# The Cicler Press





# **Johnny Appleseed Barbershop Singers**

Join us for a 9-day Baltic cruise on the Norwegian Star starting August 17, 2014. Doug Smeltz will act as administrator, dealing directly with Norwegian Cruise Lines. Countries visited include Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, and Russia. For more information on pricing, rehearsals, etc. contact dsmeltz1@hotmail.com or (614) 537-5184. Cruise-ship and itinerary description can be found at www.NCL.com/cruise-ship/Star.

Formed in 1979 by Arland Krueger of the Seaway Commanders, JABS is an informal touring group which is planning our 13th overseas trip. JABS has visited over 25 countries from New Zealand to Norway. The chorus size has ranged from 23 to 53 voices singing barbershop. Dave Kracker will be chorus director in 2014. NOTE: JABS is not affiliated with JAD, BHS, SAI, nor Harmony, Inc.



# Cider Press

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The Cider Press is the official publication of the Johnny Appleseed District Association of Chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The opinions herein contained do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the JAD administration nor its members.

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#### Four Keys to Success for Turning **Guests into Members**



**Casey Parsons** District President

"where do you like to do your singing?" Chances are you'll find someone looking for a musical home.

Go to where the singers are. Colleges and universities are full of young musicians who, in the near future, will lack the educational singing opportunities of their schools. Perhaps your chapter could fill that impending void? The key here is to become involved with the school or the musical groups on a nopressure basis.

**Develop a Plan.** Membership growth rarely happens by accident. Almost every success story I hear, from small chapters to large, starts with a member. or small group of members, setting goals and making a plan. Plan the work, work the plan!

This may not be the complete roadmap but hopefully by utilizing these Keys to Success, and expanding upon them in your chapter, you can improve your surroundings and share our barbershop community with new friends. Here's to your every success, and the JAD Leadership Team will do whatever we can to

In Harmony, Casey

Do you know any men who love to sing? I'd bet those same singers can find the attraction of the barbershop style and ring a chord. Do you know any men who would also like to join a brotherhood of men of good character? Help them find a home by sharing the friendship and shared experiences in your chapter.

As barbershoppers, we share a few com-

mon traits; we love to sing barbershop

bonds we've made with our chapter and

harmony, and we value the fraternal

quartet brothers. So how can we turn

that into success?

Here are a few keys to success for turning guests into members:

Make your chapter a place people want to stay. This is the first and most important factor. Even if you could funnel thousands of guests through your door, if the environment is unwelcoming or the musical product suffers, so will your recruitment. Think about your weekly plan, schedule, and musical product.

Fresh Meat! It may seem obvious, but an important key to success is to reach out to someone new. Unleash your inner extravert, introduce yourself, and ask



#### BHS HISTORIVIA VOLUME XVIII BY MIKE SISK



The light bulb went on at the JAD Quartet contest in Lima-OH and I was impressed by the many levels of barbershop history trivia created by our awesome performers! At the start of the contest, 9 members of the top six quartets represented a total of 21 past JAD quartet championships! They were respectively: Common Core (Mike Nessler, Josh Van Gorder-2, Michael Hull-2, & Steve Denino-2), Parental Guidance Suggested (Mark Lang & Randy Baughman-2), Blueprint (Carl J, Cash III & Paul Gilman-4), Jam Session (Chad St. John-2), Top Shelf (Chad Wulf& Richard Brooks-2), Forte (Randy Goss)! This was also the quality level of the JAD Seniors contest as 9members of the top five quartets in this contest represented a total of 19 past JAD championships! They were respectively Spotlight (Gary Wulf-3 & Matt Bridger-2), The Matinee Idols( Rod Nixon-4, Danny Trakas-3, Al Downey), Horizon (Don Gray-2), Late Edition (Doug Smeltz& Mark Hannum), & Baby Grand (Darryl Flinn-2)! We always emphasize the great Johnny Appleseed District Family. Family is the key in JAD

and was also a highlight in the quartet contest as 4 different father/son combinations were present in five of the top 11 finalist quartets! They were Parental Guidance Suggested (Jonathon Lang-son, Mark Lang-dad, Randy Baughmandad, Will Baughman-son), The Reen Family Singers (Dominic-son, Bernard-son, Stephen II-son, Stephen-dad), Let 'er Rip (Jonathon Lang-son & Mark Lang-dad), Spotlight (Gary Wulf-dad) & Top Shelf (Chad Wulf-son)!I had much pride to reflect on singing & winning with my dad, Leo Sisk, 30 years ago in the 1983 JAD Champs Harmony Partners!

