail.com Make your reservations today!

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March 15, 2012



LEFT: Long Island police and fire departments turned out as well as a flag waving color guard and the North Brookhaven Chapter Harbormen Chorus to welcome home a local veteran.

BELOW: The Harbormen Chorus, North Brookhaven, L.I., NY under the direction of Gary Wilson entertain at Islip MacArthur Airport last December.



Barbershop homecoming welcome

The North Brookhaven Chapter's **Harbormen** Chorus sang holiday and repertoire selections at the Islip MacArthur airport until 9 p.m. Dec. 19 as part of a surprise welcome home for a local soldier returning from the Middle East. This serviceman had not spent a Christmas with his family in seven years. Emotions ran high as we sang "God Bless America" when he came through the gate.

This wrapped up a very busy holiday sing-out schedule for the Harbormen.

The next project will be Singing Valentines in Brookhaven and the Hamptons, which is a big fundraiser for the Good Shepherd Hospice at St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson.

The Harbormen Chorus has donated more than \$10,000 to the hospice and hospital over the years, as well as enhancing memorial services with comforting and inspirational singing in remembrance loved ones.

Feisty York Chapter gains new members Pipers Four to call it a day

By **Dave Kelly**, Baritone
White Rose Chorus
imyyourdragon@aol.com

The **Pipers Four** quartet will have one last blast on Valentine's Day. I don't believe we will be performing as a quartet afterwards. This will drop the number of performing quartets in the **White Rose Chorus** down to our early 2008 level of zero. We will likely have two quartets performing the Valentines fundraiser.

Once that is complete, we will make a valiant attempt to keep the chapter alive. With the loss of three members in 2011, it looked like we were doomed. However, we have since gained three new members and have had former members join us for Christmas performances. We have 11 performing members, two additional participating members and had 15 on stage for our Christmas show. If our spring advertising campaigns and guest nights prove successful, we might actually be able to make a go of it.

We are going pick two numbers to work on in preparation for the Western/Atlantic division convention in May. We will not be competing but want to be ready to offer our services as a mic-testing chorus. We plan to approach a few area chapters to augment our numbers

Even if we do not end up performing at the convention, we plan to send at least a handful to work backstage. I worked backstage last year in Camp Hill and again in Lancaster. Thank goodness for the Sweet Adelines pitching in at the District convention.

We're treading water here in York.



Mar. 9-11
M-AD Spring Prelims
Convention, Reston, VA

May 25-27
M-AD Southern Division Convention,
Roanoke, VA

May 18-20
M-AD Western Division Convention,
Lancaster, PA
M-AD Atlantic Division
Convention, Lancaster, PA

June 1-3
M-AD Northern Division Convention,
Morristown, NJ

June 14-17
Harmony College East
Salisbury, MD — Salisbury State U

Holiday Harmony 2011

By **Chris Papa**, Bulletin Editor, [Red Bank, N.J. Chapter](#)

The usual things about this year's annual holiday show were unusual!

Whereas the first Sunday in December has seen an annoying smattering of snow spoil the day, bright, sunny, unseasonably warm weather greeted the folks who attended the event.

The other, more embarrassing oddity was that, although the Henry Hudson A Cappella Choir was supposed to be included in the event, and was advertised and listed in the program, due to some last minute snafu, it was, in fact, a no show. This absence required a hasty reorganization of the show which then required additional activities to make up for the time allotted to the youth chorus.

With an admirable display of cooperative ingenuity the task was smoothly achieved and the result was a seamless display of fun and harmony throughout the afternoon, which obviously pleased both the audience and the participating chorus members.

The curtain opened on 34 members, glittering with gold vests and dress whites (this year, by popular demand, without Santa hats) led by director **Craig Page**. At the dais, **Dave Murch** served as an amiable master of ceremonies who paced the show with admirable patience, skill and good humor.

An opening segment of holiday songs was followed by a solo performance by **Carl Ryder** who entertained the audience with a comical reading of a "Barbershopper's Night Before Christmas". This allowed the Matinee Idles sufficient time to slip into their red class A uniforms and manage the next portion of the show. This included the only recognition of the Hannukah holiday with their performance of the Who Can Retell and Psalm 98 Medley and ended with their percussion instrument accompaniment of Feliz Navidad.

