



MAD qualifies **SIX quartets** for the big show in Nashville

Volume 47, Issue 2 • SUMMER 2016
A BULLETIN FOR EVERY BARBERSHOPPER IN THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



STUDENTS of the GAME
BROTHERS IN ARMS
PRATT STREET POWER
to represent MAD in
International Youth
Barbershop Quartet
Contest

DA CAPO takes flight for Nashville



DA CAPO
ROUTE ONE
GIMME 4
FRANK THE DOG
LAST MEN STANDING
UP ALL NIGHT
form MAD quartet
contingent to Nashville

ALEXANDRIA, VA
HELL'S KITCHEN, NY
HERSHEY, PA
HAMILTON SQUARE, NJ
to represent District at
International Chorus
Contest



6—4—3! THAT'S THE COUNTDOWN TO NASHVILLE

MAD will be represented by six quartets, four choruses and three youth quartets.

Break a lip, guys!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To perpetuate the old American institution, the barbershop quartet, and to promote and encourage vocal harmony and good fellowship among its members throughout the Mid-Atlantic District by the formation in every city, town, and hamlet, of local chapters, composed of members interested in the purposes of this corporation, which shall be the same as the purposes of the Society; to hold annual, local, and district contests in quartet and chorus singing, to encourage and promote the education of its members and the public in music appreciation; to initiate, promote, and participate in charitable projects; and to promote public appreciation of barbershop quartet and chorus singing by publication and dissemination thereof.

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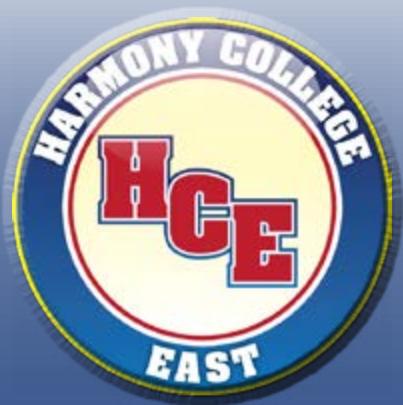
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HARMONY FOUNDATION
BQPA
ATLANTIC HARMONY BRIGADE
WOMEN'S HARMONY BRIGADE
MBHA



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in a weekend of

MAD barbershop



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When: June 16-21, 2016

Register: www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com/HCE

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1. Uses many of the same faculty who teach at Harmony University in Nashville.
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3. Costs only \$220 per person and doesn't involve expensive airfare.
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6. Has great food and fantastic fellowship.
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8. Is an easy drive – 3-4 hours – for most MAD members.
9. Has wonderful shows on Friday and Saturday nights, highlighting all the quartets and choruses, with special performances by several MAD quartets who will represent us at the International contest later in the summer.
10. Offers a chance to support our Harmony in Youth program

COURSES COVER ALL AREAS OF INTEREST

SINGING ACTIVITIES

- Sight Singing
- Woodshedding
- Tag Singing
- HCE Chorus
- Quartetting room with tag materials available
- Mass Sing prior to both the Friday and Saturday Show

THEORY COURSES

- Music Theory (Basic, Intermediate, & Advanced)
- Arranging (Basic & Individual Tutorial)
- Physics of Sound

PRESENTATION AND PERFORMANCE COURSES

- Engage on Stage [new]
- Planning an effective performance [new]
- Song Interpretation: Technique and Artistry
- Coaching Under Glass
- Look inside the music [new]

VOCAL TECHNIQUES CLASSES

- Sound Management: Listening for good sound and working with live ensembles
- Vocal Techniques: Essentials of Good Singing and Ensemble Singing
- Vocal Techniques: 40-min Individual Voice Lesson
- How to be a great ... tenor, lead, bari, or bass

MUSICAL LEADERSHIP COURSES

- Outstanding in Front: Introduction to directing for non-directors
- Rehearsal Techniques for Choruses Directors
- Directing (Basic, Advanced, & Individual Tutorial)
- Director Under Glass
- Director's Roundtable
- Leadership and the Rehearsal
- How to do chorus voice coaching

COURSES FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN GOOD CHORUS LEADERSHIP

- So...you be the judge
- Barber Shop to Barbershop: A History of our Hobby
- Chapter Meetings: How to have fun and be productive
- Likes, tweets, and homepages: Marketing your chorus or quartet
- Cathedral Building – The Secret to Winning With Young Singers [new]
- Creating a sustained membership program for your chorus
- Revitalizing your chorus [new]
- Ready, Set, Sing -- A Program for Increasing Chorus Membership [new]

MAD qualifies **six quartets** for the big show in Nashville

Sympatico takes District Seniors Quartet crown

Sum of Each is Mixed Quartet Champion

Nine ensembles participate in District Youth in Harmony adjudication

It was better than a three-ring circus. With competitors in four different contests all crossing the stage on the same evening, all kinds of excitement reigned at the 2016 MAD Spring Convention. The Friday night event included the International Quartet qualifying contest, the District Seniors Quartet championship competition, the International Youth Quartet qualifier, and the second annual District-sponsored Mixed Quartet contest.

When the dust settled, **Sympatico** (*Phil Merkel, John Rector, Bob Eamigh, Cliff Shoemaker*) was declared the **2016 Seniors Quartet champion**; **Sum of Each** (*Melissa Hunnefeld, Jennifer Seymour, Don McElroy, Paul Stober*) won the **Mixed Quartet championship**, with **Just 4 Fun** (*Lisa Tompkins, Kevin McKenzie, Roger Anderson, Wendy Anderson*) and **Lady and the Tramps**



DA CAPO



ROUTE 1



GIMME FOUR

See SPRING CONVENTION, continued on next page



FRANK THE DOG



LAST MEN STANDING



UP ALL NIGHT
qualified out of district

SPRING CONVENTION

Continued from previous page

(*Brett Thomas, Maili Shelly, Dave Gale, Pat Shelly*) taking second- and third-place medals, respectively; **Students of the Game** (*Paul Franek, Joe Servidio Jr., Ethan Wolfe, Brian Mastrull*) and **Brothers in Arms** (*Kevin Juliana, Jamie Isley, Jordan Dubois, Mike Duca*) qualified for the **International Youth Quartet Contest** in Nashville this summer; and 10 mens quartets advanced to the finals round Saturday.

The next morning saw an exciting youth festival featuring eight participating quartets from two New Jersey high schools and a chorus composed of the Phillipsburg High School contingent. In this event, ensembles sing for ratings — Good, Excellent, Outstanding, Superior — rather than numerical scores or competitive rankings. All together, **Unfourgettable, Fermata Nowhere, Fuego Four, Ring of Fire, FAVE-4-ETTES, Take Note, Pitch Please, Chord of the Rings, and Pieces of Eight** put on quite a show.

Every year the Barbershop Harmony Society assigns our CEO and members of the Society Board to represent the Society at district spring and fall conventions. This year MAD was honored to have **CEO Marty Monson** as our official representative at the MAD Prelims held in Reading, Pa. We thought our readers would enjoy hearing his perspective on how we do things here in MAD.

“MAD certainly knows how to put on a great convention. Their Harmony Marketplace was located at the

rear of the auditorium making it very convenient to shop. All activities were under one roof, making it an intimate setting, especially for the performers and the audience. And the various meetings and meals were all well planned and well run, leading to an efficient and productive convention.”

“Their Events Team is to be congratulated for their ability to take a low ceiling ballroom and turn it into an a cappella singing venue. Very little amplification was needed as a result of their good planning.”

“MAD has a well-deserved reputation for innovation. Their **CIO Mike Kelly** developed a “cloud-based” ready light system to replace a decades old manual system used in managing the flow of contestants through a contest. It was used for the first time during Prelims and functioned perfectly. Their Chapter Resource Management (CRM) system is patterned after successful industry applications and is helping them build a data base of information on every chapter in the district. This information helps the district focus assistance that



Marty Monson lunched with Doug Brown at Reading's iconic Peanut Bar and came away with this t-shirt to mark the occasion.

*See **SPRING CONVENTION**, continued on next page*

SPRING CONVENTION

Continued from previous page

specific chapters actually want.”

“I really enjoyed the Friday night “leaders” reception hosted by **District President Ig Jakovac** and his wife **Anne Bureau**. Everyone was asked to bring a dish consistent with a “theme” and this year it was TexMex. Aside from wonderful food, this event provided an excellent opportunity to mingle and socialize with district leaders in a warm, family environment.”

Saturday night, culminated with the announcement that five District quartets — **Da Capo** (Ryan Griffith, Anthony Colosimo, Andrew Havens, Joe Sawyer), **Route 1** (Brian Schreiner, Scott Disney, Thomas Moyer, Brandon Brooks), **Gimme Four** (Paul Franek, Dave Ammirata, Will Downey, Joe Servidio Jr.), **Frank the Dog** (Tim Knapp, Tom Halley, Steve Kirsch, Brian Lindvall), and **Last Men Standing** (TJ Barranger, Drew Feyrer, Mike Kelly, Ed Bell) had qualified and would be singing in the International Quartet Contest July 3-10 in Nashville.

— By Dick and Roxanne Powell

SUM OF EACH



JUST 4 FUN



LADY AND THE TRAMPS



STUDENTS OF THE GAME



BROTHERS IN ARMS

Quartets

(in order of appearance)



4 JOES mic tester



SYMPATICO



STUDENTS OF THE GAME



JUST FOR FUN



OASIS



DISTINCTION

Check out the many, many more quartet photos at
<http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at
<http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>



THE FOURCE

Quartets

(in order of appearance)



HANDSOME REWARD



SUM OF EACH



FRANK THE DOG



WAREHOUSE FLATS



FORECAST



NEW KID IN TOWN



FOR THE TIMES

Check out the many, many more quartet photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

Quartets

(in order of appearance)



PICK UP STIX



DA CAPO



UNACCOUNTED FOUR



BROTHERS IN ARMS



LAST MEN STANDING



CABIN FEVER



LADY AND THE TRAMPS



ROUTE 1



GIMME FOUR



BARBERSHOP POLYGAMISTS — Sympatico Quartet: Phil Merkel, John Rector, Bob Eamigh, and Cliff Shoemaker — proudly display the District Senior Quartet Champion trophy they won at the Mid-Atlantic District Spring Prelims April 15 in Reading, Pa.

