



Volume 46, Issue 1  
 WINTER 2015  
 A BULLETIN FOR  
 EVERY BARBERSHOPPER IN THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



*'East Coast Sound's performance of More I Cannot Wish You was stunningly clean and emotionally powerful, and their overall performance earned them a "superior" rating!' — Bill Colosimo*

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# East Coast Sound earns ‘Superior’

## Succeeds in goal to expose youth singers to barbershop

This January, we had the privilege of traveling to New Orleans to take part in the Youth Chorus Festival at the International Midwinter Convention.

East Coast Sound, under its original name (Tristar Chorus), attended the first Youth Chorus Festival in San Antonio in 2008, and has attended each convention since then for a grand total of eight.

We never could have imagined how much our vision would grow from then to now. Our chorus is 28 men strong, and has just emerged from the contest with a score of 77.2% – our highest of all time.

East Coast Sound rehearses only once a month, and yet we have fostered a culture of brotherhood, friendship, and quality barbershop singing, which has paid dividends in our consistent score increases.

But it does not stop there.

Our mission since this chorus’s inception has been to expose youth singers to barbershop, and that is exactly what we are doing. This year, we were able to bring nine non-members to the convention, including four kids under the age

*This year, we were able to bring nine non-members to the convention, including four kids under the age of 13, who had their first barbershop experience and loved every second.*

of 13, who had their first barbershop experience and loved every second.

None of what we do would be possible without the immense support of our father chapter, the **Montclair Dapper Dans of Harmony**, and this great district. From all of us at ECS to all of you in the Mid-Atlantic District, thank you. It is because of your support – financial, social, and emotional – that we are able to continue doing what we do.

There are big things on the horizon for East Coast Sound, and we have this district to thank for the opportunity to pursue our goals.

— by Paul Franek

For those that did not get the opportunity to see the chorus perform in New Orleans for Mid-Winter, here is the final rehearsal. Enjoy! <http://youtu.be/PYH6CXJeoKI>

East Coast Sound revs up backstage right before performing at the BHS sponsored International Youth Chorus Festival in New Orleans in January.



Chorus naps or breathing exercises?

ECS hams it up for the camera at a Jan. 4 coaching session with Gary Plaag.



# Midwinter Musings



by **Bill Colosimo**,  
MAD Immediate  
Past President

I was privileged to attend our Midwinter Convention in New Orleans as MAD Immediate Past President, joined by your new Executive Vice President, **Dennis Ritchey**. Dennis and I represented the District in constructive meetings of the District Presidents' Council and Society Board.

So much information was shared and exciting initiatives were spawned which will benefit MAD and the Society at large in moving our great art form and organization forward! In fact, much of the output from our sharing sessions is already being put to good use by your district leadership team to benefit your chapter and all our members! Of particular note was the ever-present theme of "outreach" during the week.

## It's all about Outreach

Outreach was at the core of much of the Nashville and Harmony Foundation staffs' presentations to us as leaders and general convention attendees. Of course, the most profound example of positive outreach was the always-amazing Youth Chorus Festival! 17 proud ensembles performed, representing high schools, colleges, chapters and districts.

Every single one was an exceptional example of the joy of barbershop style singing with skill, variety and fun on display for every attendee to enjoy! We

were particularly proud of the Society's Director of Outreach who was tasked with leading this important event, our very own **Joe Cerutti**.

## East Coast Sound rocks!

Those in attendance from MAD were very proud of **East Coast Sound** (formerly Tri-Star Chorus), which is sponsored by its "founding fathers" (literally, in at least one case!), the Montclair, N.J. Chapter. MAD does not have official "youth chorus representatives," in order that we might encourage the birth and growth of youth choruses throughout the District. But all of us cheer on and cherish the success of East Coast Sound who has been a stalwart participant in district events throughout its history, and is the *only* ensemble to have participated in every Youth Chorus Festival sponsored by the Society!

Their performance of **More I Cannot Wish You** was stunningly clean and emotionally powerful, and their overall performance earned them a "superior" rating!

The young men were grateful for the stipend from the district that helped fund their trip expenses, especially the four young students from **Doug Carnes'** Harlem charter school who had never experienced performance in the barbershop style before this amazing adventure!

## Future History of Barbershop

Another example of our call to outreach was the thread of activity during the week initiated by **David Wright** (Ambassadors of Harmony) and a scholarly author on music, **Lynn Abbott** (who was named an Honorary Society Member during the week), who spoke and taught on African-American roots of barbershop harmony...and "why it matters." This was a lynch-pin of David's keynote address to the Board and membership, in which he described his vision

of the "future history of barbershop," which would leverage emerging demographic diversity in active involvement in our art form.

## Seniors Quartets set landmarks

Of course, the Mid-Winter Convention is also the venue for the International Seniors Quartet Contest. MAD's own, **Faces for Radio**, were featured throughout the week as retiring 2014 International Seniors Quartet Champions. And our representatives in the actual contest, perennial MAD favorites (and 2014 medalists!), **Youth Reclamation Project**, gave a solid performance which made us all proud!

The 2015 International Seniors Quartet Champion, the "revived" **Saturday Evening Post**, familiar to many in MAD as longtime coaches at our great Harmony College-East, won the contest going away, with an 81.0, the highest average score of any winner in the contest's long history! What a great performance of New Orleans pieces!

## Shows! Shows! Shows!

The terrific shows with medalist quartets and other ensembles on Friday and Saturday nights were simply outstanding. Performances by **A Mighty Wind**, **Lemon Squeezy**, **Main Street**, **Forefront** and **Musical Island Boys** were top-notch.

But most impressive was the way each medalist quartet, who themselves had been challenged to pursue "outreach" in the composition of their performance set,

FROM TOP: *Legendary Composer/Arranger/Clinician, Kirby Shaw, not-so-legendary Bill Colosimo, and new Society President Don Fuson share a photo op at Midwinter 2015 in the Big Easy. Faces 4 Radio wows the crowd. Youth Reclamation Project delivers poignant performance.*



See *Midwinter Musings*, continued on next page



IPP Bill Colosimo urges East Coast Sound, "Go, Team!" prior to their ninth consecutive appearance at the BHS International Youth Festival in New Orleans in January. The mid-Atlantic chorus is the only chorus to have appeared in EVERY Midwinter youth festival.

## Midwinter Musings

*continued from previous page*

brought young people's ensembles and some non-barbershop groups on stage to perform interesting and fun arrangements with them, including Sweet Adelines International's Rising Star Champions, **Class Ring**.

Society leaders, Festival participants, quartet competitors and *everyone* who visited and enjoyed the amazing educational and performance offerings of the week in New Orleans came away more than satisfied! The chilly temperatures (which were *nothing* compared with the COLD temps at home!) were not a deterrent to fun.