JAD BHS TRIVIA QUESTION: Is this the first time in JAD's history that a combo of singers (Mark & Jon Lang) has performed in two different quartets in the finals (Parental Guidance Suggested-2nd place & Let 'er Rip-8th place)?

Congrats to our new champs Common Core! Enjoy the updated 3X JAD Quartet Champs List attached!!!

THREETIME	1st JAD	2nd JAD	3rd JAD
JAD QUARTET	QUARTET	QUARTET	QUARTET
CHAMPS	CHAMP	CHAMP	CHAMP
1) Larry Autenreith	58 Town & Country Four	67 Travelers	75 Road Show
2) Ray Neikerk	66 Four Encores	71 Chord Dusters	78 Re-Arrangement
3) Dave Bash	78 Re-Arrangement	83 Harmony Partners	85 New Affair
4) Mike Connelly	65 Roaring 20's	69 New Harmony Four	88 Naturals
5) Randy Chisholm	87 Act IV	88 Naturals	94 Marquis
6) Bob Moorehead	87 Act IV	88 Naturals	95 Rumors
7) Marco Crager	84 Bustin' Loose	92 Ricochet	95 Rumors
8) Gary Wulf	89 Bowery Boys	97 Dynamics	00 Park Avenue
9) Dan Trakas	76 Matinee Idols	93 Yesteryear	04 Odds On
10) Mike Harrison	99 Desperado	04 Odds On	08 Cadillac Jack
11) Dave Jarrell	98 Turning Point	07 T.K.O.	10 Maverick
12) Jay Hawkins	77 Coalition	94 Marquis	11 The Franchise
13) Steve Denino	89 Bowery Boys	96 Uptown Sound	13 Common Core
14) Josh Van Gorder	98 Turning Point	10 Maverick	13 Common Core
15) Mike Hull	03 Rythmix	10 Maverick	13Common Core



### **JOHNNY APPLESEED DISTRICT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

#### **JANUARY 17-18** WHY? BECAUSE WE'RE NOT IN THIS ALONE!

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL, COLUMBUS, OHIO 175 HUTCHINSON AVENUE, JUST OFF THE 270/71 INTERCHANGE (SAME PLACE AS LAST YEAR)

Gentlemen,

"We're not in this alone."

Within our chapters, we all have different strengths and weaknesses, and the more we work together as brothers, the stronger our chapters will be. Likewise, our divisions are comprised of individual chapters that also have their unique methods, reasons for existing, and demographic appeals. The more we can learn to share this with each other, the better off all of us will be.

To further illustrate that point, wouldn't it be so great if we could get more members than ever to come out to LeadAc to not only learn techniques to bring home to our chapters, but also to experience them first-hand live, instead of waiting for others to bring it back? We learn a lot in these classes, but we learn the most (and the best) when we share and exchange ideas and experiences with our brothers.



#### LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2014

#### **COURSES OF STUDY OFFERED**

# 5 ½ HOURS CORE INSTRUCTION IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER OFFICES:

**Presidents** 

Treasurers

Secretaries

**Chorus Directors** 

VPs of Music & Performance

VPs of Chapter Development

VPs of Marketing & Public Relations

VPs of Youth In Harmony

#### **ELECTIVES OFFERED SO FAR:**

#### Organizing a Barbershop Base Camp

Find out what all the guys in the Pittsburgh are chapters found out last year: With the right planning, you can get all the chapters in your division together for a fun 1-day event where you all work and sing and learn together some of the basic concepts to help all of your choruses grow and improve. Bonus, it's cheap!