Sympatico earns District Senior Quartet top honors

After being together only twelve weeks and two days, SYMPATICO QUARTET — the four handsome men pictured in the above photo — competed and was crowned District Senior Champs at the Mid-Atlantic District Spring Prelims April 15, in Reading, Pa. This was the first time Bob participated in a quartet competition. Collectively they exceed the “senior” requirement by 45 years.

The quartet members represent the Fairfax, Fredericksburg, Loudoun and Mount Vernon chapters in the Mid-Atlantic District as well as the Terre Haute chapter in the Cardinal District. John, Phil and Cliff are also members in four other quartets: **Shameless, Retro, Ain’t Misbehavin’** and **Sound Reunion**. That would make all four members “barbershop polygamists.”

Simply defined, Sympatico means “agreeable, likeable, congenial and on the same wave length”. We sincerely trust that this is obvious in our music. Cliff, the baritone, continually reminds each of us that, “it’s all about having fun,” and FUN we have!

Phil, the tenor, adds, “In my new role as the District Advocate for Senior Quartets, we hope that this achievement will serve as inspiration for many other seniors to become more involved in competitive quartet singing.”

— By Phil Merkel, SQDA

2016 Nashville International Harmony Platoon



Experience the JOY and EXCITEMENT of quartet singing & friendly COMPETITION.

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- Tue, July 5th at 3:00pm
- Thur, July 7th at 4:30pm (Immediately after the Quartet Semifinals)
- Thur, July 7th at 7:30pm
- Sat, July 9th at 3:00pm (Immediately after the World Harmony Jamboree)



You **MUST** learn all four (4) of these “judge verified” **MODERATE DIFFICULTY** songs, and learn them **COLD**, to compete in the contests. NOTE: These are **NOT “EASY.”** You will have to WORK to BE PREPARED to sing all four. Register now for access to tracks and charts for:

Title	Arranger	Contestable	Tracks
<i>Chances Are</i>	Greg Volk	Possibly	Jordan.litz.com
<i>I’m Into Something Good</i>	John Fortino	Possibly	Jordan.litz.com
<i>L-O-V-E</i>	Larry Triplett	Yes!	Jordan.litz.com
<i>I’ve Got the World on a String</i>	Adam Reimnitz	Yes!!	Timtracks.com

- **BONUS SONG!** This song is difficult, and **OPTIONAL** to learn for the contests.

<i>You Took Advantage of Me</i>	Aaron Dale	Yes!!!	Timtracks.com
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Information: Don Salz don@rosye.com – email recommended
Phone – (916) 813-2959 NOTE: phone replies may be delayed due to travel and senility.

Email this information to Register (form not needed):	Name:	Chapter:
	EMAIL:	Part(s):
	Mobile Phone:	www.harmonyplatoon.org



Tag Along inspires at SingStrong

As members of the Loudon County and Frederick chapters set up chairs in the choir room at South Lakes High School in Reston, Va., April 3 — the site of SingStrong, a one-of-a-kind weekend-long A Cappella music festival that has been held annually since 2008 — they had no idea how inspired the interactive one-hour tag-singing session that followed would be.

By 11 a.m., the 50+ seats that had been prepared were filled, and more kids were filing in. The crowd was very young on the whole, but quite a few were in their prime, too. Phil Rhoderick, a member of both the Catoctones and the Old Dominion Chorus, and an amazing master in the arts of tag singing (and puns!), kicked off the session.

Each member of the audience was assigned one of the four parts. After warm-up exercises, Phil coached each section to sing their part for the tag It's Only Words. The SingStrong participants were naturally quick to catch on. In a short time, the audience was singing together in nearly perfect harmony.

Next, it was time to sing strong in a smaller group. Phil solicited volunteers from the audience to sing each of the parts. Here, John David Maybury, director of both the Old Dominion Chorus and Catoctones and the High School Coordinator for SingStrong, literally jumped IN (as well as ON tables!) to coax the body movements that help to enhance sounds and create the powerful resonance needed to create the ringing overtones—those that got many of us hooked in the first place and keep us coming back for more.

By the time we had come to sing To Reach the Unreachable Star, the tag team of Phil and John David had energized and pumped up the entire audience.

Watching the quartets perform was quite a thrill in

itself. In one instance, the volunteers had first sung standing slightly far apart, with each participant facing the audience directly. Then, after a little coaching from the dynamic duo to stand closer together in a semi-circle, they repeated the tag and nailed the overtones! The smiles that lit up their faces, as well as the joyous cheers that arose from the audience, were truly unforgettable!

But there was one more highlight to come. Shortly after the session had ended, I walked out of the room and headed toward the entrance back along the main hall. Then, I heard singing break out behind me from among a group of singers who had spontaneously come together.

I looked back, and saw a young man holding up an iPhone with a tag app that had just been mentioned by John David, as if holding up a torch toward the sky. The tag, of course, was To Reach the Unreachable Star. And they nailed it.

They reached the star!

— By Tatsuya Oyama,
member Loudon County Chapter Old Dominion Chorus



PHOTO CREDIT—Tom Landon

Tunkhannock Chapter pledges \$2,400 to soup kitchen

The Tunkhannock, Pa. Chapter has, for some time, taken on the Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen, as an altruistic project. A number of our members volunteer, to prepare and serve meals for the 60–70 guests each day. This soup kitchen has been in operation for seven years. This entirely volunteer-led and -staffed organization does not receive any government funds.

Due to the increasing number of needy people attending meals, the 1,000 sq ft. facility was no longer adequate. Last year a committee of community leaders, including barbershoppers from the chapter, was formed to solicit \$580,000 to purchase a larger building.

With the help of a generous community, including the Tunkhannock Chapter, that goal was reached. The soup kitchen provided its first meal in the new building on Sept. 8.

On Saturday, Sept. 29, Seven Loaves held an open house at the new facility for volunteers, donors of

funds, materials and labor. The Endless Mountains Chorus performed for the gala event.

The kitchen's slogan, "Until the poor are no longer with us," matches the chapter's intent is to provide support for the kitchens' ongoing needs.

— By Raleigh Bloch, Endless Mountains Chorus, Tunkhannock Chapter



Legislator honors Long Island Chapter and B.H.S. anniversary

Sarah Anker, Suffolk County Legislator, and long-time friend of Barbershop singing in Brookhaven, Long Island (NY), introduced the quartets: Antiquity and Harmonic Tides from the Harbormen Chorus (North Brookhaven Chapter) at their concert for the Rose Caracappa Brookhaven Senior Center in Mt. Sinai and honored the Society on its 78th anniversary.

Legislator Anker commented, "What a treat it was to attend the recent Barbershop Harmony Society's performance at Mt. Sinai's Senior Center. I commend the volunteers for their dedication in preserving this timeless form of music."

Recognition like this from county and town officials goes a long way in promoting the barbershop craft and helps to foster good community relations. Thank you, Sarah.

Suffolk County (L.I., NY) Legislator Sarah Anker poses with the combined quartets, Antiquity and Harmonic Tides representing the Harbormen Chorus, North Brookhaven Chapter at a Society anniversary concert April 6.



CEO Marty Monson visits White Rose Chorus

In a recent *Harmonizer*, the "what's on Marty's Day Planner" article showed a planned visit to the York, Pa. chapter.

Marty Monson stopped in to visit the White Rose Chorus and sat in with the tenor section with a guest book in hand.

The shortened rehearsal went much as any rehearsal might go. Marty then spoke to the chapter with words of wisdom and encouragement

and stayed to talk with the guys, pose for some pictures and sing tags and polecats.

The guys were thrilled to have the CEO choose to visit the chapter and loved the fact that he was a genuine down-to-earth barbershopper.

— Dave Kelly, President, White Rose Chorus

Two Pennsylvania choruses join forces to raise funds for county arts council



The **Bucksmont Squires** of Lower Bucks County and the **Bucks County Country Gentlemen** of Central Bucks County sang on the street corners of Bristol, Pa. for three hours the morning of Saturday, May 14, to raise funds for the Arts and Culture Council of Bucks County.

In preparation, the two choruses met on the preceding Tuesday night to rehearse common songs from their repertoires.

What a sound!

What an appreciative organization!

What an appreciative audience!

What great fun singing together!

It's great to be a Barbershopper . . . especially in Bucks County!

-- Bob Gualtieri, V.P. Marketing, Bucks County Country Gentlemen

Sussex, NJ Youth Festival Rocks!



The second annual High Point Harmony Explosion Youth Festival concluded on Saturday, April 23, at the High Point Regional High School, Sussex, New Jersey.

The Festival, initiated by the late **Rich Taylor**, was carried out in his memory this year, as he passed away unexpectedly Dec. 27.

Preparations for the Festival were already underway at Rich's passing, but the details had to be picked up by the "troika" of **Fred Spages**, President of the Sussex County, New Jersey, High Point Harmonizers, Director **June Noble**; and Assistant Producer Tom Noble.

Teaching quartets included **Gimme Four**, 2015 International 19th place semi-finalists, and **Foreign Exchange**, 2011 Harmony, Inc. Queens. The Senior Clinician was **Evan Boegehold**, from Columbus, Ohio, who is a classical

composer and conductor as well as a barbershop chorus director and a candidate BHS Music judge.

The date had been cleared with all of the Sussex County music educators after the 2015 school year. A total of 44 participants attended, from four Sussex County high schools as well as the young women's barbershop chorus from Phillipsburg High, a bit further south in New Jersey.

Foreign Exchange performed at three of the Sussex County High Schools on Friday, April 22, to encourage participation, and they were received with enthusiastic applause from the music students for whom they sang.