The *K-BAM* quartet, this time, more accurately the *T-BAM* four, had **Terry Schmalzied**, **Bruce Hanson**, **Allan Dean** and **Mike Silverstein**, which entertained while the reconstituted chorus took the risers once again to finish the first half of the original program. Their quartet introduction to White Christmas was marked by a spectacular entrance of the four dressed in gaudy shirts and shades, looking like Hawaiian tourists.

Another notable first was the inclusion of quick learner, new member "**C. J. McCann**", in the chorus. He not only sang with great spirit, but volunteered to lead a section of the crowd in the traditional raucous audience participation of the Twelve Days of Christmas.

The *Matinee Idles* were recruited to lead off the start of the second half of the show, singing three non-holiday songs, one of which featured a very long wait for the pitch note as **Phil Wilderotter** was deciding not to faint. He also



recovered fully enough to don his Santa Claus attire and "Ho-ho" up and down the aisles, administering hugs to all the tots who approached him.

To fill in for the time needed by the *Idles* to get into chorus' class A uniforms, **Tony Milillo** and **Mike Silverstein** kept the audience laughing with their now famous, "Who's the Tenor" routine.

The full, restored chorus followed with originally unscheduled performances of You Raise Me Up and Sentimental Journey which the M.C. managed to fit into a holiday mode. The singers then transferred smoothly into the expected Christmas hymns which always provide a stirring finale. In the end, the program was more of a success than might have been anticipated given the last minute additions and alterations, and hugely satisfied both the festive audience and the chorus members, who had every right to be proud of their efforts.

FROM TOP: Craig Page directs the Chorus of the Atlantic at the Red Bank Chapter's holiday show.

Matinee Idles perform a Hannukah number.

As always, Tony Milillo and Mike Silverstein bring down the house with their "Who's the Tenor" routine.

K-BAM introduces White Christmas, island-style.



SHOWTIME!

March

14 BucksMont Squires of Song
Chapter Show

24 Chesmont Jubilaires
Chapter Show

April

14 Alexandria Harmonizers
Youth Harmony Festival

14 Bay Country Gentlemen
Chapter Show

14 Pine Barons
Chapter Show

21 Singing Cedars
Chapter Show w/Escapade

21 Chorus of the Atlantic
Chapter Show

May

5 Keystone Capital
Chapter Show w/OC Times

5 Nittany Knights
Chapter Show

'Commercialization of Christmas'

Monks with flip-charts raise 'Hallelujah Chorus'

By Jack Pitzer, Editor, [Alexandria Harmonizers](#)

The three sold-out performances of the Harmonizer's 2011 Holiday Show were each fantastic. Great music. Good food. Enthusiastic audience. Holiday warmth. Lots of laughter, especially for [Blue Christmas](#).

Shows were Friday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, Dec. 2 at 12:30 and 6 pm at First Baptist Church on King Street in Alexandria. The chorus wore toy or elf outfits again, and Jack-in-the-Box, (**Terry Reynolds**) was back again. He shared the spotlights with Jingle, the Marketing Elf (**Ken White**), and Miss Fanny Bright, Jingle's assistant (**Amy Roots**). Their lines helped explain the theme "Commercialization of Christmas."

As usual the show managed to "fit" all of our holiday songs into the act. The script for the first two sets was developed by **Scipio Garling** and **Josh Roots**. The final set featured the chorus performance of several classical men's choral pieces. There were several standing ovations during the weekend --- "Do You Hear What I Hear," "Little Drummer Boy," and "Hallelujah Chorus." **Terry Reynolds** organized the non-singing "monks" who did a flip-chart routine while



the chorus sang "Hallelujah" and brought the house down. The "monks" were applicants, FRIENDS and some chorus members.

The helicopter pilot managed to land his craft right at the feet of Director **Joe**!