#### Inter-Chapter Relations

Not just with a base camp, but there are a lot of ways you can see your brothers in harmony from other chapters more often. What type of events can you easily create? How can you leverage these events to promote chapter growth and audience growth?

#### Social Media: Strength In Numbers

Ever wonder why you're not getting the return from your investment in the social media frenzy? Most of us don't realize that, unless those target audiences don't get an update every so often, your page will fall off of their regular rotation. How do you keep that from happening? Come learn some strategies to maximize your use of FaceBook, Twitter, and many other social media sites.

#### Directors/Asst Directors/Section Leaders

There are a few different classes that will be offered for your chapter's musical leadership, and they will also be able to participate in the following program.

#### Live Outstanding In Front Program

Does your musical leadership want a chance to develop their skills with a mentor directly in front of a group of singers, live? Would your members benefit from seeing first-hand the large impact that subtle changes up front can provide to the quality of the performance? Would other members like to be the singers for this group?

#### More electives are in the works!



#### 2014 JAD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY REGISTRATION **JANUARY 17-18**

Chapter:		#G	
Name:	Phone	Course	
Double Tree Hotel, break or your course selection. assessment is <b>January 1</b> 1	idual's special needs on the l	and any printed material Registration deadline	als for the school without late fee
Please list any specific ro	ommate requests below or d	raw arrows on the nam	es above.
	: Johnny Appleseed Distric		
Ted Rose			

819 Chappell Road Charleston, WV 25304 harmonyjunkie001@gmail.com

#### Social Media as a Marketing Tool



John Byerly DVP - Marketing & PR



Social media, including pages like Facebook, Twitter, Google+ and Linkedln, are playing an increasing role in people's lives, both as a way of connecting with friends and as a way of increasing business activity. Nonprofit organizations in particular have benefited from social media marketing in a number of ways. A recent study revealed that, since 2007, nonprofit organizations "have been setting the pace for the use of social media in marketing." For nonprofit organizations like ours, such marketing is especially beneficial. Here are a few reasons why...

#### 1. No need for large amounts of funding

Our income from chapter shows, fund-raisers, etc. goes primarily into fulfilling our goals, so there is rarely enough money available to get our message out to the public in traditional ways. Television, radio and print media channels are often too expensive for the typical barbershop chapter to consider. Social media costs only the time and effort of one volunteer.

#### 2. Involvement of stakeholders

Stakeholders tend to hold a great interest in causes that are related to themselves. Our stakeholders – our chapter members – willingly share information about their chapter with their non-barbershop friends, and social media provides an easy way to share. And, I'm not just talking about young people. Many of our older JAD brothers use Facebook, and share information with their older Facebook "friends." The entire chapter becomes your marketing team.

#### 3. Establishing relationships

Just as social media websites give individuals the opportunity to carry on relationships with their relatives and friends, so too they enable chapters to establish and maintain relationships with one another. This benefit goes even further when we create relationships beyond the borders of our society. Social media "sharing," "liking" and "following" create broad public awareness when

other arts organizations become our "friends."

#### 4. Videos as leverage

Nonprofit organizations can also use social media networking to get potential customers to view their promotional videos on sites like YouTube. YouTube offers special access for nonprofits (www.youtube.com/nonprofits) to help you get your chapter's message out. If your chapter doesn't have a good video to promote, share one of the BHS licensed videos that are posted on YouTube. It doesn't have to be your chorus performing for a viewer to get interested in joining your chapter, or attending one of your shows.

#### 5. Surveys and polls

You can also use Facebook or Twitter to conduct surveys and polls, which are especially useful because they can enable you to find out what things about your chapter your "customers" approve and disapprove of, and use that information to improve what you offer. Surveys can also be used to generate interest in fundraisers and other chapter events.