In fact, the hot New Orleans jazz and great spicy foods of the culture kept us warm enough to sing tags 'til the wee hours, re-acquaint with longtime friends, make *new* friends...and introduce a whole new group of "fans" to our great barbershop life!

All in all, a wonderful event this winter was a terrific warm up for our amazing International Convention in Pittsburgh this summer. Don't miss out! It's close by...so take the opportunity to see and experience great barbershop on its grandest stage!



## Faces 4 Radio sing senior swan song

Other than some travel challenges, we had an incredible time at the Mid-Winter Convention in New Orleans this past week. We were very proud to represent the BHS, our chapters (Bryn-Mawr, Harrisburg, Reading, PA., Hamilton, & Princeton, NJ), and the entire Mid-Atlantic District, at a variety of performance opportunities.

Congratulations to the 2015 senior quartet champions, Saturday Evening Post, and to all the quartet and youth performers who graced the stage throughout the week

*Bob, Brad, Mark & Jeff.*

## Singing Valentines!!

Presented by the *Bryn Mawr Mainliners*

Say "I Love You" with a song!  
with a Flower, a Box of Candy and a card!!

\*\$60 basic delivery, \$75 for a 2-4 hour window,  
or \$85 for exact time

order online at [www.mainliners.org](http://www.mainliners.org)

# ORDER YOURS TODAY!

The 2015 Competition Cycle is posted at [www.midatlanticdistrict.com](http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com).



**Walter L. Griffith Jr**  
M-AD VP Events

## 2015 Conventions

*Spring Prelims  
Harrisburg, Pa.  
March 13-14*

*Atlantic Division  
Cherry Hill, N.J.  
May 15-16*

*Southern Division  
Reston, Va.  
May 22-23*

*Northern/Western  
Divisions  
Cherry Hill, N.J.  
June 5-6*

*Fall District  
Ocean City, Md.  
October 23-24*

**2015** marks my 12th year as your District Events Vice President, and what an honor it has been for me to serve in this capacity.

Planning, scheduling, and operating events that bring such harmony and joy to all who attend is wonderful and fulfilling for myself and the entire Events Team. We are blessed to have the following fine people on the District Events Team. "Well done" to each and every one of them for their superb service in 2014.

**Stage Manager Dennis Ritchey**

**Assistant Stage Manager Jamie Patricia and Mike Frances III**

**Stage Workers: Mike Baugley and Jerry Schewble**

**Videographer and Photographer: Mike Kelly**

**Registration Team: Bob Hastings and Roger Heer**

**Events Treasurer: Carl Kauffman**

**Program Coordinator: Jim Botelle**

**Harmony Marketplace: Mary Jo Griffith**

Please take the time to thank each of these people when you see them at your convention. Their hard work, dedication, and time made it possible for all of us to enjoy our conventions in 2014 – and they are already hard at work planning the conventions for 2015.

We also need to recognize the host chapters whose assistance made it possible for all of our conventions to run smoothly and efficiently. "Well done" to the **Bryn Mawr Mainliners** under the fine direction of **Tom Peck** and the **Fairfax, Va. Chapter, Harrisburg, Pa. Chap-**

**ter, Roanoke Valley, Va. Chapter and Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Chapter.**

Looking ahead, 2015 will be another fantastic year of fellowship and fun, as well as some very exciting conventions for our district.

We will be hosting our **first Mixed Quartet Competition on March 13-14, 2015 at the Harrisburg Hilton** as an integral part of our **Prelims weekend.**

The Spring International Preliminary Men's Quartet Convention, our traditional Youth Adjudication, the annual DELA-SUSQUEHUDMAC breakfast, and our district House of Delegates meeting will fill out a weekend of non-stop harmony and fellowship.

And for a special treat, Double Date the reigning Mixed Quartet World Champions from St Louis will be appearing throughout the weekend as our special guests. You don't want to miss this convention!

Our 2015 division conventions will again feature a combined convention and for the first time in memory, we will actually have two conventions two weeks apart at the same location!

The Atlantic Division will be held on May 15-16, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill NJ.

The Southern Division returns to the Memorial Day weekend at the Hyatt Regency in Reston Town Center on May 22-23, 2015.

The Northern and Western Divisions will be combined this year and will be held on June 5-6, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill NJ.

And the Fall District Convention will be held on October 23-24, 2015 at the Ocean City Convention Center in Ocean City MD.

We are excited about our return to Ocean City. Even more exciting is that we will be there again in 2016. So mark your calendars now for October 21-22, 2016! See you "down the ocean, hon!"

The District Harmony Marketplace, under the direction of Mary Jo Griffith the past 15 years, will only be available at the Fall Convention in Ocean City.

**HOST CHAPTERS NEEDED!** There is a huge need this year for Host Chapters to be able to assist our Events Team and I strongly encourage Chapters to participate in this wonderful experience.

It is an opportunity to earn revenue for your chapters, but more importantly you'll meet barbershop families from across your division and district, make lots of new friends, and have a lot of fun.

The Events Team needs Host Chapters for the Fall Convention, and the Northern and Southern Division Conventions. Please email me at [Imabari1@aol.com](mailto:Imabari1@aol.com) and let us know you are interested and I will provide you with more details.

We thank all who participated as competitors as well as all who attended our conventions in 2014. Our district is the best in the Society because of YOUR participation and support. As Events V-P, I thank you most sincerely. **THANK YOU.**

**Saturday, January 24**



**St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church**  
2700 Dolfield Dr.  
Richmond, VA 23235  
7 PM  
Free - Open to the Public

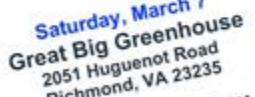
**Sunday, February 15**



**Bethia United Methodist Church**  
10700 Winterpock Rd  
Chesterfield, VA 23832  
4 PM  
Free - Open to the Public

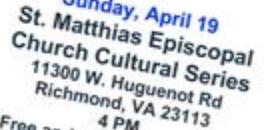
**SOUNDWORKS  
WINTER/SPRING 2015  
PERFORMANCES!**

**Saturday, March 7**



**Great Big Greenhouse**  
2051 Huguenot Road  
Richmond, VA 23235  
Free concert: Noon - 1 PM  
to Celebrate "Spring Fling"

**Sunday, April 19**



**St. Matthias Episcopal Church Cultural Series**  
11300 W. Huguenot Rd  
Richmond, VA 23113  
4 PM  
Free and open to the public

**Sunday, May 3**

**First United Methodist Church of Fox Hill**  
Open Door Concert Series  
1 Salt Pond Road  
Hampton, VA  
(Corner of Fox Hill Rd and Old Buckroe Rd)  
4 PM  
Information: Call (757) 851-6302