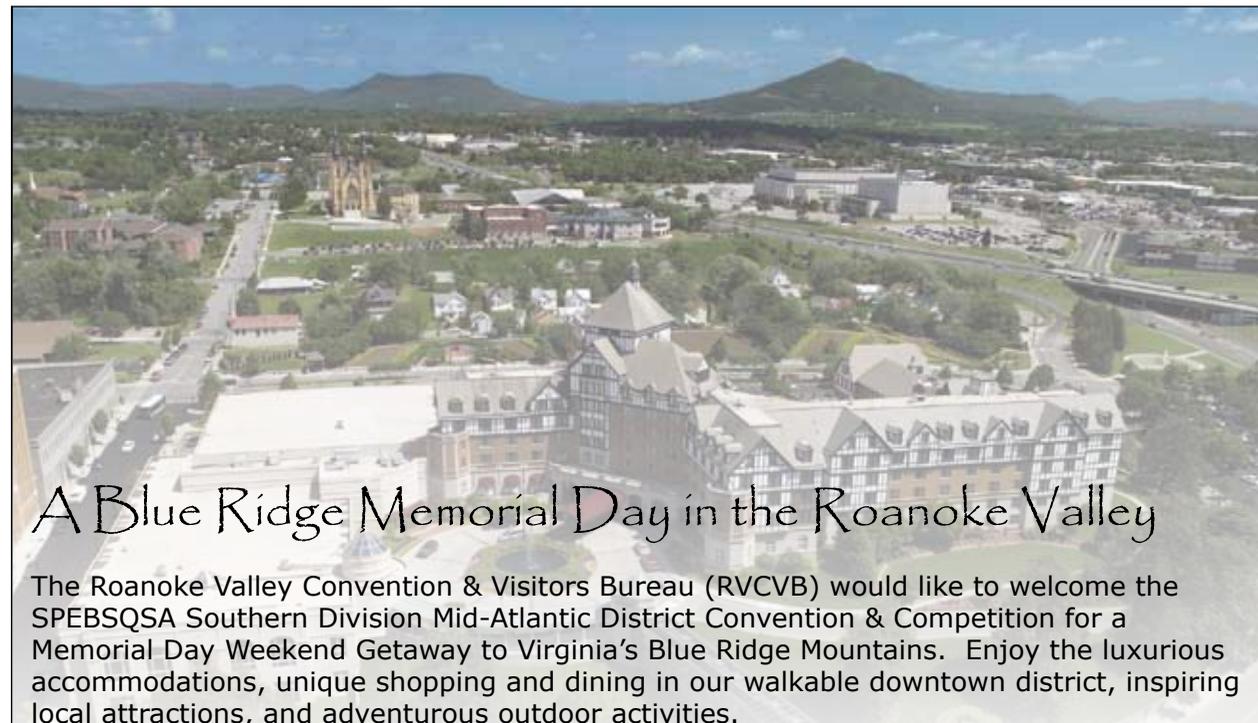
The traditional audience sing of The Twelve Days of Christmas also was a fun time for the audience and our singing waiters. Some of our guys prepared suggested "responses" and had a list on the table, which added to the laughs. As usual, the chorus members served the lasagna meal and keep the customers glasses filled and delivered a platter of holiday cookies and treats. The serving went the best-ever. Fun to see "the ground crew" with green and red signal lites keep things flowing (**Craig Kujawa**). **Phil Ashford** coordinated the waiter sign ups. Thanks to the kitchen crew of **Keith Jones, Gary Plaag** and **Bob Echman** and the staff at the church.

Beside the chorus songs, our new group, TBD, sang twice and won the audience. Some quartets composed of members from the chorus also sang to help carry the theme of the show. **Joe Cerutti** and **Scott Kahler** produced a number of pre-recorded advertising messages and various members acted out the ads. These were all really crowd pleasers including Tenor in a Can, The Used Reindeer Lot, Sleigh Grease, Elf Retirement Home.

Some surprises for the weekend: (1) the number of kids in the audiences, (2) the success of the silent auction at each show, (3) how we turned the hall of the church into Santa's workshop, (4) the amount of cookies people ate [thanks to the guys for bringing home-made cookies].

Santa and Mrs. Claus (**Bruce** and **Ginny Minnick**) were for sure a hit with the crowds.

The chapter used the show to help promote Singing Valentines too and collected emails in exchange for adding customer names to a drawing for a free Valentine.