The youth participants in the Festival worked through all-day rehearsals on a young women's song (You Make Me Smile, arranged by Steve Tramack), a young men's song (What a Wonderful World, as sung by O C Times), and a

combined chorus song (In Harmony, by Clay Hine). Lunch, dinner, and snacks were provided, and the young people received festival tee-shirts, in which they performed that evening for an enthusiastic audience of parents, friends and local barbershoppers.

Grants from the Mid-Atlantic District and the BHS, from Harmony, Incorporated and from Harmony in Motion (the Sussex County, NJ, based Harmony, Inc. chorus) were crucial in providing funds for the Festival.

The event was clearly successful, making it obvious to the young participants that singing our style of four-part vocal music is not only accessible, but more importantly, is FUN!

-- By Tom Noble

Super romantic marriage proposal

Posted: Thursday, February 11, 2016 10:30 pm

By COLLEEN CURRAN Richmond Times-Dispatch

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story has been slightly edited from the original to fit **Mid'l Antics'** specifications.

Annie Robinson, 55, and Paul Laurenz, 53, of Chesterfield have always shared a love of music. They met in their parish choir four years ago. And Paul is a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society **James River Chapter's, Soundworks chorus.**

So it seems only fitting that Paul decided to propose to Annie in song.

But what makes this story out of the ordinary is that he did it in front of 200 people.

Over the holidays at a New Year's Eve concert in Williamsburg, Paul was performing his solo of "It's Alright" as recorded by Huey Lewis and The News. The second verse goes, "Someday I'll find me a woman, who will love me and treat me real nice, where my road's gotta go, my love she will know, from morning, noon and in the night, and she's gotta say..."

And then there's a pause.

Paul paused. Then he stopped singing.

"I thought that maybe he had forgotten the lyrics," Annie said.

Instead of singing, Paul asked, "Well, what would she say?" and marched into the audience to propose.

"I felt all the blood rush from my face," Annie said. "And I heard myself say, 'Oh my God!'"

When he got to her, he knelt down and said, "Annie, you have put the life back into my life. I want to spend the rest of my life with you. Will you marry me?"

Annie shouted a vehement, "YES!" and hugged him. Which according to some of their friends, looked more like a tackle.

A friend [videotaped the entire proposal](#), and when Paul watched it again, he said, "I see now that I stopped time for Annie. The song stopped, time stopped, and we were in a frozen moment that will live forever.

"And for Annie, a woman who lights up any room that she enters, a woman who only has two settings — on and sleeping — I felt like I was able to match the energy and love that she brings to my life."

They plan to get married sometime next year.

Watch the proposal [here](#).



"Well what would she say?" Annie Robinson said, "Yes!"

I Am Harvey Milk

Alexandria performs in oratorio with Kristin Chenoweth



Director Joe Cerutti exchanges congratulatory embrace with actress Kristin Chenoweth.

The Alexandria Harmonizers broke new ground as a barbershop chorus when they presented the choral oratorio “I Am Harvey Milk” at the Strathmore Center in Bethesda Saturday, April 23, and Sunday, April 24.

They appeared with Kristin Chenoweth (known for her Tony-nominated role as the original Glinda The Good Witch in “Wicked”) and Andrew Lippa (who wrote the words and music for the oratorio and the Tony-nominated music and lyrics for “The Addams Family”). The chorus shared the stage with the National Philharmonic Orchestra.

Joe Cerutti summed up the experience for the whole chapter right after the performances, “We are so grateful to have been offered and to have accepted the invitation to participate in such a life-changing experience, and to have a chorus bold enough to commit to delivering such an important and impactful message. Rubbing elbows with artistic celebrities is probably what attracted us to accept this performance in the beginning, but the powerful message delivered through equally powerful music quickly surpassed its star power and became our purpose for the last few months. Music changes lives, and we strive to create a better world through singing every day, but today we didn’t have to go too far to find lives that have been changed by this particular experience.”

The concert actually included two oratorio pieces – first was I Am Anne Hutchinson also written by Lippa. This was the world-premier production of Anne Hutchinson. Considered one of the earliest American feminists (1591-1643), Anne Hutchinson was a spiritual leader in colonial Massachusetts who challenged male authority – and indirectly, acceptable gender roles – by preaching to both women and men and by questioning Puritan teachings about salvation.

Harvey Milk was a visionary civil rights leader who became one of the first openly gay elected officials in the U.S. when he won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. His career was cut short when he was assassinated nearly a year after taking office.

Not what we ordinarily find barbershoppers singing about. Said long-time Harmonizer Ken Rub, “Performing ‘I Am Harvey Milk’ with the Harmonizers showed the continued evolution

of our chorus, which evolved not only musically because of this challenge, but strengthened the performing and social justice aspects of our chorus as well. I joined the chorus almost 25 years ago – none of us were ‘out’ back then. Fast forward to 2016, and gay

men and straight men alike sang in solidarity to ‘Come Out!’ in the emotional climax of this incredible oratorio. I am so proud to sing with the Alexandria Harmonizers, and thankful that Master Director Cerutti had the courage to tackle this important piece of art.”

For over five months, the Harmonizers worked hard to prepare. Director Joe Cerutti and the rest of the music team worked hard, too, to help the singers be ready to perform the oratorio with associate director Tony Colosimo helping teach the music and preparing the learning materials; Tom Jackson providing rehearsal piano accompaniment; and Carlos Barillo coaching choreography. The arrangements were classical, not barbershop, with about 30 men singing tenor I, tenor II, bari and bass parts. The oratorio included twelve works with the chorus singing in nine.

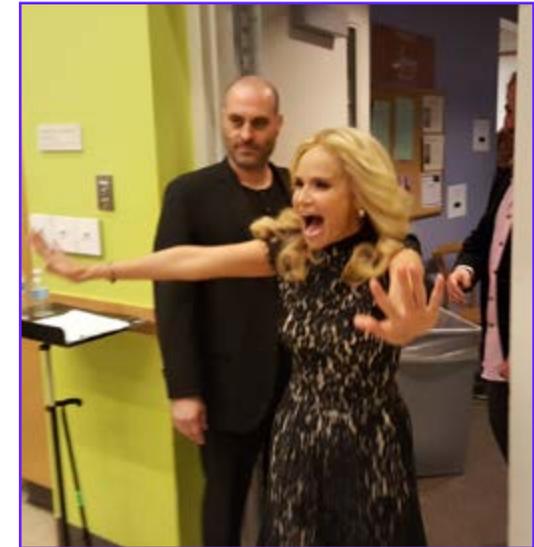
“Even though the Harmonizers have had numerous opportunities to sing in many venues,” said Harmonizer Rick Wagner, “this opportunity to sing in the oratorio ‘I Am Harvey Milk’ was truly exciting and moving. When we undertook this, we knew it would be both musically and emotionally challenging, but we had no idea how rewarding the experience would be. But the truly remarkable thing was the message in the music, and how the music moved people and changed lives. The true message of the oratorios was one of tolerance, kindness, love, and understanding among all people. There were few dry eyes in the house – in the audience or on the stage. The music did indeed touch people and change lives. I am proud to have had the opportunity to spread such a message through song on behalf of our daughter, and I am proud to be a Harmonizer.”

The faith and support from the folks at Stathmore in taking on the project and inviting the chapter to be the chorus was significant, too. Executive producer Rolando Sanz met with the Harmonizers in the weeks leading up to the performance; and musical director and conductor Joel Fram came from NYC as did choreographer Larry Keigwin.

In the months leading up to the performance, the Harmonizers had extra rehearsals and used half of their regular meeting night time to work on this oratorio. They were joined by a dozen men who were not members but who auditioned to sing the Strathmore performance.

Dan Kaufman was one of the men who auditioned to sing with the chapter. “My experience singing ‘I Am Harvey Milk’ with the Harmonizers was fantastic. I’ve sung with the Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington for over 25 years, and so this type of choral singing was familiar and comfortable. But this music and these lyrics, and singing an unapologetically gay work with a non-gay-identified group, was initially pretty challenging for me. I entered the process with my guard up, wondering if the group could or would bring authenticity to this deeply personal oratorio.

“I quickly realized my worries were unfounded, as the Harmonizers



Tony Award winning actress Kristin Chenoweth is excited to be rehearsing with the Alexandria Harmonizers.

photo credit — Dixie Kennett

embraced even the toughest movements, both musically and emotionally. I wasn’t expecting to have my own prejudices challenged, but I did. From the leadership on down, I could not have asked for a better experience. I’m so grateful to have been given the opportunity to join the group for this groundbreaking work.”

— By Jack Pitzer

EDITOR’S NOTE: Excerpts from the work will be featured during a HU class at the Nashville Convention for those who would like to learn more about the experience and how other ensembles might look for collaboration opportunities. While the subject matter is mature and contains strong language and adult themes, the purpose in presenting this discussion is to explore the possibilities when barbershop ensembles such as the Alexandria Harmonizers break into the professional music world and showcase our ability to perform at the pinnacle with the very best. Viewer discretion is advised; attendance by minors is not recommended.

Barbershop and... difficult, mature themes? Aren’t we supposed to avoid that?

To be clear, this is not really a “barbershop” performance. “I Am Anne Hutchinson/I Am Harvey Milk” is a contemporary oratorio which calls for a male chorus. The programming of this discussion is not intended as a debate or endorsement of the suitability of this material to a barbershop stage or audience. Themes of social justice, inclusion and collaboration are common throughout contemporary choral music, and we will continue to encounter it in settings outside the barbershop stage.

Why you should develop an assistant director

A good director seeks to maximize rehearsal efficiency in order to pack a lot of learning into a limited amount of time. As such, important learning tools, craft, and song/contest preparation get pushed to the top of each rehearsal, while other activities get crowded out. Unfortunately, too many directors allocate little to no time for their assistant directors to work with the chorus, or direct on a show, for that matter.



by Glenn Phillips, VP Chorus Director Development

In my article this quarter I will explore a number of reasons why it is in the director's and the chorus' best interest to spend time regularly developing the assistant director. In addition, I will list a number of things that assistant directors can do in order to become an indispensable part of the Music Team and the weekly Chapter meeting.