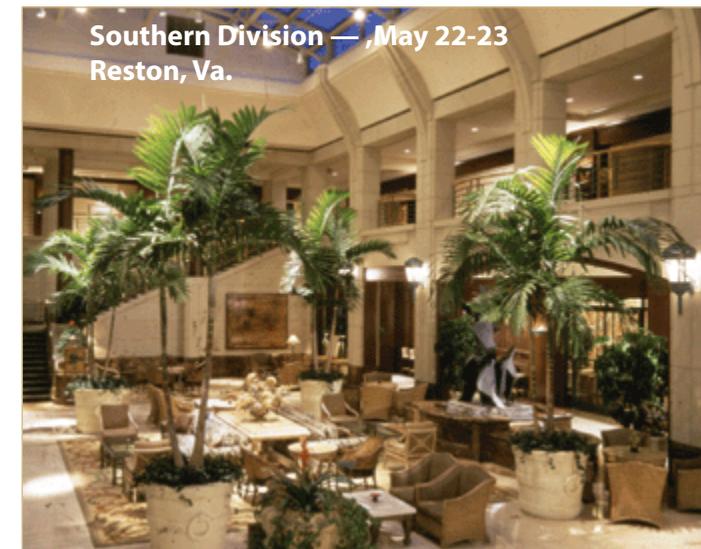
Western Division and Atlantic Division — June 5-6  
Cherry Hill, N.J.

The combined **Northern and Western Division Conventions** will be held in **Cherry Hill, N.J., June 5-6** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

No, that's not a typo!

Yes, this combined convention will be held in the same venue as the Atlantic Division Convention in May.

Just come one month later!



Southern Division — May 22-23  
Reston, Va.

The **Southern Division Convention** will be held in **Reston, Va., May 22-23** at the Hyatt Regency.



Spring Prelims — March 13-15  
Harrisburg, Pa.

The **Atlantic Division Convention** will be held in **Cherry Hill, N.J., May 15-16** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.



Atlantic Division — May 15-16  
Cherry Hill, N.J.

But wait . . .  
There's more!

## Plan Now for 2015 Conventions

The district has finalized the schedule for the Spring convention cycle so mark these dates and locations on your calendars.

**Spring Prelims** will feature the selection of our representatives to the International Quartet Championships in Pittsburg plus our traditional YIH adjudication and **DELASUSQUEHUDMAC** Honor Chapter breakfast.

And for the first time, we will also hold a mixed voice quartet festival. Special guests for this event will be the reigning world champion mixed voice quartet from St. Louis, **Double Date**. Join us in **Harrisburg, Pa. March 13-15** at the Harrisburg Hilton for all the fun.

# New and different!

## Spring convention will include mixed-quartet contest

### 2015 Contest & Judging Update

by Gary Plaag,  
VP Contest and Judging



**Spring Convention  
March 13-14, 2015  
Harrisburg, Pa.**

The MAD Spring Convention, International Quartet Preliminaries, Senior Quartet Championship, Youth Adjudication AND Mixed Harmony Festival will all be held March 13-14, 2015, at the Hilton in Harrisburg, Pa. Online contest entry for the male quartet preliminaries and the MAD senior quartet championship is now open. See below for information regarding the mixed quartet event. Please enter the contest as soon as possible, as this will be a very busy event. We already have 20 total prelims, seniors and mixed voice entries.

### Mixed Harmony Contest Entry deadline February 13, 2015

For those interested in entering the MAD's inaugural mixed harmony contest, scheduled for March 13-14, 2015 in conjunction with our International quartet prelims and District Senior Quartet Championship, entry is open until February 13, 2015. Final determination as to the number of mixed quartets we can accommodate above the initial 10 will be made after February 13, once the number of entries for the men's

international prelims and MAD senior quartet contests are determined. The mixed harmony quartet competition will be a one-round event with each quartet singing two songs. As is the case for the men's prelims event, mixed quartet members may sing in only one mixed quartet. Any "mixed" configuration is acceptable: MFFF, MMFF, or MMMF. Standard BHS contest rules will apply. See the MAD website for all of the contest rules and guidelines.

**NOTE: Mixed quartets who participate in this MAD event will be able to submit their scores to potentially qualify as one of the U.S. representatives to the World Mixed Championship in Germany (BinG!) in the spring of 2016.**

### Spring Division Contests

The Spring Division Contest sessions are now open and available for quartets and choruses to enter through the online process, which is available through the MAD website.

- May 15-16, 2015  
Atlantic Division  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
Entry deadline: April 16
- May 22-23, 2015  
Southern Division  
Reston, VA  
Entry deadline: April 23
- June 5-6, 2015  
Northern/Western Division  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
Entry deadline: May 6

Please enter the contest as early as possible. Your early entry will allow us to manage resources better, including determining whether we need a double or triple panel of judges.

**\*\* Important note: Due to BHS requirements to identify International Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest (CBQC) participants earlier than in the past, and the later schedules of our three division contests, none of our division contests can serve as collegiate qualifying events this year. Collegiate quartets may attempt to qualify for the International CBQC in Pittsburgh at:**

- 1) the upcoming MAD Prelims; or
- 2) another district's spring convention; or
- 3) by video (see update CBQC rules at: <http://barbershop.org/youth-zone/collegiate-quartet-competition.html>.)

**Video qualification is new and any group thinking about that option should read the rules and guidelines carefully.**

**Questions about CBQC qualification and other aspects of the collegiate should be directed to Joe Cerutti, Collegiate Program Development at the BHS, email: [jcerutti@barbershop.org](mailto:jcerutti@barbershop.org).**

**\*\* Important note #2: 2015 chorus district qualification score raised to 67%. At the fall 2014 Board of Directors' meeting and subsequent House of Delegates meeting the automatic qualification score for choruses competing at a division chorus contest and desiring to compete at the fall district chorus contest was raised to 67%.**



**Bethia United Methodist Church  
Presents**

**Sweetheart Concert**  
Sunday, February 15 at 4 PM

featuring an "Encore" performance by



**Soundworks**



**Seven-times Mid-Atlantic Division A Cappella Champions  
Champion of the 2012 Busch Garden A Cappella Sing-off**

**10700 Winterpock Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832**

**Concert is free of charge and open to the public  
For additional information Call Church Office  
(804) 739-3459  
<http://soundworkschorus.org>**

## Collegiate Contest rules change!

### Youth In Harmony Adjudication

Our annual Youth In Harmony adjudication will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015, in Harrisburg, PA, at the M-AD Spring Convention and International Quartet Preliminary Contest. Tentative start time for this event is 11:30 a.m. This is an "open" adjudication, so please enlist your local junior and senior high school and collegiate quartets (male and female).

### 2015 Youth in Harmony Update



by Gary Plaag,  
VP Youth in Harmony

As always, the more groups the merrier. Quartets earning a superior, outstanding, or excellent rating earn full and partial scholarships to attend

the Youth In Harmony camp at Harmony College East, a \$100 stipend (one per school) and a participation plaque for their school music program. Detailed information about the adjudication is available on the M-AD website.