Social media are proving to be the barbershop chapter's best friend. Setting it up is so easy that even a child can do it (and probably should). I'm sure you have someone on the risers who is just waiting for the right opportunity to show the power of social media in marketing your chapter.

As always, please write or call if you have any questions.





#### ANOTHER GREAT JADAQC SHOW OF CHAMPIONS by Mike Sisk

1983 Harmony Partners & 1985 New Affair







#### THE JADAQC CHORUS

Lima, Ohio was the site of another great JADAQC Show Of Champions featured at the JAD Convention weekend on Saturday evening. A perfect appetizer to the show was a Carl J. Cash III spectacular JAD Quartet Champions Display for all to see and pay tribute to the HISTORY of every JAD quartet champ. Handling MC chores was Ben Ayling bass of the 1979 JAD Quartet Champs Sound Syndicate and 1991 International Champions The Ritz.

The JADAQC Chorus, directed by Puck Ross, opened the show with Red Red Robin. This song was performed in tribute to the 50 Year Anniversary of JAD's 1963 Quartet Champs "The Blazers" who sang this tune to win their championship! Jack Rickert, original bass singer, from "The Blazers" honored us as he travelled from Florida to represent the history of his quartet. He also provided some nostalgia by directing a piece of Red Red Robin! . Our brand new 2013 JAD Quartet Champs Common Core started things off with their winning performance of Something Tells Me I'm Into Something Good!

Next up your 2012 International Seniors Quartet Champs Rusty Pipes sang a quality performance with South, Zing Went The Strings, Blue Moon, & I'm Gonna Live Till I Die. Representing the great Southern Gateway Chorus ,JAD perennial champions and 1972 & 1992 International Chorus Championships, was the Gateway VLQ singing Slow Boat To China, Stars & Stripes, and Lost In The Stars. Our guest quartet this year was Forefront who are the current 5th place international bronze medalists having won their medal in Toronto Canada this summer. Although they represent the Cardinal District, three of the group are also JAD Quartet Champs (Brian O'Dell

#### THE BLAZERS

MatriX 2001, Aaron Hughes T.KO. 2007, Drew Wheaton The Franchise 2011). They delivered a most tremendous performance of Put Your Arms Around Me Honey, I Get Around, If You Love Me, Really Love Me, and Seven Bridges Road. Celebrating their 15 year anniversary was the 1998 JAD Quartet Champs Turning Point. They sang well bringing a championship back to life with I've Got The World On A String, Chattanooga Choo- Choo, May I Never Love Again, Kiss The Girl, and Proud Mary.

Directly following was a special tribute given to JAD's own Town & Country Four in the 50 Year Anniversary of their 1963 International Quartet Championship. A BHS video of the T&C, produced by society historian Grady Kerr, was shown in their memory. Singing their one year anniversary were the 2012 JAD Champs The Con Men giving no less than a champ performance of When I Lift Up My Head, I Will Go Sailing No More, Scottish Spring, and Chargog.

Of course you have to save the best for last by way of the 20 year anniversary of your 1993 JAD Champions & 1997 International Quartet Champions who are none other than Yesteryear!! What a pleasure once again to hear these great champions who have not only won the JAD but brought back gold. They sang great and the audience was delighted with their renditions of Shine On Harvest Moon, Let The Rest Of The World Go By, Mighty 'Lak A Rose, Last Night On The Back Porch, A Son of the Sea, and My Wild Irish Rose (Victrola Parody) The Finale included a finishing touch of the JADAQC Chorus closing with Old Songs Are Like Old Friends. Next year the JADAQC will honor the 50 year anniversary of JAD's 1964 Quartet Champions The Wayferers!!!