Why should a director encourage an assistant's development?

- **Because it is the right thing to do** – Why have an assistant in the first place if that person has no real role on the Music Team? The position of assistant director is very important, so each director should help the assistant become competent and capable in front of the chorus.
- **So that the director can learn to be a better conductor** – When a director teaches conducting techniques, (s)he becomes better aware of how (s)he demonstrates those techniques. Teaching the art of conducting oftentimes allows the director better insight into his/her own conducting style and highlights necessary areas of personal improvement.
- **So that the director can perceive what the chorus is actually doing** – Believe it or not, directors often have a false sense of how their choruses are singing and performing, even though the directors are paying careful attention. The two primary reasons for this are that: a) the director is thinking about so many things at once that it is hard to concentrate sufficiently on one musical aspect; and b) directors often "hear what they want to hear". Example: the director works a passage 5 or 6 times in a row and then expects that the chorus improved that section. So the director will "hear" improvement even if improvement is not evident! When the assistant director is in front of the group,

however, the director can take time out to focus on one thing at a time, giving a much truer picture of what the chorus is producing.

- **So that the chorus will be in good hands in the director's absence** – Is your assistant director ready and willing to conduct a song on a show? Several songs? Your chorus will be in an enviable position when your assistant director is competent enough to direct an entire show solo! I've known a lot of Chapters over the years that were offered paid performances but turned them down because "our director wasn't available." How does this help your Chapter?
- **Your singers will learn different things from watching another director and will therefore gain musical experience** – A good director insists on the chorus watching his/her hands shape the tone, but singers learn to adapt better by following multiple directors.
- **Your singers will respect you more** – Singers in general and barbershoppers specifically are much happier at Chapter meetings when the same person isn't out in front all the time. Every time your assistant director gets out front, your singers will appreciate the mentoring that you are providing.

What the assistant director should do to become indispensable:

- Learn your Chapter repertoire inside and out and get each song "into your hands" so that you can step in at any moment.
- Ask your director for conducting feedback, then practice correcting any areas of concern that your director points out to you.
- Ask your director which musical items should be prioritized at your Chapter's current singing and performance level, then ensure that you work in accordance with that prioritization scheme when you step out front.
- Ensure that you do not make wholesale changes in tempo or interpretation when out in front. It is not your place to alter your director's musical plan. That being said, you should feel confident to discuss potential changes with your director if you have a different vision for a given song.
- Seek out and pursue directing workshops in order to improve your conducting skills. Our District offers multiple forms of training for front-line and assistant directors alike, including the Chorus Director Workshop Intensive (CDWI), the Outstanding in Front Program, and the director's track of instruction at Harmony College East (June 2016--not too late to enroll!).

An assistant director wants to grow as a conductor and help the director and Chapter achieve their musical goals.

- Gently press your director, if necessary, to allow you to conduct at least one or two songs on every show. (Caution: you must use tact!) If you meet resistance, approach your Chapter VP of Music and Performance to seek support in this endeavor.
- Ask your director if you can participate in the process of teaching a new song to the chorus. Help your director come up with a teaching plan for the song and then work hard to meet your chorus' learning goals.
- Seek out a directing mentor and regularly ask for assistance or shared expertise. Our Division and District contests and conventions are great places to meet directors and confer with them.
- Attend our Division and District contests and conventions often — and the International contest, too, if possible — and watch the directors closely and learn from them. You will see a LOT of great conducting techniques on stage! That being said, watch with a critical eye, and when you note something that is not working, try to determine what you could do to correct the situation.
- Keep an open mind and heart when receiving conducting feedback from your director or mentor. Feedback is instructive in nature and is not meant to discourage. So rather than internalize it, use your feedback to highlight areas where you can improve, then go home and practice, practice, practice! ☺

A director creates a musical vision and then establishes short-, medium-, and long-range plans to successfully achieve this vision. An assistant director wants to grow as a conductor and help the director and Chapter achieve their musical goals.

By enabling and encouraging the assistant director to flourish, the director strengthens the Music Team and enhances morale in the Chapter. It is truly a win-win situation for both the director and the Chapter, and I highly recommend this course of action to all directors in our District.

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

Small but mighty

Central Division numbers down but quality up

The choruses and quartets of the newly formed Central Division came together in Harrisburg, Pa for their inaugural Division Convention May 13-14.

Bad-News – Good-News

With the newly enlarged Division comprising 30 choruses, District leadership braced for a large convention, but attendance was spotty at best. Only ten choruses plus one chorus competing out of division signed up.

However, the quartet contest turned out to be more popular. With 18 quartets from Central Division and one singing out of Division, the contest showcased a number of great newer quartets.

NEWS from CENTRAL DIVISION

by Don Myers,
VP Central Division



BROTHERS IN ARMS continues to wow the audiences and their first place performance with a score of 75.1 will set well for their upcoming performance at Nashville in the Collegiate Competition.

BREAK FROM BLUE COLLAR not only won the Novice competition, but finished 5th overall with a score of 68.3.

The Convention attendees really enjoyed the venue and the competition as hosted by **The Keystone Capital Chorus**.

Chorus sizes have shown a decline overall but the singing quality seems to be on the rise. The small but mighty **Baltimore Vocal Corps**, hailing from the Dundalk, MD, placed 1st with a score of 77.8.

The largest chorus competing staged 39 men and the smallest number to cross the stage was 12. It is interesting to note that of the 11 choruses competing, all but two performed at the B level, (61-80) with six singing in the mid- to high-B level. Of the 11 choruses competing, six attained a score which qualified them to move on to Lancaster, Pa. for the District Convention.

The increased singing quality was also true of the 19 quartets competing. Seven of the quartets scored in the High B level.

Quartets advancing to District Competition will be determined by score following the completion of the Northern Division Convention.



CENTRAL DIVISION CHAMPIONS
Brothers in Arms



2nd PLACE MEDALIST
Hershey Transit Company



3rd PLACE MEDALIST
Spruce Street

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT CENTRAL DIVISION CONTEST

**CENTRAL DIVISION
CHORUS CHAMPION
BALTIMORE VOCAL CORPS**

**2nd PLACE MEDALIST
& Plateau AAA Winner
RITTENHOUSE SOUND**



**THIRD
PLACE
MEDALIST
PRIDE OF
DELMARVA**



*Plateau AAA Winner
THE MAINLINERS*



*Plateau AA Winner
FIRST STATE HARMONIZERS*



*Plateau A Winner
CHORUS OF THE BRANDYWINE*

CENTRAL Quartets

(in order of appearance)



SUSQUEHANNA FLATS



FOR STORIES



YOUTH RECLAMATION PROJECT



RAZZMATAZZ



FOUR FINGERED HARMONY



DIRECTOR'S BLEND



PARTY OF FIVE



DISTINCTION

CENTRAL Quartets

(in order of appearance)



BREAK FROM BLUE COLLAR Novice Quartet Champion



HERSHEY TRANSIT COMPANY



BROTHERS IN ARMS



FLASH POINT



BACKSWING



LANSDALE STATION



ATLANTIC HARMONIES



NEW KID IN TOWN



SPRUCE STREET

CENTRAL Choruses

(in order of appearance)



FREE STATE HARMONIZERS



BAY COUNTRY GENTLEMEN



RED ROSE CHORUS



THE NITTANY KNIGHTS

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

CENTRAL Choruses

(in order of appearance)

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

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CHORUS OF THE BRANDYWINE



BALTIMORE VOCAL CORPS



THE MAINLINERS



PRIDE OF DELMARVA

CENTRAL Choruses

(in order of appearance)



THE NORTH PENNSMEN



RITTENHOUSE SOUND



KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHORUS

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

Southern Division convention features fun and games for all

Avid readers of this column will remember that last year's Southern Division Convention featured a "public" proposal at our post-Jamboree Afterglow. We couldn't match that this year, but we sorta kinda came close. Keep reading to find out how.

During the May 27-29 Southern Division Convention eight choruses and a dozen quartets competed. That means that at least 221 singers crossed the stage (admittedly, this double counts those who competed more than once), as well as the mic testers and mic coolers (Route 1 and the Joe and Jane Barbershop Chorus).

But contest wasn't the only activity. **Nate Barrett** and **Mike Yodice** (from the **Morris County, NJ Chapter**) presented "Ready, Set, Sing" Saturday afternoon. This vocal education program has been very successful in helping the Morris County chapter attract and retain members. Several neighboring chapters have also implemented the program to good effect.

The top-scoring choruses and quartets entertained the audience at the Saturday night Jamboree. Participants enjoyed a rare dry day in the Reston Town Center. And the lobby and sitting areas of the Hyatt Hotel were filled throughout the weekend with a cappella harmony.

Now for the contest results – that's what you really want to know, right? Actually, if you really want to know them you already do, because you were there when Gary Plaag made his announcements or you looked them up on the District website (which posts contest results amazingly quickly – good job!)

The Most Important Awards were those voted by the audience (a new app!) for favorite part singers, favorite song types, best tag, favorite attire, etc. (A voting audience member was overheard channeling "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre": "We don't need no stinkin' judges!") Gary Plaag awarded trophies that are true collectors' items – they are one-of-a-kind, literally!