### New Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest (CBQC) Rules

Due to BHS requirements to identify International Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest (CBQC) participants earlier than in the past, and the later schedules of our three division contests, none of our division contests can serve as collegiate qualifying events this year. Collegiate quartets may attempt to qualify for the International CBQC in Pittsburgh at: 1) the upcoming MAD Prelims; or 2) another district's spring convention; or 3) by video (see updated CBQC rules at:

[barbershop.org/youth-zone/collegiate-quartet-competition.html](http://barbershop.org/youth-zone/collegiate-quartet-competition.html).) Video qualification is new and any group thinking about that option should read the rules and guidelines carefully.

The 2015 automatic qualification score for Pittsburgh is 73% (876 on a double panel, 1314 on a triple panel). Questions about CBQC qualification and other aspects of the international collegiate quartet contest should be directed to Joe Cerutti, Collegiate Program Development at the BHS. Email: [jcerutti@barbershop.org](mailto:jcerutti@barbershop.org).

### HCE Youth In Harmony Camp

It's time to start thinking about encouraging a male or female youth quartet or ensemble to attend our annual Youth In Harmony Quartet and Ensemble Camp. Many chapters and individuals find great pride in sponsoring a group to attend, whether the group is from their geographic area or someplace far away from their location.

Held in conjunction with Harmony College East at Salisbury University in Salisbury, Maryland, the fun starts the evening of Thursday, June 18, and runs through Saturday night, June 21. Everyone goes home on Sunday morning.

Please let your local music educators know about the camp and how much fun their students will have and how much they will learn about a cappella singing, in general, and barbershop in particular. Young men and women are welcome!

Watch the Mid-Atlantic District website for registration information. For music educators who are unfamiliar with our YIH program, please direct them to [this link](#) to learn more.

### YIH On Facebook

Our YIH Facebook page is the best place to find out about what's happening in our YIH program. Our Facebook page is "[Mid-Atlantic District Youth Barbershop](#)". Be sure to visit and "like" our page, so you can receive notifications of newly-posted YIH information and resources, as well as upcoming YIH events.

**The First Annual High Point HARMONY EXPLOSION YOUTH FESTIVAL**

**February 7, 2015**  
Group Registration begins at 8 a.m.

**Festival Events 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Gimme Four**  
2013 Collegiate Champs

**Class Ring**  
2014 International Sweet Adelines Rising Star Champs

**Faces4Radio**  
2014 International Senior Champs

**Vernon Township High School**

[www.highpointharmonizers.org](http://www.highpointharmonizers.org)

### Festival Application

#### Personal Info

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

#### School Info

School name \_\_\_\_\_  
Music Educator \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

What part do you think you sing?(circle one)      tenor      lead      baritone      bass

\$15 Registration fee must accompany application  
Send application to: Rich Taylor 424 Lakeside Blvd, Hopatcong, NJ 07843



## Santa, baby, *just one little thing . . .*

Holiday show perfect venue  
for marriage proposal

**S**anta Claus called Ms. Nancy Navarro to the stage during the North Pennsmen's holiday show, saying he had a "special gift" for her. Upon her arrival, singer Scott Burman dropped to one knee and asked her to marry him while the chorus serenaded her with Heart of My Heart.

Through tears, she nodded, YES, as the audience applauded.

This was the first show that Nancy had attended and now she plans to attend many more.

*Note to single ladies: you may want to attend our shows...you never know.*

# THE REST OF THE STORY . . .



Chorus member **Ralph Gillespie** accepted the award on his behalf.

The following Monday at rehearsal, Ralph (right) and chapter president, **Justin Shaffern** (left) presented the award to Ray (center).

\*\*\*\*\*

On page 16 of the Fall 2014 Mid'I Antics in an article about the "Dogless Tags" it

states: *Paws up to these participants and donors: K.J. McAleese Jergins, Art Miller, Jesse Teer (his first tag ever!) and an unknown tagger who sang Lonesome Rose.*

Thanks to Art Miller of the Princeton Garden Statesmen, we have THE REST OF THE STORY: *The unknown barbershopper was a Sweet Adeline, Jeanie (Joaner) Garrett. So Jesse Teer started off in a mixed quartet. Also, Jesse was singing bass and got coached on the tag by some bald guy named, Mike Kelly.*

*He seemed to be very busy but he took a minute to help a new guy.*

*Another reason I LOVE Barbershop*

\*\*\*\*\*



For the past six issues, Mid'I Antics has run a full-page announcement of the Wile Challenge, a donation-matching program sponsored by DVP Financial Development Alan Wile. The results are in and Alan would like to officially thank the 24 individuals who responded to the Challenge. Their generosity and commitment will add at least \$4,500 to the Mid-Atlantic District Endowment Fund.

At the Mid-Atlantic District Convention in October, several directors were presented with awards honoring the number of years they had been directing their chapters.

The last award, the Fred King Award, was given to **Raymond Patsko** for directing the **Wyoming Valley Barbershop Harmony Chorus in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.** for 35 years.

Unfortunately, Ray was not able to make it to Wildwood due to other commitments.

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 over 90 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!

Roxanne (Ye Ed)

P.S. You may have noticed various show flyers and ads in these pages. For 2015 they are running free of charge. Why not send yours to [editor@midatlanticdistrict.com](mailto:editor@midatlanticdistrict.com) ?

## The Fairfax Jubil-Aires Chorus Proudly Presents its 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Show:



**A Western Tale with Western Tunes - Barbershop Style!**  
**Featuring Epic Quartet with the Bella Nova Chorus and Special Guest Quartet: *Throwback***



**Throwback**  
 (6<sup>th</sup> Place 2014 BHS International Finisher)



**Epic & BNC**  
 (Epic: Harmony, Inc. 2012 Int'l Champion)

**Date: April 18, 2015 – two shows, 2PM & 7PM**

**New Location: Lanier Middle School Theater**

3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

**Tickets \$20 - On Website: [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org)**

**Cash/Checks at Door - Questions? Call Gerry: 703-753-4727 or 410-207-8240**

## Atlantic Harmony Brigade Now Taking applications for 2015



The Atlantic Harmony Brigade is now taking applications online for its 2015 Rally to be held August 14-16 in Wilmington, DE.

If you are a serious quartet man looking to spend a weekend singing in quartets with about 119 other incredibly well prepared quartet men, singing 12 great championship arrangements, presenting an awesome BIG SHOW on August 15, and eating well too, then the AHB is for you.

You'll get great learning tracks and music for the weekend, lodging at a great hotel, and meals. Don't be shy.

Check out the AHB at Atlantic Harmony Brigade [www.atlanticharmonybrigade.com](http://www.atlanticharmonybrigade.com) and apply online.