A Blue Ridge Memorial Day in the Roanoke Valley

The Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau (RVCVB) would like to welcome the SPEBSQSA Southern Division Mid-Atlantic District Convention & Competition for a Memorial Day Weekend Getaway to Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. Enjoy the luxurious accommodations, unique shopping and dining in our walkable downtown district, inspiring local attractions, and adventurous outdoor activities.

Downtown Roanoke serves as the perfect backdrop for your special convention and competition. During your free time, sample the sights, sounds, and tastes of the city's history at the Historic Roanoke City Market, which began in 1882 and still serves some of the area's freshest locally-grown produce. And learn about the region's rich rail history with a visit to the Virginia Museum of Transportation, home to the massive Class A 1218 and Class J 611 steam locomotives, antique automobile exhibits, and more. Don't forget to take the Railwalk, a walking trail between the art and transportation museums that runs parallel to the railroad tracks with kiosks that explain the region's iron horse history.

In addition to the urban experience, a variety of outdoor activities are also available. The Roanoke Valley offers some of the best hiking, biking, golfing, fishing, and kayaking in the country. You can even take a drive on the beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway, recently awarded the title of "America's Favorite Drive." Enjoy the spectacular views from a multitude overlooks and the timing is perfect to see blooming rhododendron along the way.

Start making your plans now because you don't want to miss any of the opportunities that await you in Virginia's Blue Ridge. Take advantage of the RVCVB's website (www.visitroanokeva.com) to help out with advanced research for planning your trip. Also, check out our calendar of events (<http://www.visitroanokeva.com/things-to-do/calendar/>) for information about special events taking place, including Festival in the Park, an annual Memorial Day festival in downtown Roanoke.

Songs for the



By Jon Greene, lead, Bay Shore Four

On Tuesday, December 6, the *Bay Shore Four*, (**Ed Smith, Jon Greene, Allan Dean and Herb Van Note**), entertained at the Fairway Mews in Spring Lake for the Point Pleasant Garden Club at their annual Christmas luncheon.

The only place to warm up was a narrow laundry room. We soon, however, discovered a small room which was occupied by eight resident ladies having lunch before beginning their duplicate bridge game. They welcomed us to practice there, and we naturally sang to them.

Finally the club was ready for us, and we were treated to a delicious buffet meal, while they concluded their business.

Our show began with a segue from The Old Songs into Coney Island Baby. A few "true" stories kept the more than 100 (mostly Irish) ladies hopping, and "An Irish Lullaby" had them wanting more.

We then went into our Christmas repertoire.

One highlight involved serenading Betsy, who had allegedly given Allan a hard time at our arrival. She probably thought he was a waiter. Her friends even enjoyed the scene more than she, and the reaction was long and loud.

The success of our show was evidenced by the laughter and applause at the close, and by the many requests of those who wanted to contact us on behalf of other clubs to which they belonged. It's too bad the gig didn't precede our Holiday Show; there would have been fewer empty seats. In any event, quartets are a good way to publicize the chorus.



Sailing down the Chesapeake Bay

By Dan Dekowski, Calliope baritone
410-549-8880

Still active after 18 years of singing (six years with the current lead), Calliope regularly performs at three or four all-day cruises aboard the John W. Brown, a restored World War II Liberty Ship that sails out of Baltimore Harbor in spring and fall as well as singing the National Anthem and O, Canada! at Orioles Games every year for about the last 10. We've been singing on the cruises for the last 15 or so.

We can be found on the internet at WWW.calliope-quartet.org

Calliope performs at a city fair in Taneytown, Md. From left to right is Ray Agnello, tenor; Ted Evans, lead; John Treff, bass, and Dan Dekowski, bari.

Quartet success breeds popularity



The North Brookhaven (L. I.) Chapter registered quartet **Antiquity** enjoyed a very busy performance schedule in the last half of 2011. With regular rehearsals they entertained at four birthday parties, three luncheons, six holiday parties, concerts and recreation programs and two Church services, as well as being a featured quartet for Brookhaven's Town concerts, 9-11 memorial services, Fall festivals, and Christmas tree and menorah lightings. Members Fred Conway, Lead; David Lance, Tenor; Victor Fiorillo, Baritone; and Gary Wilson, Bass, have 100 years of combined Barbershop singing experience – hence the name, **Antiquity**. Wilson also directs the Harbormen Chorus, based in Stony Brook in Suffolk County. For more information, contact Fred Conway 631-476-6558.