#### 2013 JAD Champion Quartet





**Common Core** 

Bari - Mike Hull, Bass - Steve Denino, Lead - Josh Van Gorder, Tenor - Mike Nessler



**Blueprint** 

Bari - Paul Gilman, Bass - David Parrett, Lead - Jeff Wallace, Tenor - Carl J. Cash III



**Top Shelf** 

Bari - John Dudrow, Bass - Richard Brooks, Lead - JT Snyder, Tenor - Jason Wulf



**Parental Guidance Suggested** 

Bari - Will Baughman, Bass - Randy Baughman, Lead - Mark Lang, Tenor - Jonathan Lang



**Jam Session** 

Bari - Jeremy Conover, Bass - Paul Agnew, Lead - Chad St. John, Tenor - Adam Reimnitz



**Forte** 

Bari - Todd Farrow, Bass - Terry Healey, Lead - Ernest Blevins, Tenor - Randy Goss



**The Reen Family Singers** 

Bari - Stephen Reen II, Bass - Stephen Reen, Lead - Bernard Reen, Tenor - Dominic Reen



Let 'er Rip

Bari - Shawn Thomas, Bass - Paul Hesson, Lead - Mark Lang, Tenor - Jonathan Lang





**Spotlight** 

Bari - Matt Bridger, Bass - Don Pullins, Lead - Gary Wulf, Tenor - Buzz Johnston



**Outburst** 

Bari - Sam Schlievert, Bass - Tim Kalb, Lead - Nate Ogg, Tenor - Jon Geyer



**Lake Effect** 

Bari - Keith Parker, Jr., Bass - Eeyan Richardson, Lead - Christopher Foisy, Tenor - Matthew Cook



**E Ticket** 

Bari - Todd Armstrong, Bass - Donald McAdams, Lead - Kent Vanderkolk Tenor 3 Steven Shiveley 11



**Horizon** 

Bari - Bayard Pelsor, Bass - Dutch Speidel, Lead - Jerome Wallman, Tenor - Don Gray



**Fermata Town** 

Bari - David Slife, Bass - Scott Schuster, Lead - Kevin Mohr, Tenor - Daniel Lenahan



Classic

Bari - John Byerly, Bass - David Beaudry, Lead - Gary Bivins, Tenor - Jim Deaton



Recycled

Bari - Maury Carlo, Bass - Theodore Williams, Lead - Lou Engler, Tenor - Ted Stombaugh



**Eclipse** 

Bari - Zac Marquart, Bass - Billy Edwards, 12 The Cider Press Winter 2014



O K JOURNEYMEN

Bari - Fred Pummill, Bass - Doug Watson, Lead - Donald Jennings, Tenor - Ted May



**Four The Record** 

Bari - R.F. Miller, Bass - Robert Crowl, Lead - Trevor Garrabrant, Tenor - Tim Brandt



The Matinee Idols

Bari - Rodney Nixon, Bass - Alan Downey, Lead - Kirk Roose, Tenor - Daniel Trakas



**Late Edition** 

Bari - Doug Smeltz, Bass - Mark Hannum, Lead - Stevens Sommer, Tenor - Keith Shuck



**Baby Grand** 

Bari - Ernie Jackson, Bass - Darryl Flinn, Lead - Dave McGrath, Tenor - Joseph Fraley



**Forever Endeavor** 

Bari - David Slife, Bass - Scott Schuster, Lead - Thomas Scott, Tenor - Daniel Lenahan

#### **JAD 2014 International Chorus Preliminaries**



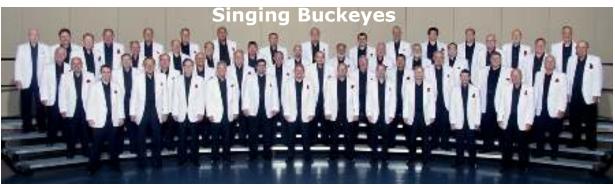
Greater Central Ohio Chapter



Independence, OH Chapter



Western Hills (Cincinnati), OH Chapter



Buckeye Columbus, OH Chapter

#### **JAD 2014 International Chorus Preliminaries**



Mansfield Ohio Chapter



Cincinatti Ohio Chapter



#### **CDD Notes**



Doug Smeltz
VP - Chorus Director Development



entlemen,

JAD leadership desires to help each chapter develop musical talent and provide continuing education to the musical leadership team. With this in mind, we are continually finding ways to benefit our musical leadership including and not limited to ...