Slots are filling quickly so do it now. Let's ring some chords together.

## Extreme Barbershop Quartet Singing



## NEW and EXCITING!

*WELCOME! New Chorus of the Old Dominion Director John David Maybury, center, is flanked by Music VP Larry Lilly and Board President Tim Peterson. The chorus, formerly directed by Sally Galloway, is the Southern Division Most Improved Chorus for the past two consecutive years.*

## You Just Never Know

Years ago while volunteering with a community group, I struck up a conversation with a guy who liked to sing. I, of course, tried to recruit him to join our chapter and gave him my card.

Seven years later, he showed up at one of our chapter meetings!

"Hey, I retired yesterday and as I was going through my desk I came across your card," he said.

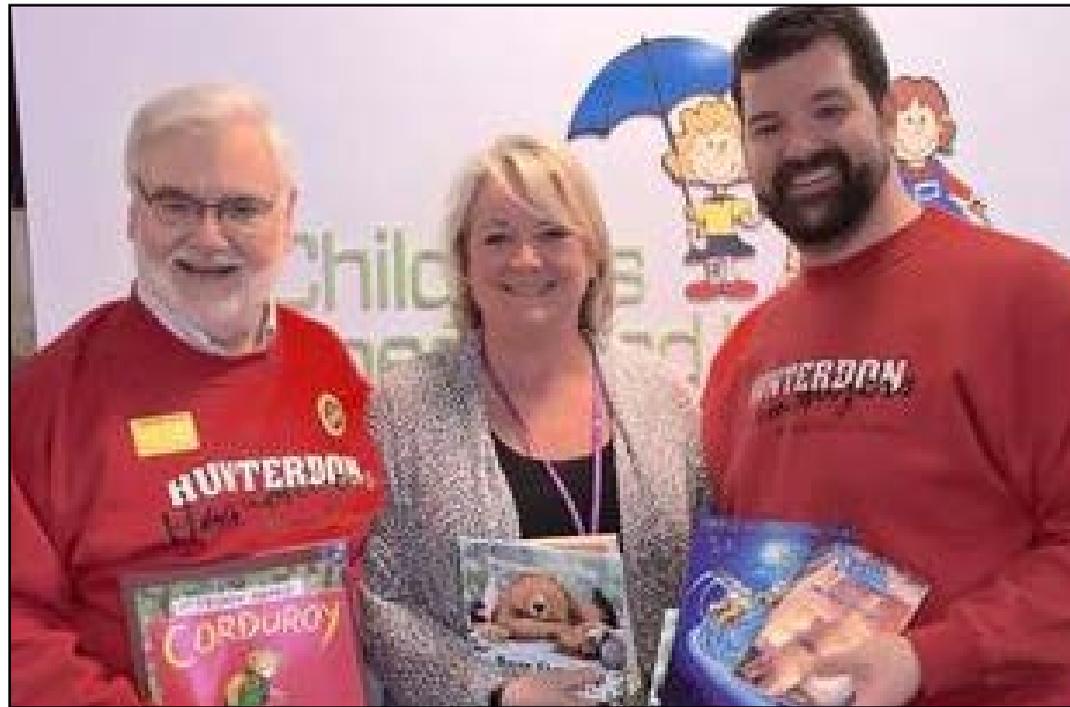
He's since joined the chapter, has a great voice, and already agreed to be our publicity chair.

Of course, a better approach would have been if I had gotten his email address and sent him periodic invitations/reminders, which is what I generally do now. Every fall as we start gearing up for our Christmas/Holiday singing I send emails to potential members whom I've met over the years, because . . .

*you just never know.*

*by Jonathan Brune, President Harbor City Chorus, Baltimore, Md.  
Jonathan.Brune@gmail.com*





In conjunction with their holiday show, the Hunterdon Harmonizers held a "Teddy's Tale Book Drive."

Pictured (from left) are: Mark Bentley, President of the Hunterdon Harmonizers, Christian Hunter, Show Producer and Amy Jester of Children's Specialized Hospitals, Mountainside.

(courtesy photo)

Hunterdon County Democrat, January 8, 2015

## Brothers in Harmony set the bar for charitable singing

BHS CEO Marty Monson has placed a clear emphasis on singing to change lives and the Brothers in Harmony have taken that emphasis to heart. They see their singing as more than simple entertainment. Rather they view their performances as vehicles to help less fortunate people, to contribute to their community, and to give each member a purpose beyond themselves for singing.

They set the stage for 2014 by singing gratis in November, 2013 at the Anti-defamation League's annual fundraiser in Philadelphia. The event raised tens of thousands of dollars to help funding for many of their projects, including anti-bullying programs for school children and a program called, 'No Place for Hate'.

One person in attendance bid \$2,000 for the Brothers (the funds went to the ADL) to sing at the Morris Arboretum as part of their capital improvement campaign in June 2014.

Then in October, 2014, they performed a Saturday concert at the Masonic Hall called, 'Up Close and Personal'. Their performance helped generate \$17,500 for the Dyslexia

Children's Society.

At Saint Andrews church in Cherry Hill, they sang and helped gross over \$20,000 for medical doctors in the Philippines. These funds were used to purchase lap tops for use by doctors in the field and to help rebuild a school that had been destroyed by a typhoon.

As part of their State of N.J. raffle license, the Brothers are required to give a percentage of their proceeds back to the community. In 2014, they used that money to sponsor the **Neshaminy Boys Chorus** (directed by **Gary Warlow**) so they could travel to the Pennsylvania state capital and perform in the Capitol building, and travel to the Western Division Contest in Harrisburg to serve as mic-testers prior to the start of the chorus competition.

Finally, and to benefit the wider world of barbershop, 22 members of the Brothers contributed \$13,000 to Harmony Foundation International to support their work across the United States.

by Larry Melton, President, Brothers in Harmony



## Hunterdon Harmonizers donate children's books to area hospitals

The Hunterdon Harmonizers returned to its giving roots in 2014 and held the "Teddy's Tale Book Drive."

With a direct tie-in to the emotional climax of its holiday theatrical musical show, "Teddy's Tale: An American Christmas Story," the Harmonizer audiences were invited to contribute towards books to be donated to children's hospitals during the holidays in the hospital.

The goal of raising enough funds for 100 books was exceeded by the audience of the afternoon show alone.

The Harmonizers donated more than 250 books, puzzles and DVDs to the kids at the many Children's Specialized Hospitals throughout New Jersey including Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington.

The group increased the total donation by 20 percent by partnering with Barnes and Noble, who supplied the items.

Caroling at the hospital a few days before Christmas brought an opportunity to personally deliver a handful of specially chosen

Teddy Bear themed books to young patients. Christian Hunter said, words can't describe the warm feelings received by the Harmonizers as children lit up when a new book was handed to them. Their parent's relished the opportunity to pass the time with a heart-warming story.