AWARDS

FAVORITE TENOR: Mike Fitch, Forecast

FAVORITE LEAD: Tim Petersen, LoCo 4

FAVORITE BARI: Travis Murray, Forecast

See SOUTHERN CONVENTION, continued on next page



SOUTHERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS

Forecast

2nd PLACE MEDALIST

LoCo 4



3rd PLACE MEDALIST

Handsome Reward



SOUTHERN CONVENTION

Continued from previous page

FAVORITE BASS: Dale Bird, LoCo 4
 FAVORITE BALLAD: From the First Hello..., LoCo 4
 FAVORITE UP-TUNE: Bare Necessities, LoCo 4
 MOST ENTERTAINING SONG: It Only Took a Kiss, Forecast
 FAVORITE COSTUME: Splash of Lime
 BEST STORYTELLING: From the First Hello..., LoCo 4
 TAG THAT GAVE YOU GOOSE BUMPS: The Sunshine of Your Smile, Forecast
 Splash of Lime was a runaway winner for Favorite Attire. (Guess why?)
 And some fellow named Dale Bird got a bunch of awards, but I think he may be apocryphal since he wasn't there to accept them. (PS – If you see him, remember to tell him how pretty the medal looks.)

Okay, the **Traditional Quartet Contest:** For the second year in a row, **Forecast** was the Southern Division Quartet Champion, blowing everyone away with a score of 75.2. **LoCo4** finished a strong second with a score of 71.0. (The quartet claims that LoCo refers to their location (Loudoun County), not their mental capacity. That's their story and they're sticking to it.) **Handsome Reward** got their own handsome reward by finishing third. And **Splash of Lime** (with their colorful attire) won the novice quartet competition.

Additional District qualifiers will be determined after all division results are known.

The **Chorus Competition** was won by the **Anne Arundel, MD Sons of the Severn**, with their renditions of Just a Cottage Small (by a Waterfall) and Walkin' My Baby Back Home. Not only were they the Southern Division Chorus Champion, they were also the Most Improved Chorus. Way to go, fellow Free-Staters! The **Chorus of the Old Dominion (Loudoun County)** finished second, and another Free-Stater, the **Frederick, MD Catactones**, a Plateau A chorus that was competing for the first time since Barbara Fritchie days, finished third. All three scored at least 67 and automatically qualify for the District Contest in Lancaster. Notably, John David Maybury also bridged the Potomac, directing both the Loudoun, VA and Frederick, MD choruses, medaling with both! Finally, in a close race the **Smith Mountain Lake Harmeneers** emerged as Plateau AA Champion.

Other Southern Division choruses may also be invited to District once the results are in from the Central and Northern District Convention. Check that

See SOUTHERN CONVENTION, continued on next page



**2nd PLACE MEDALIST
 CHORUS of the OLD DOMINION**



**THIRD PLACE MEDALIST
 & Plateau A winner
 FREDERICK CATOCTONES**



**PLATEAU AA WINNER
 Harmeneers**



**SOUTHERN
 DIVISION
 CHORUS
 CHAMPION &
 Plateau AAA
 winner
 SONS OF THE
 SEVERN**

SOUTHERN CONVENTION

Continued from previous page

late-breaking announcement on page 39.

Of course, no barbershop convention is complete without an afterglow. And no one stages afterglows like the **Fairfax Chapter**. This year's afterglow did not feature a marriage proposal, but it offered the next best thing – **Misfire's Matt Doniger** introduced a song that "told the story of my engagement," as his fiancée proudly waved from the audience. So that's two engagements in two years. (Note to bachelors who are reading this: as they used to say in Brooklyn, "Wait till next year.")

Once again it was awesome being host chapter. I feel like a broken record (proudly plagiarizing from last year's report), but we have an incredible chapter, where everyone – chapter members (Jubil-Aires) and our spouses and significant others (Jubil-Ladies) - volunteers to fill the needs, often before being asked.

It's not just the folks in red shirts you saw distributing tickets, staffing the doors, escorting performers, or providing TLC to the judges. It's the ones you didn't see - setting up the stage at 8 a.m. Friday, taking judges to and from the airport, and doing the heavy lifting to strike the set after the Jamboree.

And we especially appreciate Doug First and our friends from the Arlingtones and the Harmony Heritage Singers, who provided critical help Saturday morning while our chorus was warming up and singing on stage. And let's thank the Dundalk chapter who provided the risers.

And most of all, the District Events Team is amazing. **Walt Griffith** and **Gary Plaag** are fabulous to work with and great problem-solvers as well as leaders. Working with **Roger Heer** and **Bob Hastings** in the ticket booth is always a pleasure.

And then there are the folks who set up and take down the stage – if this were a rock concert, we'd call them "roadies." Everyone pitched in to make the Friday afternoon scramble (a hotel function kept us out of the auditorium until 2 p.m.) as efficient as possible and all was in readiness for contestants and audience well before show time.

Even the wristbands I reviled last year seem to have become part of the accepted culture.

All in all, a great weekend!

— *By Fred Geldon, Fairfax Chapter*

SOUTHERN Quartets

(in order of appearance)



BAY BRIDGE CONNECTION



MEN OVER CHORD



SPLASH OF LIME (Novice Quartet Award, Favorite Costume)



THE CORNER FOUR



DESPERATE MEASURES



HANDSOME REWARD

SOUTHERN Quartets

(in order of appearance)



THE SCHOOL BOARD



MISFIRE



LOCO 4



ALLABOARD



FORECAST



VINTAGE MIX



The JOE & JANE BARBERSHOPPER mic-test chorus, following 15 minutes of rehearsal, opened Saturday's contest with Let Me Call You Sweetheart and My Wild Irish Rose.

SOUTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)



CHORUS OF THE OLD DOMINION



HEART OF MARYLAND



HARMENEERS



VIRGINIA GENTLEMEN

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

SOUTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>



CATOCTONES



SONS OF THE SEVERN



SINGING CAPITAL CHORUS



FAIRFAX JUBILAIREs

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Northern Division crowns two new champs

It was very rewarding to see the number of people attending our convention weekend. We enjoyed having the most participation by quartets (24) and choruses (14) of all the Mid-Atlantic divisions.

Our new Northern Division Quartet Champions are **The Bourbon Street Four** and our Chorus Champions are **East Coast Sound**, both groups new this year!

NEWS from NORTHERN DIVISION

by **Oley Olson**,
VP Northern Division



Next year, let's all plan for all the attendees to stay for the Saturday Night Extravaganza, with all the new champions and the Plateau winners. We are fortunate in Northern Division to have very exciting quartets and choruses and a number of convention attendees never got a chance to enjoy their performances. Remember, it's not just a contest, it's a convention!

On a positive note, the "Sharing Ready, Set, Sing" Masters classes — which **Nate Barrett** and **Mike Yodice** of **Morris County chapter** have also presented at both the Central and Southern conventions — were well attended at the Northern convention (see photo). In total 27 chapters and 60 individuals attended over the three Divisions. We stressed that this is not a recruiting drive — it is an offer of free singing lessons to men of the community.

As our CEO **Marty Monson's** mission has stated: "We sing – We serve – No strings attached".

That said, a large number of attendees have chosen to join the various chapters and isn't that great!



Nate Barrett and Mike Yodice of Morris County present "Sharing Ready, Set, Sing" at the Northern Convention.

NORTHERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS
The Bourbon Street Four



2nd PLACE MEDALIST
Students of the Game

NOVICE CHAMPION
Cool Water



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT NORTHERN DIVISION CONTEST



**NORTHERN DIVISION
CHORUS CHAMPION
& Plateau AAAA winner
EAST COAST SOUND**

**2nd PLACE MEDALIST
THE GARDEN STATESMEN**



**THIRD PLACE MEDALIST
WESTCHESTER CHORDSMEN**

**PLATEAU A WINNER
MORRIS MUSIC MEN**



**PLATEAU AAA WINNER
COUNTRY GENTLEMEN**



**PLATEAU AA WINNER
BERGEN COUNTY
BLUE CHIP CHORUS
(Not pictured)**

NORTHERN Quartets

(in order of appearance)



VOICE ODYSSEY



CROSS KEYS



RIVERLINE



EAR CANDY



UNACCOUNTED FOUR



COOL WATER



HELLO NEWMAN



LOUDMOUTH



THE FOURCE

NORTHERN Quartets

(in order of appearance)



29 SECONDS



THE BOURBON STREET FOUR



BAZINGA



SOMETHIN' ELSE



ACHORDING TO DAD



HUDSON LINE



FOR THE TIMES



STUDENTS OF THE GAME



PRATT STREET POWER

NORTHERN Quartets

(in order of appearance)



NIKO'S DOMAIN



MCs LAST MEN STANDING



Audience Choice Awards A BIG Hit at Division Contests

This year at the three division conventions we held an "audience choice awards" event. Ballots and golf pencils were available as spectators entered the auditorium and picked up their programs.

The instructions were to keep track of your "favorites" in 10 categories and then transfer your final selections to your ballot before exiting and placing your ballot in the collection box.