An outdoor Central Islip Restaurant Birthday serenade by Antiquity quartet. Pictured from left to right are Vic Fiorillo (Br), Gary Wilson (Bs), Fred Conway (L), and David Lance (T)

Antiquity quartet is featured entertainment for the Ridge, Long Island Leisure Village Community in 2011



Out with the old, in with the new

Up All Night replaces bass after 'exhaustive' search

By Joe Hunter, baritone

Up All Night - MAD District finalists - would like to inform the M-AD that our bass, Justin Miller, has decided that his life is just too crowded (what with a new wife, new job and directing the Big Apple Chorus) so he has had to, very regrettably, step down.

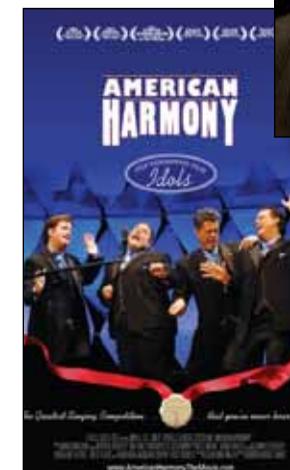
We greatly enjoyed our six months singing with this outrageously talented guy, and look forward to working with him as a coach going forward. After an exhaustive (well we FELT exhausted) search for a new bass, we have added Dan Rowland (past Big Apple and Westchester Musical Director and bass for numerous District-level quartets, including Change at Jamaica). Dan is coming back to barbershop after a hiatus of a number of years, and we are just thrilled that he was willing to bring his basso profundo into the Up All Night fold.

We are looking forward to the upcoming contest season and hope to represent the M-AD well, as well as continuing to do original and entertaining material and performing on any chapter shows that will have us!



American Harmony shows this week!

American Harmony is showing on the Documentary Channel next **Sunday, Feb. 12, at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.** Eastern Standard Time. This would be a great opportunity for barbershoppers to see the film, and hopefully get excited about using it for marketing/PR/membership purposes through the four wall release plan (available on <http://www.americanharmonythemovie.com>).



Beauty and the Beast

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 Tale as old as time, 2 song as old as rhyme. 3 4 5

6 Beau ty and the 7 8 9 beast

<http://www.barbershoptags.com/dbpage.php?pg=view&dbase=tags&id=1811>

HANDY LINKS TO DISTRICT/DIVISION SITES & EVENTS

To get to the ticket order page for all District and Division Events, go to <http://www.mad-registrations.org/>

There is a price break for all tickets purchased more than 30 days before an event.

Can't find what you need? Go to questions@mad-registrations.org

Check the next page for contact info for every District officer and board member.

I LOVE YOU TRULY

Lyrics and Music by Carrie Jacobs Bond -- 1912

I Love You Truly is a parlor song written by **Carrie Jacobs Bond**. It has been used at weddings since its release. "I Love You Truly" was the first song written by a woman to sell one million copies of sheet music.

Among Jacobs-Bond's compositions, only **A Perfect Day** exceeded sales of **I Love You Truly** during her lifetime.

According to Rick Reublin in *America's First Great Woman Popular Song Composer*, "Though today,

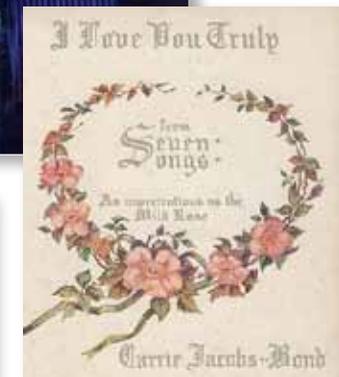
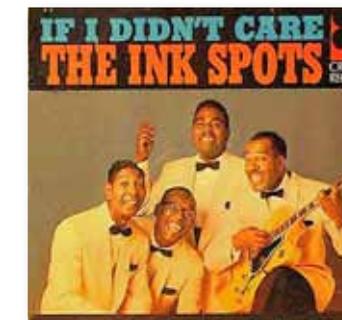
I Love You Truly seems to be her most lasting hit, it was not her biggest hit.