President Mark Bentley said, "The generosity of the Hunterdon Harmonizer audiences over the holiday season was overwhelming. The men's chorus looks forward to embracing another excellent cause in 2015."

The Hunterdon Harmonizers are a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, the world's largest men's singing organization. Men who are interested in learning to sing and making a difference in the lives of others can visit them any Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Flemington United Methodist Church at the corners of Maple and Main Streets.

More information about the group can be found at [njharmonizers.org](http://njharmonizers.org).

*Gentlemen, please show this announcement to your wife, girlfriend, daughter, mother, female co-workers and share the gift of song, barbershop style!*



Photos by  
Liz Hanson and John Huetz



## An A Cappella Holiday!

There was no blizzard this year, which right away put things on a better trajectory than last year's show.

The **Chorus of the Atlantic** and the **Matinee Idles** were ready to rock (around the Christmas Tree) and roll after warming up the two previous Saturdays with Caroling in Red Bank and a mini-show at the Long Branch Library.

So the show was off to a solid start with house quartet, the **Surfboard Santas** singing We Need a Little Christmas.

The chorus returned with some popular holiday songs and were followed by a brief, but colorful, guest appearance by the "Chorus of the Pacific" led by director **Craig "Hula Hattie" Page** (see photo above).

The Hawaiian high jinks were followed up by house quartet **Elves of Note** performing I Wish I Could Be Santa Claus while the risers behind the curtain were cleared in preparation for a fine and more serious performance of both a cappella and accompanied pieces by the **Ocean Township Chamber Choir** under the direction of **Teddy Kernizan** who also provided the piano accompaniment.

The Chorus of the Atlantic's newest member, **Chris Kautz**, did double duty, singing bass in the Ocean Choir as well.

Following MC **Dave Murch's** patented "13 minute intermission," the Matinee Idles, under the direction of **John Huetz**, began the second half with a dramatic entrance, marching onstage and singing Who Can Retell as the curtain opened.

Following the Idles performance, the Surfboard Santas returned to sing Little Saint Nick and the introduction to Let it Snow as the curtain opened on the chorus.

Highlights of the second half included a spirited 12 days of Christmas competition among audience sections followed by an appearance of Santa Claus in Victorian costume.

The final portion of the show featured traditional sacred music directed by **Tom Cameron** and Assistant Director **Kirk Thomson**.

The Ocean Choir then returned to the stage to join the chorus in a final We Wish You A Merry Christmas.

by **Bruce Hanson**, Editor,  
*Atlantic Gazette*, January 2015,  
Red Bank Area (N.J.) Chapter

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1 show.

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by Bob Eckman,  
M-AD Treasurer

# 1st Quarter Chapter Treasurer Checklist

Here's a short list of "To Do's" for the Chapter treasurer, including a little catch-up.

## December

- Read the Treasurers Manual (Don't have one? Get one here: <http://barbershop.org/document-center/category/70-chapter-treasurer-and-expenses.html>)
- Obtain necessary papers from your bank to effect signature changes due to changes in Treasurer and President (whomever 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 2014 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 28.

## March

- Review the chapter's prior year (2013) Form 990-N, 990EZ or 990 and start preparing to file the 2014 990.

The Society website has a lot of new material to help Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers understand the business side of chapter management. If you missed Leadership Academy, there is now online training available for Treasurers. Follow the link above under December, to get to all this material.

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.



## Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association Pioneers (BQPA)

We sing the old songs, from Stephen Foster's time to perhaps the 1960s or so. We love well-known, singable quartet arrangements from the 1940s to the 1980s.

We do some woodshedding, from memory and from lyrics books, although that's not our primary focus.

We do quite a bit of tagging, but there are lots of folks who prefer songs to tags. *The one thing we don't do is chorus singing: we're quartetters!*

Join us for our Spring festival in the Phoenix area April 8-11, 2015, at the Embassy Suites, 4400 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282.

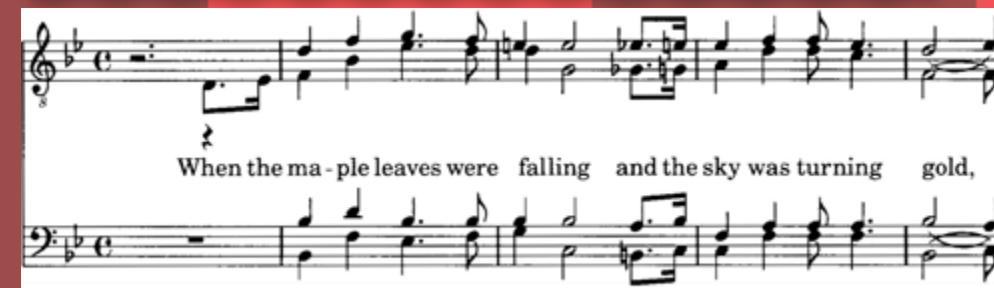
Rooms are \$114, with free breakfast – call ahead to 480-897-7444, and tell 'em you're with the BQPA festival.

A Friday evening pickup contest and a Saturday night quartet parade highlight the weekend of camaraderie and song.

See [www.bqpa.com](http://www.bqpa.com) for the details.



Check out:  
[WWW.BQPA.COM](http://WWW.BQPA.COM)



# Sadder but Wiser

Sandy Marron is the Music Director of the awesome Lion's Gate Chorus in Vancouver, British Columbia – a fantastic group that's placed as high as second in the SAI international contest. A few years ago, I had the pleasure of attending one of her classes for SAI chorus directors. The topic was "The 10 things I wish I had known when I first started directing." I'd like to pass along her thoughts. After all, they may help us avoid making certain of our own mistakes.



by Roger Tarpy,  
VP Music & Performance

1. **I wish I had known....** how much time directing takes. If you want to have a great chorus, then never wing it; be fully prepared at each rehearsal. That takes commitment. Sandy says she devotes as many as 20-30 hours per week on musical development and "people management." And, of course, there's the long-range planning for shows, competition, repertoire, and all the rest.

2. **I wish I had known....**how to build a great music team. Running a chorus isn't a one-man show. Not only do others have valuable talents, but variety is essential for creating interest. Music team members need to have enthusiasm, good people skills, and sensitivity to the musical opportunities. A director needs to get good and critical advice, not just acquiescence from his friends.

3. **I wish I had known....** how to keep myself motivated and inspired. Burnout is common among directors who care deeply about improvement, but become frustrated at making little progress. Happily, in MAD, we have some amazing opportunities for directors

at Harmony College East that will help fight ennui – classes in directing skills, leadership, rehearsal techniques, voice coaching, sound management, courses on presentation and song interpretation, and much more.