2016 Contest & Judging Update

by Gary Plaag,
VP Contest & Judging



The categories this spring were: Favorite Tenor, Lead, Bari and Bass; Favorite Up-tune, Favorite Ballad, Most Entertaining Song, Best Costume/Attire, Best Storytelling and Goosebump Tag. Here are the results from the 3 divisions:

Central Division:

Favorite tenor: Kevin Juliana (Brothers in Arms)
 Favorite lead: Jamie Isely (Brothers in Arms)
 Favorite bari: Tyler Hart (Break From Blue Collar)
 Favorite bass: David Gale (Distinction/Lansdale Station)
 Favorite ballad: I'll Be Seeing You (Brothers in Arms)
 Favorite Up-tune: Anytime (Hershey Transit Co.)
 Most Entertaining song: Handy Man Medley (Razzmatazz)
 Best attire/costume: Razzmatazz
 Best storytelling: Their Hearts Were Full of Spring (Break From Blue Collar)
 Goosebump tag: I'll Be Seeing You (Brothers in Arms)

Southern Division:

Favorite Tenor: Mike Fitch - Forecast
 Favorite Lead: Tim Peterson - LoCo 4
 Favorite Bari: Travis Murray - Forecast
 Favorite Bass: Dale Bird - LoCo 4
 Favorite Ballad: From the 1st Hello - LoCo 4
 Favorite Up-Tune: Bare Necessities - LoCo 4
 Most Entertaining Song: It Only Took A Kiss - Forecast

Favorite Attire/Costume: Splash of Lime
 Best Storytelling: From the 1st Hello - LoCo 4
 Goosebump Tag: The Sunshine of Your Smile - Forecast

Northern Division:

Favorite Tenor: Alex Corson – The Bourbon Street Four
 Favorite Lead: Cory Britson – The Fource
 Favorite Bari: John Forziati – The Fource
 Favorite Bass: Niko Porter – Niko's Domain
 Favorite Ballad: Cry Me A River – Pratt Street Power
 Favorite Up-Tune: Oh Susanna – Students of the Game
 Most Entertaining Song: The Best Times I Ever Had – Achording To Dad
 Favorite Attire/Costume: Riverline
 Best Storytelling: Now Is The Hour – The Bourbon Street Four
 Goosebump Tag: May I Never – The Fource

Regalia for each award:

Favorite tenor, lead, bari, bass: red-white-blue neck ribbon with faux gold medal
 Favorite Ballad: 4 travel packs of facial tissue
 Favorite Up-Tune: 4 personal smiley-face-adorned finger drums
 Most Entertaining Song: 4 individual "clappers"
 Favorite Attire/Costume: 4 small vanity mirrors with flower petal edges
 Best Storytelling: 2 "kiddie" storybooks
 Goosebump Tag: 4 oblong, manila "tags" with string for attaching to a shirt button

The good news is that EVERY award winner proudly displayed his regalia for the remainder of the convention, including a genuine smile that the audience chose him for that award.

More good news is we're gonna do it again in Lancaster this fall! The audience will have the opportunity to make their selections again during the Friday night round of the quartet contest. The choices will be reduced from 10 to about 6 so it's easier to keep track. Results will be announced at the end of the chorus contest on Saturday afternoon. Be sure you're there at the start of the contest so you can see and hear all of the competitors and cast your vote for YOUR favorites!

NORTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)



WILKES BARRE



RED BANK AREA MATINEE IDLES



SOMERSET HILLS



MONTCLAIR

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

NORTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)



MORRIS COUNTY



PRINCETON



BUCKS COUNTY



LEWISBURG

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NORTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)



RED BANK AREA



HUNTERDON



CALDWELL



CHERRY HILL

NORTHERN Choruses

(in order of appearance)

Contest score sheets may be found at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/scores>

Check out the many, many more Division Convention photos at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/photos>



WESTCHESTER



JANE AND JOE BARBERSHOPPER CHORUS

Join us in Lancaster
Sept. 16-18

Fall District Convention

Robust field of competitors named for Fall District Contest

Now that our three division contests are completed the qualifiers for our fall District quartet and chorus contests has been named. Here are the qualifiers who are being invited to compete in Lancaster September 15-16:

Quartets

1.	DaCapo	Bye (International competitor)
2.	Gimme Four	Bye (International competitor)
3.	Up All Night	Bye (International competitor)
4.	The Bourbon Street Four	80.0 *
Students of the Game		76.9 (chose to not compete)
5.	Forecast	75.2 *
6.	Brothers in Arms	75.1 *
7.	Pratt Street Power	74.8
8.	The Fource	73.9
9.	Hershey Transit Co.	73.3
10.	Spruce Street	72.6
11.	Party of Five	72.4
12.	Achording To Dad	72.1
13.	Hudson Line	71.8
14.	29 Seconds	71.7
15.	Niko's Domain	71.3
16.	LoCo 4	71.0
17.	Youth Reclamation Project	69.9
18.	Loudmouth	69.8
19.	Break From Blue Collar	68.3
20.	New Kid In Town	68.1
21.	My Uncle Murray	68.8
22.	Riverline	68.4
23.	Hello Newman	68.2
24.	Handsome Reward	67.7
25.	Sounds Dangerous	67.6

MT: Flash Point

Choruses

1.	Alexandria, VA	Bye (International competitor)
2.	Hell's Kitchen, NY	Bye (International competitor)
3.	Hershey, PA	Bye (International competitor)
4.	Hamilton Square, NJ	Bye (International competitor)
5.	Caldwell, NJ	78.2
6.	Dundalk, MD	77.8
7.	Princeton, NJ	76.0
8.	Philadelphia, PA	74.9
9.	Queen Anne's County, MD	73.8
10.	Lansdale PA	73.5
11.	Cherry Hill, NJ	73.3
12.	Westchester, NY	71.9
13.	Anne Arundel, MD	71.8
14.	Five Towns College, NY	70.4
15.	Montclair, NJ	69.4
16.	Bryn Mawr, PA	69.2
17.	Loudoun County, VA	69.0
18.	Harrisburg, PA	68.1
19.	Frederick, MD	67.0
20.	Bucks County, PA	67.0
21.	Fairfax, VA	66.3
22.	Harford County, MD	66.2

MT: District of Columbia

Contest entry for quartet and chorus competitors will be open until July 15, 2016. Please enter the contest as soon as possible so we can begin planning long before mid-September. If your group is NOT planning to participate at the District contest, please let C&J VP Gary Plaag know ASAP.



Do You Wanna Be a Judge?

Your chance to apply to become a Contest Administrator, Music, Performance, or Singing judge is just around the corner. Every three years, just prior to Harmony University, judges in all four categories must attend judge Category School in order to recertify and those who have been candidate judges-in-training have the opportunity to join the judging ranks as certified judges. This year, 2016, is a Category School year and there are two significant changes to the contest and judging program. 1) the Presentation Category (PRS) is changing to Performance (PER). You can read all about that change in the Mar-Apr 2016 version of The Harmonizer; and 2) the judging program is accepting applications from not only men, but also women. You can read all about this change here: [Female Judge Applications](#).

After Category School concludes at noon on Sunday, July 24, those interested in applying to become judges (male and female) in one of the four categories (CA, MUS, PER, SNG) have until December 15, 2016, to submit their applications. Information about applying to be a judge and the certification process can be found in section VI. APPLICANT AND CANDIDATE REGULATIONS of the Contest and Judging Handbook, located as a .pdf at the BHS website: Contest and Judging Handbook. Applications should be submitted through the Contest and Judging VP, Gary Plaag.



by Roger Tarpy,
VP Music & Performance

DISTRICT COACHES

The following is a list of the official MAD District Coaches to date. I want to thank these men for being willing to share their considerable talents by becoming a District Coach.

- Dave Ammirata
- Jeff Glemboski

MAS

Most everyone knows that MAD subsidizes a coaching program (called the Musical Assistance Service – MAS) that serves both quartets and chapters. It has been very ably managed, for many years, by its coordinator Chuck Lower.

The idea is that a quartet or chorus arranges to meet with a coach of their choosing, after which Chuck reimburses the coach, up to \$75, for expenses.

Thanks to this District initiative, many groups have received some wonderful coaching.

Why every chorus should compete

It's as plain as the nose on one's face – contests lie at the very heart of our hobby. Sure there are other programs and activities that BHS endorses, but nothing really sucks as much oxygen as a convention. Contests are the musical, cultural, and financial lifeblood of our Society.

But asking “why compete” is not a pointless exercise. Should we really be so obsessive about competing? Apparently, many members no longer believe that we should. For example, of the 90 chapters listed on MAD's website, only 36 have signed up to compete in one of the three Division contests this year -- just 40 percent. Clearly, something has gone seriously wrong in this corner of our hobby.

Why do we have so few competing choruses? I don't know all of the reasons, of course, but I can guess at a few of them.

- (1) Daytime choruses, or conspicuously small groups, don't want to put in the disciplined work which they believe competition requires.
- (2) Groups have become discouraged over the years because they work hard to improve, but their scores never change.
- (3) Many believe that as the age of the average chorus member increases, quality singing is no longer possible, so why bother.
- (4) Some feel that the Society has become fixated on recruiting youth at the expense of making our hobby work for everyone.
- (5) A few think that singing barbershop music is enjoyable for its own sake, but that competition corrupts this activity by focusing so exclusively on technique,

scores, and winners. Surely each of you could add a few more reasons.

With such a dramatic decline of interest in competing, you'd think that the Society would be as apprehensive about contests as they are about declining membership.

Curiously, I don't see any of that, except as it impacts revenues. I may be wrong, but it's my perception that little has been done over the years to explore ways to make the contest experience more worthwhile for every Joe Barbershopper. I've not even seen anyone discuss the reasons why choruses should participate.

I, personally, believe that every chorus should compete at the Division level. Let me explain why, and then suggest an idea that might help to make contests more fulfilling for the disaffected among us.

First, if you like singing at all, performing at a contest has to be fun. The audience members, all barbershop aficionados, have come to hear you so they are an appreciative audience, and the contest surroundings provide the best possible venue – great sound system and ideal staging. If you doubt this, ask yourself: “Do I love singing in a busy mall where audience attention is minimal and the noise is usually unbearable?”

Second, you learn a lot about singing and performing from listening to, and observing, others. Everyone enjoys a ballad sung beautifully, and cringes when it's sung out-of-tune. We want to emulate the former and avoid the latter in our own performance. By hearing others, regardless of how they score, we undergo a process of self discovery. After all, how can we truthfully understand and assess our own performance unless we're familiar with how other groups sing and

perform?

Third, your singing, overall, is improved when you prepare for a contest. Getting good on two songs is not time poorly spent; the discipline pays huge dividends every time you perform. Here's an analogy:

Imagine going to a driving range to practice hitting golf balls. You get your left arm under control; you get better at keeping your eyes steady on the ball; your balance and follow-through improve. All of the technical facets of the game get better when you focus directly on them. Furthermore, the improvement is manifest at every golf course you play; it doesn't just occur at the practice range. So it stands to reason that competition provides an opportunity to develop good singing skills that transfer to all of our singing activities.

An interesting alternative

Although I continue to have these personal beliefs about the value of competition, I do recognize that much could be done to improve the structure of our conventions. So here's one idea that might help (this is similar to a program that SAI uses).