That honor goes to **A Perfect Day** which

sold five million copies, matching the previous best seller record of Charles K. Harris' **After The Ball** from 1892."

The song hit #1 in the

United States in 1912 when it was recorded by **Elsie Baker**. Numerous artists have recorded the song, including **Sophie Braslau**,



Joel McCrea, **Jeanette MacDonald** backed by **Richard Ambruster's** orchestra, **Pat Boone**, **Victor Borge**, **Al Bowlly**, **Bing Crosby**, **Deep River Boys**, **Connie Francis**, **Dusolina Giannini**, **Erskine Hawkins**, **The Ink Spots**, **Liberace**, **Guy Lombardo**, **Lawrence Welk**, **the Platters**, and **the McGuire Sisters**.

It remains a mainstay of barbershopharmony arrangers and singers and, of course, is tremendously popular as a singing valentine.

WHO DO YOU CALL?

AREA OF EXPERTISE	CSR NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Leading volunteers and other President responsibilities.	Dick Powell Gary Plaag Joe Stangl	rpowell74@verizon.net gary.plaag@verizon.net stanglij@yahoo.com	410-451-1957 703-670-4996 570-624-7106
Keeping the chapter records straight and other Secretary responsibilities.	Keith Jones Chris Buechler	harmobred@yahoo.com chris.buechler@verizon.net	202-863-2688 703-786-0990
Keeping the chapter financial records straight and other Treasurer responsibilities	Bob Eckman John Santora Steve Stojowski	bob.eckman@cox.net jsantora@mac.com stephen.stojowski@gmail.com	703-440-5997 410-836-7554 212-885-5838
Staying current with the Society Board.	Rick Ashby Gary Plaag Joe Cerutti	rashby@ptd.net gary.plaag@verizon.net joe.cerutti@gmail.com	717-625-2945 703-670-4996 703-401-7114
M-AD Endowment and the Harmony Foundation.	Alan Wile	alan.wile@comcast.net	703-538-6526
Getting new men in the door and keeping them. (Membership and Chapter Development)	Christian Hunter	njbslead@yahoo.com	908-806-7122
Increasing public interest and awareness in your chapter. Communicating to your chapter and fans through your website and bulletin. (Marketing and Public Relations)	Eric Herr	ewh14@comcast.net	856-988-7721
Getting members involved in chapter activities. (Chapter Support Leadership Training)	Chuck Harner Hardman Jones	CAChuck@cox.net hajones425@aol.com	703-938-3001 703-944-7975 (c) 804-379-6257
Developing and improving your members' singing skills (Chorus Director Development)	Roger Tarpay	rtarpy@verizon.net	804-829-2466
Creating raving fans for your performances. (Music and Performance)	Ig Jakovac	ijakovac@comcast.net	267-932-8344
Questions about show clearances and filing for show clearances (Music and Performance)	Neil Keihm	Keihm@verizon.net	302-737-6141
Reaching out to local schools, colleges, and young people in your community. (Youth In Harmony)	Gary Plaag	gary.plaag@verizon.net	703-670-4996
Navigating through the Mid-Atlantic District website. (Chief Information Officer)	Mike Kelly	mikelly97@gmail.com	301-775-1908
All about Mid-Atlantic District conventions, meetings and events. (Events)	Walt Griffith Dennis Ritchey	imabarti@aol.com denritchey5@cox.net	570-735-5577 540-373-3484
All about District contests and judging. (Contest and Judging)	John Santora Chris Buechler Gary Plaag	jsantora@mac.com chris.buechler@verizon.net gary.plaag@verizon.net	410-836-7554 703-786-0990 703-670-4996
All about what's going on in your Division. (Division Vice Presidents)	Neil Keihm (Atlantic) George (Oley) Olson (Northern) Jim Rogers (Southern) Don Myers (Western)	Keihm@verizon.net olevols@aol.com jar10303@aol.com gnolead@yahoo.com	302-737-6141 973-539-7941 804-740-0055 717-838-6146