4. **I wish I had known....** how to follow my gut instinct. Yes, technique is important (how to balance chords, match vowels, and all the rest) but great directors are notable as much for their musical instinct as for their formal training. If you "feel" how a song should sound, then go with that gut instinct. You'll create more authenticity in the performance than you'll get simply by following the so-called rules of barbershop-ping.

5. **I wish I had known....** how to deal with "challenging" chorus members. The musical decisions during a rehearsal are not subject to a democratic vote. You, as the director, are in charge. However, it's imperative that you relate well to all your singers, even the ones who disagree strenuously with your decisions. So, take everyone's ideas seriously, because they often have merit. But above all, keep focused on the common ground – the music. The squabbles can then be dealt with, gently, in the background.

6. **I wish I had known....** how to choose coaches. Many of us tend to think that we need coaches only to bolster our scores at contest time. But a director needs to have a program of coaching throughout the year so that all aspects – singing skill, performance level, and leadership management – are given a chance to flourish. Such an initiative is based on both a clear and deep knowledge of what the chorus needs, and on what each coach brings to the table.

*Your singers need to experience the well-known trio of effects — 'AAH that sounds wonderful; AHA now I see how to do it; and HAHA isn't this fun.'*

**Hint: Come to HCE.**

7. **I wish I had known....**how to choose music. Just about any song can be arranged in the barbershop style, but that doesn't mean it's suitable for your chorus, or for a public performance. A song needs to fit your chorus' abilities as much as it needs to appeal to the public.

8. **I wish I had known....**how to be a better musical leader. Directing is fantastically complicated and multi-dimensional. Sure, musical expertise is important, but, ironically, other characteristics may play an even bigger role in your success. You need to do lots of things well – teach, inspire, show clarity in your directing, amuse, and keep order. Your singers need to experience the well-known trio of effects -- "AAH that sounds wonderful; AHA now I see how to do it; and HAHA isn't this fun". Hint: Come to HCE.

9. **I wish I had known....** the four guiding principles of directing. (a) Don't take things personally. Criticisms are invariably about the decisions you make, not about you as a decision maker. (b) Don't make assumptions. Not everyone will behave as you would wish or have the same musical interests. (c) Be clear and concise in your instructions and always show respect for your singers. (d) Always be prepared. Your chorus members have lots of options so if you don't make their rehearsal experience as good as it possibly can be, then they have every reason to leave.

10. Finally, Sandy Marron takes her final point from the well-known book "The Art of Possibility" by Benjamin Zander:

**Don't take yourself so darn seriously.**



## NATIONAL ACAPPELLA CONVENTION

The A Cappella Educators Association is thrilled to announce the inaugural

National A Cappella Convention in Memphis, TN April 24-25, 2015.

[acapellaeducators.com/national-convention](http://acapellaeducators.com/national-convention)

Featuring professional concerts, showcase performances, a unique high school competition, group master classes, roundtable discussions, reading sessions, and more, The NACC is the only event of its kind in the country designed to bring the entire a cappella community together.

# working & horizontally to make beautiful music

vertically

There are many musical concepts that must be addressed in order to sing well, including putting lots of air into the sound, good intonation, shaping similar vowels, turning diphthongs together, and performing with good articulation and artistry. There is a seemingly endless list of musical traits upon which we can improve. But how can we effectively manage them? I like to group these traits in two ways: vertical concepts and horizontal concepts.

Vertical musicality includes techniques that go into making each and every chord ring. In other words, how does each chord stack up and what must be done to make it sound wonderful? When making music, however, **vertical considerations are not enough**. You must also unlock the musical line; the ebb and flow of each phrase. What is the song's message, and how do the melody and chords bring the lyrics to life? This concept is horizontal musicality, often called 'linear motion.'

It is important to develop your chorus' ability to sing well both vertically and horizontally at the same time. In this article, I will highlight some of the main techniques that go into vertical and horizontal musicianship and give some examples of what is needed in each technique.

## Vertical concepts:

- **Intonation** – Sing on the “high side of the pitch”, ensuring not only that the 3rd of the chord is appropriately in tune, but also the fifth, which oftentimes sags. Ascending scales need more air and energy to ensure correct intonation, while we often “overshoot” pitch when singing descending scales.

- **Balance** – We should never lose track of the melody, which is mostly (but not always!) in the Lead part. The most important notes in a chord are the root (1) and the fifth (5), so ensure that the 3rd and 7th (when applicable) don't overshadow 1 and 5. Lower notes in the chord need more air and energy and sometimes volume in order to appropriately balance higher notes. The Bass will sing either the root or the fifth of the chord 99 percent of the time, so the Bass output should equal or even slightly overbalance the melody (except when singing in the high Bass range). The 'Chinese' 7th chord is all about the BASS (singing the low 5th) and whichever part is singing the root on top, while the other two parts blend in appropriately. Knowing

which note you are singing in the chord helps you to know your role in the chord.

- **Blend** - All singers should sing with a consistent, unified timbre. Each section should strive to create one unit sound that is in harmony with the other three sections. No individual voices should be sticking out.

- **Matching vowels in all parts** – Go immediately to the target vowel and don't “creep” away from it until it is the appropriate time to move. Practice, practice, and practice consistency in vowel sounds. All singers should turn diphthongs together at the same time.

- **Free and easy singing** – Generate air in the tone from the diaphragm, not from the vocal folds. Keep the soft palate in the back of the mouth lifted at all times. Always strive for beautiful singing ('bel canto') with no tension or 'muscle' in the tone. Singing should seem and sound effortless. Do not confuse 'singing with energy' with 'singing with effort.'

## Horizontal concepts:

- **Put generous amounts of warm air into the tone** – Just like a car needs gasoline to move, singing requires air to sustain itself, so put a lot of air into the tone. Keep the 'wall of air' constantly and consistently moving through each phrase without 'petering out' in the middle or the end of the phrase. Avoid the temptation to 'anticipate' places to breathe (rests), as this leads to 'decay' at the ends of phrases.

- **Diction** – Sing with sufficient diction to ensure your lyrics are clear and understood by all. If you 'explode' your consonants in a 'downward' direction (think hammering a nail into the floor), you will sound brittle and choppy. But if you 'explode' your consonants toward the audience using lots of air, you will sound full and inspiring. (Want a great example of this??? Listen to a recording of the Westminster Chorus!)

- **Avoid singing every syllable the same way** – When we speak we automatically know to 'pulse' the important syllables and deemphasize unimportant syllables. Singing should be the same. Ensure that unimportant syllables do not carry the same weight as important ones.

- **Linear motion** – Imagine a wave as it forms in the ocean (energy builds), approaches the shore (swells and

*It is important to develop your chorus' ability to sing well both vertically and horizontally at the same time.*

releases), and then reaches its climax at its crest. Our singing should follow the same course in every phrase, every song. Ensure that you know where each phrase is headed. What syllables or words are most important? Where is the musical 'crest' of the phrase? And use air, energy, and appropriate body involvement to help you sing each phrase accordingly.