What if our conventions contained an “entertainment” track along with the familiar “competition” option? Any chorus that didn't want to compete in the usual sense could perform within the regular contest for, say, 10 minutes. The group, however, could sing anything it liked – barbershop or not – and it could dance, tell jokes, or juggle pitch pipes. It would simply give its best 10-minute shot at entertaining the audience, much like it would at a regular show, without

What if our conventions contained an ‘entertainment’ track along with the familiar ‘competition’ option?

observing the typical contest “rules.” And rather than receiving the usual contest score, it would get an assessment from a special panel of judges focusing primarily on the entertainment value of its performance. Sure, singing skills would count for

something (we are a singing organization, after all!), but the entertainment aspects would be paramount.

If you were to choose this “entertainment” option, think of what might happen after a contest. You'd be better singers, and have a greater potential to recruit new members through improved performance skills.

So, tell me: **What's not to like about that?**



We found it!

A NEW Venue

for a *Better* Performance Experience

There are a myriad of challenges associated with performing our style of unaccompanied harmonies. Like chamber music, barbershop harmony is at its best when performed in a venue which allows artists and the audience to hear well so that performances are not hindered by "dead stages", cavernous auditoriums with poor acoustics, jury-rigged sound systems, and more. This is why our contest judges sit right in front of the stage – it's the best attempt to hear performances without the issues that exist in large rooms.

Our District Convention is relatively large with 1500-1800 attendees. We have searched high and low for venues that can accommodate our size and balance that with reasonable cost. Our **VP Events Walter Griffith** and his team have found a venue which is tailor-made for our style and we will have our first convention there September 15-16, 2017.

The Santander Performing Arts Center in Reading, PA was built in the 1870s as a market, with a Masonic Temple on its upper floors. It became the Academy of Music in 1886. The Rajah



The Santander Performing Arts Center



by **Ig Jakovac**,
MAD President

VP Events Walter Griffith and his team have found a venue which is tailor-made for our style and we will have our first convention there September 15-16, 2017.

See *PRESIDENT*, continued on next page

PRESIDENT

Continued from previous page

Shriners purchased it in 1917 to use the building for various activities including vaudeville, motion pictures, and live appearances. The auditorium was rebuilt in 1921 after a fire destroyed most of the facility. In June of 2000, the Berks County Convention Center Authority purchased the Rajah Theater from the Shriners. The building was renovated (\$7 million) and renamed the Santander Performing Arts Center.

The facility has an ornate theatre "feel" with incredible acoustics (seats about 1800). The lobby is spacious and there is a large screen outside the theatre so that patrons may see which contestant is on stage without entering the theatre.

There is ready access to the downstairs portion of the theatre which has about 1000 comfortable, cushioned seats. The first balcony, which seats about 200 can be accessed by stairs or elevator. The next level up (about 600 seats) is at a significant angle. While there is not a "bad seat in the house" the top area of the second level is high and it's not easy to distinguish faces.

However, I stood on the stage and Walter was at the very top of the seating area and we carried on a "normal" conversation without having to raise our voices to be heard – pretty awesome! The sound team agreed that the only reason to "mic" the facility is to be able to make recordings.

The stage is a full-fledged stage with lots of lighting, curtain, and easy access to the stage for bringing in risers and shell. The judging area will be set up where the orchestra pit is right in front of the stage (the Reading Symphony Orchestra calls this home). The stage is accessible from either side and we have the option of isolating an area in the theatre to move folks who require wheelchair accessibility.

I think this venue from a contestant/audience viewpoint will be AWESOME. It features a fabulous theatre which is PERFECT for our art form. From a convention point of view, there are plenty of attractions in the Reading which has a very active Convention and Visitors Bureau.

I can hardly wait...



1800 plush theatre seats, spacious lobby and backstage amenities, full-fledged stage, and concert-hall acoustics will make the 2017 District Convention an awesome experience for competitors, audience, and judges.

The Santander Performing Arts Center in Reading, PA

COMING Sept. 15-16, 2017

Leaders are EVERYWHERE!

We are so fortunate to have such dedicated, skilled leadership on our District Board and Operations Team. Board members work together tirelessly to propose policy, major initiatives and a prudent budget for the good of our chapters and members, which are ratified by our District House of Delegates. Operations Team members, usually known as Vice Presidents for a particular function (like Music & Performance, Events or Chorus Director Development), work with their specific team members and the OT overall to craft and manage programs and services which enhance the education and events experiences offered to our chapters and members.



by **Bill Colosimo**,
MAD Immediate Past President
and Leadership Development
Committee Chair

Our 2016 leadership team, Board and OT is indeed outstanding. But, as we know, it's critical to identify and mentor future leaders of our District in order to offer leadership opportunities to many other potentially qualified individuals and to account for those whose roles in valued service must change or end for any number of reasons.

In 2015, the District established the Leadership Development Committee, charged with an ongoing effort to seek and mentor interested individuals to prepare them or, potentially, nominate them for leadership opportunities. The Committee members cover a range of disciplines, experience and geography in order to

do their best work in identifying potential leaders.

But the Committee, alone, can't "do it all!" That's where YOU come in!

From June through August, the Committee is responsible for finalizing two "lists" of fine, qualified leaders. The first "list" is a proposed slate of new 2017 officers (Board members) that is shared with the Board at its late summer meeting and is presented for election by the House of Delegates at its upcoming meeting in September in Lancaster. The second "list" is presented to the President and Executive Vice-President for their consideration as presidential appointments to 2017 Operations Team positions of Vice President or as a member of a Vice President's valuable functional team.

Accordingly, the Leadership Development Team asks you to consider whether YOU or someone whose work you know well might be interested in serving in a leadership role at the district level. It's our experience that barbershoppers abound in MAD with terrific experience and success as chapter leaders (administrative or musical), business people and contributors to their communities...and we need your assistance in stepping up with suggestions of names, chapter affiliations and experience about which we as a Committee might be unaware! Maybe it's YOU...or someone else you've admired whom we might contact for a chat about potential leadership opportunities. All you need to do is send an email with your "lead" to billcatps@aol.com. PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL BY JUNE 30. The Committee will take it from there!

It may very well be that people you identify for us, once a Committee member reaches out to them, may be suitable for service as early as 2017. Others solicited may wish to learn more about leadership opportunities for potential service in the future. In either case, your involvement in helping the Committee do our important job is invaluable. Thank you for all you do for your chapter, your chorus, your quartet, your District and your community as a MAD barbershopper!

Share the Joy!

Does your chapter want to have fresh faces in the hall at your next chapter show?

Does your chapter want to interest and recruit new singers?

Does your chapter want to support your chapter chorus and quartets in their first or 50th appearance on a contest stage?

Does your chapter want a guaranteed way to reach over 2,000 barbershop fans in our area?

Then why not place an ad in one of the five M-AD convention programs that will be published in 2016?

What's the worst that could happen? You could spend \$60-\$100 and have nothing to show for it.

What's the best that could happen? You could sell 200 more tickets to your annual show and recruit 15 new singers.

What's the worst that could happen if you don't place an ad? Nothing changes and you wish you had.

What's the best that could happen if you don't place an ad? A few folks wander in to your show out of idle curiosity but leave at intermission and no one shows up for your guest night. So why not just place the ad and see what happens?

Your next opportunity is the Fall District Convention Sept. 16-18 in Lancaster, Pa.

DEADLINE FOR PROGRAM BOOK ADS IS SEPT. 3!

M-AD Giveaways and Givers

The M-AD Endowment Fund is providing scholarships for at least nine current and prospective musical directors, one adult quartet and two youth quartets to attend Harmony College East (HCE) and the Youth Harmony Camp

(held simultaneously with HCE at Salisbury University). The directors will receive instruction and coaching to help them refine their skills, while the quartets will receive

focused coaching and perform on one of the two fabulous evening shows.

Givers: These scholarships are possible through donations by very generous M-AD Barbershoppers -- a collective philanthropic marvel! Over the past year, the Endowment Fund has benefited from donations received from individuals, quartets, chapters, House of Delegates meeting

attendees, and from those who contribute to Harmony Foundation and exercise the "donor choice" option in favor of the district. In 2015 donations totaled \$17,056.05, comprised of the following:

Chapters:	\$ 1,574.25
DELASUSQUEHUDMAC:	879.00
Quartets:	200.00
House of Delegates:	716.00
Donor Choice:	13,280.80
Individuals and other:	306.00

This is only possible through intentional and thoughtful giving on a regular basis, in honor or in memory of special individuals, to commemorate special occasions, etc. -- a "paying forward" action for the benefit of all. Each contributor (member, quartet, chapter, delegate, etc.) deserves a resounding "THANK YOU" from your District leadership for your generosity and commitment to and significant support of barbershop harmony in the Mid-Atlantic District.



by Alan Wile,
VP Financial Development,
MAD Endowment Fund Chairman
& HFI Regional Representative

Great way to contribute to Harmony Foundation

There is a great new (easy) way to support the Harmony Foundation International.

If you shop at Amazon, as most of us do, just go to smile.amazon.com and select Harmony Foundation Intl. (Not Harmony Foundation).. Make sure it's the one in Nashville, and 0.5% of every purchase goes to support Barbershop Singing through the foundation. It takes less than a minute to do.

AmazonPrime purchases (subscription, videos, etc.) also are included in this promotion.



Pete Tyree, bari of the Orphans; Jim Foy, bass of Happiness Emporium; and Bill Myers, bass of Revival, singing with John Fynmore, the tenor of Audacity, 2009 Senior Champs, sing one together after a pickup quartet contest at the April BQPA convention

Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association / Pioneers

Join us for 4 days of do-it-yerself quartetting, in Chicago, the weekend AFTER Labor Day, **September 7 – 10**



No assignments, no prerequisites! Guys and gals welcome! We'll sing the songs that YOU love to sing

REALLY inexpensive rooms

Sing 16 hours a day, in quartets: old songs, tags, woodshedding, or familiar arrangements – your choice - in pick-up quartets

For more information, visit www.bqpa.com



Another great AHB show is coming your way!