- **Tell a story when you sing** – Every song (melody and lyrics) paints a musical story. It is NEVER enough to merely sing the correct notes and words. What message are you trying to convey to your audience? Ensure that you sing believably and that your face and body language also convey the song appropriately.

- **Choreography** – Every choreography move has three parts which must be present: the preparatory move, the move itself, and the release from the move. Choreography moves must flow into each other in order to seem effortless and convey the story to the audience. The best choreography includes minimal movement with maximum commitment.

By grouping musical concepts into vertical and horizontal categories, you as the Director will be better able to determine where your chorus needs the most work at any given time. If the chords are not ringing like you think they should, practice vertical concepts until you hear improvement. If a song sounds listless, uninteresting, or uninspiring, then horizontal practice is in order. Once your chorus starts singing well vertically and horizontally at the same time, your singers will be well on their way toward the pursuit of musical excellence!

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



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



*immerse yourself  
in a weekend of*

## MAD barbershop

### What you can 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
- Steve Armstrong will direct a Mass Sing from 6:30-7 p.m. followed by the 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 will be a Master Class conducted by an International Quartet, followed by 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!

### Where, When, Cost?

#### FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND

(weekend of the third Sunday in June).

*Why not introduce your family member — son, grandson, dad or grandad — to our great art form?*

**Jun 18-21, 2015**

Tuition is around \$200, which includes a 3-night stay, 6 meals, all courses, two barbershop shows.



To download a printable course catalog or to register, go to [www.midatlanticdistrict.com/hce](http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/hce)



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[www.salisbury.edu/campusmap/](http://www.salisbury.edu/campusmap/)

Questions  
or Comments?

**Ig Jakovac**  
[ijakovac@comcast.net](mailto:ijakovac@comcast.net)

**Roger Tarpy**  
[rtarpy@verizon.net](mailto:rtarpy@verizon.net)

### Who is welcome?

EVERYONE! BHS, SAI, HI members, directors, section leaders, Joe Barbershoppers, quartets, chapter officers, music educators, youths interested in the art form, Society Associates, your entire quartet, and choruses large, small and in-between!

## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT OFFICERS

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570-735-5577; imabari1@aol.com

# Past and future success



by Ig Jakovac,  
MAD President

As I begin my term as District President with excitement and pride, I thank those before me who have laid the groundwork for a District which can be viewed as successful by almost any measure — men like **Dick Powell**, who has been a faithful servant for the last several years. He has now completed his term as Immediate Past President and will no longer sit with us "at the table". He has been a trusted mentor who we will continue to call upon for advice and support as he continues to serve as Society Board Member at Large.

Also completing their terms as Board Members at Large are **Hardman Jones** and **Roger Tarpy**. We are so fortunate to have had the wisdom of these fine men in helping to guide the business of our District.

We welcome three new Board Members in 2015: **Chuck Harner**, **Walter Griffith** and **Steve Skolnick**. Chuck continues to serve as our District Documentation Editor as well as DVP - Chapter Support & Leadership Training while Walter continues to serve as DVP – Events. In addition to Steve's new role as BMAL he will also take on the responsibility of DVP - Marketing & Public Relations

I am confident that these new board members will be active contributors by adding their breadth and depth of experience to our deliberations.

**Dennis Ritchey** who has served as BMAL as well as active member of the Events Team now sits as the District's Executive Vice President, responsible for leadership of the District's Operations Team. I am privileged to serve with Dennis and welcome him to his new role.

Finally, I thank **Bill Colosimo**, now the District's Immediate Past President. Bill has been much more than a mentor – not only has he provided sage advice, he has been completely selfless in his support of my success. His depth of experience and genuine love of everything that is barber-shop along with his encouraging and supportive demeanor make me extremely thankful that he and I will continue to be "joined at the hip" and serving on the District Board.

*I am confident that these new board members will be active contributors by adding their breadth and depth of experience to our deliberations.*

## 2015 Mid-Atlantic District Board of Directors installed



We welcome our District's new Board for 2015, under our new District President, Ig Jakovac, as they meet in Camp Hill, Pa., to chart a leadership course for continued, enhanced service to all our 90+ chapters! Congratulations and thank you to these men for their gifts of talent and dedication!

— **Bill Colosimo**, Immediate Past President

From left: Steve Skolnick, Keith Jones, Walter Griffith, Bob Eckman, Ig Jakovac, Chuck Harner, Dennis Ritchey, Bill Colosimo, John Santora.

Not pictured: Christian Hunter.

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The *Mid'l Antics* is published by the Mid-Atlantic District of the Barbershop Harmony Society. It is for and about barbershoppers in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

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editor@midatlanticdistrict.com

**NEXT DEADLINE:**  
**Apr. 15, 2015**

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

[LIKE US ON FACEBOOK](#)



You may also care to link yourself to the Harmony Time radio show presented by Minnesota barbershopper Tyler Smith over radio station KLBB.

Hear past shows anytime at: <http://tinyurl.com/pvrs9ug>

And, a tip of the hat to BHS historian Grady Kerr, whose radio coverage of barbershop are hard to beat.

Find his show about the Suntones at: <http://tinyurl.com/nn564oh> And that's only for starters. Enjoy!

*from Nassau Mid-Island Chapter Toosday Tunes, January 2015*

## How About That?

Ground controllers got the surprise of their lives ten days before Christmas in 1965 when mission plans took an unexpected turn thanks to a prank by Gemini 6 crew members Wally Schirra Jr. and Thomas Stafford.

After the pair jokingly reported sighting a command module with eight smaller modules in front (with the pilot of the command module wearing a red suit), the twosome then took a moment to send the first sounds of musical instruments to earth ever played from outer space.

The appropriate choice? Jingle Bells, offered by Schirra on an eight-note Little Lady Hohner harmonica with the

accompaniment of five small bells of the kind that might adorn a Christmas wreath.

The instruments (see photo at right) can now be found in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC.

"Wally came up with the idea," recalled Stafford. "He could play the harmonica, and we practiced two or three times before we took off, but of course we didn't tell the guys on the ground. We never considered singing, since I couldn't carry a tune in a bushel basket."

You can hear their performance at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqflEQKnkJU>



# FINE TUNING

## When it comes to finding Barbershop on the radio

For the barbershopper with an insatiable thirst for the sound of 4-part harmony, a number of sites linked to the recorded performances of barbershop choruses and quartets past and present via radio airwaves, are a rich resource.

One top choice is a Leeds station in the U.K. that is the pride of BABS. It is a barbershop music station that plays a higher proportion of British groups than any other, with a file of over 1,200 tracks of choruses and quartets around the globe.

Pick it up at: [http://www.live365.com/stations/babs\\_radio](http://www.live365.com/stations/babs_radio)