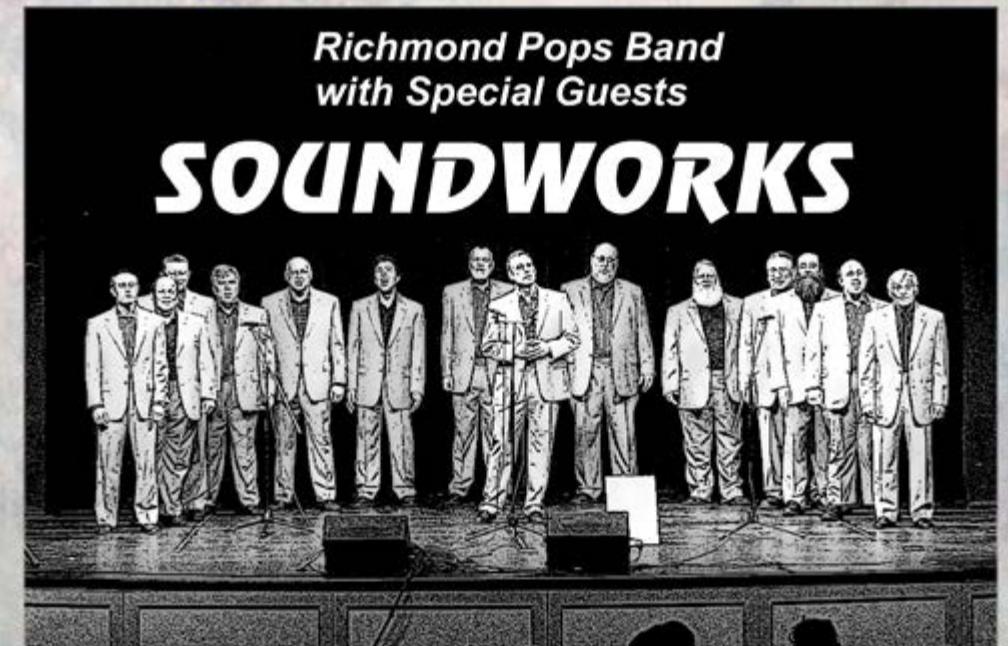
The Atlantic Harmony Brigade will light up the end of the summer season with an outstanding rally and barbershop show at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Claymont, Delaware (just off I-95 outside of Wilmington) Saturday, August 20 at 7 p.m.

Featuring the 2015 Mid-Atlantic District 1st Place Quartet, Route 1 as our headliner, the event promises to be another in our series of great shows. Also participating will be 114 man brigade ensemble, quartets from the Middle Atlantic region, quartets from other parts of the U.S., and even international representatives.

The current Brigade movement originated in North Carolina in 1993, and has grown to a number of Brigades across the U.S. and now in Europe as well. Brigades foster the concept of Extreme Quarteting....which is described as a "spine-tingling,

hair-raising, lock-'n'-ring, a cappella in the barbershop style... where 80 - 120 or more highly-prepared quartet singers getting together, having learned 10-12 pretty hard pieces of music, get together for one weekend to compete in a random draw contest, and just have wall to wall singing. It is all about singing great charts with guys who are committed and confident singers (and are a bit crazy to be daring to do this in the first place).

So, if this sounds like your type of fun, please consider joining us next year in 2017 for the whole Rally to take your place in the Brigade. But for this year, come to our show in August to really get a flavor of the quality performances. To learn more, and for ticket info, please head to www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com.



**Sunday, June 26
6:30 PM**

**Altria Theater
6 Laurel Street
Richmond, VA 23220**

**Ticket Link: RichmondPops.com/Tickets
soundworkschorus.org**

District Fall Convention Date & Location Change

The dates and location have also changed for the District Fall Convention for 2016. **The convention will be held September 16 – 17, 2016 in the Lancaster Convention Center, Lancaster, Pa.**

Why the change? The original date posted by the Mid Atlantic District Events Team turns out to conflict with the Sweet Adelines International (SAI) Convention, says M-AD EVP Dennis Ritchey.

Walter L Griffith Jr
M-AD VP Events

He also tells us, "The M-AD Board of Directors understands there are many people in our District who participate in SAI. Therefore having the 2016

Mid-Atlantic District Fall Convention on October 21-22, 2016 would present a hardship for chapters and families.

"Therefore the M-AD Board of Directors authorized a change to the date of our 2016 Mid-Atlantic District Fall Convention to **September 16-17, 2016**. The Board action was required because the M-AD Fall Convention Regulation states the District Convention *should be held no earlier than the last weekend in September and no later than the last weekend in October*. The new date selection was based on the limited availability of dates at venues suitable to hold the District Convention.

"Please be sure to make note of the 2016 convention date change to September 16-17, 2016 and the location to Lancaster. PA. The Events Team apologizes for any inconvenience this change may cause to our District members."

Join us in Lancaster
Sept. 16-18
Fall District Convention

WOMEN'S HARMONY BRIGADE
Tickets \$20
Women's Harmony Brigade
presents
Throwback
August 13, 2016
at the Crowne Plaza Wilmington North
7 pm
FEATURING
Celebrity emcees
Leslie Wodday Shoenhard
Renee' Porzel
and the music of Renee Craig!!
Crown Plaza Wilmington North ~ 630 Naamans Rd, Claymont, DE 19703
Tickets available at the door only.
For more information see our website at www.womensharmonybrigade.com

A Cool App

From the April 14 edition of In Tune, the weekly publication of the Hunterdon Chapter comes news of an app to use to slow down the pace of learning tracks without changing pitch. Give it a Try! Here's the message.

Audipo:Audio Speed Changer can be found in both the Google Play Store and the Apple Store. The app is free, or an upgrade is available for a few bucks and offers a few more options. It can access all the music you place on your phone and let you select a specific part of the song you want to focus on. Then if you want, you can name that selected part to play slower with no pitch degradation.

Get Your HCE T-shirt!



The Harmony College East T-shirt, is **ONLY** available from the Harmony Marketplace at Harmony College East in Salisbury this June!

\$12 while supplies last!!

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT OFFICERS

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VP Financial Development:

Alan Wile (Patty); 703-538-6526;
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5th Annual Bucks Youth in Harmony Quartet Festival sending three quartets to Harmony College East

Barbershop harmonies are alive and well in the Central Bucks Middle Schools in Bucks County, Pa. On Wednesday, May 26 five quartets from Lenape, Tamanend and Unami Middle Schools competed for the opportunity to attend Harmony College East.

We are pleased that the top three quartets have accepted the invitation of the Bucks County, chapter to attend Harmony College East June 16-18.

The quartet winners for this year's Quartet Festival are:

First Place – Whos The Bass – from Tamanend Middle School

Second Place — Good 4Tune — from Lenape Middle School

Third Place — The QuadraTONEs — from Tamanend Middle School.

At the Festival, each quartet performed two songs for a panel of three judges using the basic structure of the BHS judging system, namely, Music, Singing and Presentation.

The top three quartets received medals from the Fource Quartet, our 2015 Atlantic Division Quartet Champions who also performed for the audience of family and friends.



First Place Quartet • Whos The Bass

Ben Cerauli, Bass – Seth Wohl, Baritone – Andrew Bates, Lead Alex Helman, Tenor

2nd Place Quartet

• Good 4Tunes

Grant Nalty, Baritone

– Drew Shiffer, Lead

– Hayden, Tenor –

Charlie Shafer, Bass



3rd Place Quartet

• The QuadraTONEs

Tommy Davidson, Tenor – James Lingman, Bass – Gio Pannone, Lead – Brian Kelley, Baritone

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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:
August 1, 2016

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

[LIKE US ON FACEBOOK](#)

FOR SALE!

10 SETS WENGER RISERS



Wenger Choral Risers - \$5,000

(Alexandria, VA)

condition: good

model name: Tourmaster Folding

size / dimensions: 10 regular, 2 reverse

Set of 12 gray carpeted standing choral risers (10 regular, 2 reverse), including 4th step add on and back rails for all. Risers fold/roll for transport and storage.

Currently used by 100+ member adult chorus with room to spare.

Delivery available for nominal fee. \$5,000 for all 12; individual sets may be available at \$500 each.

Contact Operations Director Doug White
storbought@gmail.com , for more information.

How About That?

The first attempt to use footlights for stage illumination is credited to Nicola Sabbitini, an Italian producer working in the early part of the seventeenth century. About 1620 he designed a parapet to be erected in front of the stage with a row of oil lamps placed behind it. This rudimentary and meager arrangement was the first step in the development of footlights in the modern theater.

It is interesting to trace the origin of the phrase "in the limelight," which has come to mean "the center of attraction." The "limelight" was nothing more than a spotlight invented by Henry Drummond in 1816, but not used to any great extent until about 1860.

Drummond discovered that by heating a piece of lime to incandescence, brilliant white light resulted, and the invention has been improved by lighting engineers until we have the present electrical "spot" without which no theatrical performance is complete.

The incandescent electric lamp, developed by Edison in 1879 revolutionized theatre lighting the world over. In 1882 an Electrical Exposition was held in Munich, Germany. Here a small temporary theatre was erected and completely lighted by incandescent bulbs so that theatrical managers might see the advantages of using electricity in this new form.

(Excerpted From: History of Stage and Theatre Lighting)

— From the December 2015 issue of Toosday Toons, a publication of the Nassau Mid-Island Chapter.



1860 Limelight Spotlight



Barbershop Harmony goes coed!

MBHA

provides resources

to help you start your mixed-voice barbershop harmony ensemble,

advocacy

to create contest opportunities, and a

forum

to exchange information about this new arrangement of our favorite art form.

www.mixedbarbershop.org

www.facebook.com/groups/mixedharmonysingers/

901-300-MBHA (6242)