#### An open line of communication with front line Directors

Each "Odd Dated" Sunday night at 10 pm, all directors are invited to call in and converse with other directors from around the district. We offer topics of discussion, chances for answers to questions, and an opportunity to hear about upcoming events that pertain to directors and the musical leadership team. Directors call into a conference by dialing 712-432-0360 and using the code 514175 followed by the # symbol.

#### **Division Music Mentors**

This cadre of volunteers will communicate with the division chapters more than in any other year specifically narrowing in on music leadership needs. These men are a direct link to me and the CDD program. I have a few holes to fill so if you would like to help me, let me know.

Southwest JAD - Baldwin - Carl "Woody" Woodrow

Northwest JAD - Cortland - Lane Bushong

Central JAD - Stayman - Doug Smeltz and Stevens Sommer

Northeast JAD - Melrose - ?????????????

Eastern JAD - Rome - Jeff Gehm

### Beta Testing New Concept ICT

JAD will Beta Test a chorus development program this spring in hopefully both Western Ohio and Western Pa. The program involves inviting 6 chapters to an afternoon of coaching and celebration of singing. The Chapters invited will be those who don't normally compete but want to improve their public product with coaching from high level judge/coach personnel. The day will start around 11am with warm ups for each group and then a two song performance in front of the other attendees. This will be followed by an afternoon of "Paired" coaching where each chapter will be coached in Singing, Presentation, and the Music Categories. During these sessions, choruses will work with great coaches both singing and observing so no members needs to stand for more than 30 minutes at a time. The sessions will end around 5pm allowing time for the drive home that Saturday. I will be inviting choruses to attend these first sessions but your chapter can contact me personally to get in on the fun. If your chapter would like to host this event this spring, let me know asap as I will be searching for the idea site for these ICTs.

#### Leadership Academy 2014

Due to David Calland's new position as a director of the Harmony Foundation, I am in search of our leadership for the sessions at LeadAc. Be assured, it will be both fun and informative. The program will allow frontline directors, Assistants, Associates, and Section Leaders to discuss issues and offer opportunities for growth.



# PAINT and MAIN BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Chillicothe, Ohio

Call: 740-775-5726

#### Pittsburgh Youth Harmony Festival Is Big Success in First-Time Effort

by: Ford P Fuller III, Pittsburgh North Hills Chapter.



Sparked by the vision of a dedicated member of the Pittsburgh North Hill Chapter, a small committee started work 16 months ago on a youth initiative that culminated in the area's first-ever Youth Harmony Festival. held on October 5.

Co-sponsored by the Pittsburgh North Hill and the Greater Harmony Chorus (SAI), the Harmony Festival was, by all measures, hugely successful—especially for an inaugural event of this type—with 36 youth registrants (29 girls and 7 boys), four music educators, and a host of clinicians from the Society and Sweet Adelines.

According to chief fundraiser Jim Linton, "The Festival far exceeded our expectations, both in terms of actual registrants as well as many others very interested but unable to attend due to prior commitments." Added Linton, "With youth harmony festivals exploding all across the country, we are absolutely thrilled to have finally been able to put Pittsburgh on the Youth in Harmony map!"

The committee brought together a group of committed Barbershoppers that planned the festival, managed all the logistics and hand-picked the youth chorus directors: Chuck May (director, Greater Harmony Chorus), and Jennifer Fogle (assistant director, Greater Harmony Chorus). They were assisted by the Sidekicks quartet and by three men from the Camerata Singers, the premier a cappella group from Washington & Jefferson College.

A Separate Learning Track for Educators.

Jean Flinn, certified SAI music judge and master director of the Greater Cleveland Chorus was the Clinician for the day. The four teachers who registered were ecstatic at what they learned during Jean's concurrent workshop. Two of the teachers were totally unfamiliar with the Barbershop style of a cappella singing, and are now totally hooked. One word sums up their reaction to Jean's presentation: a collective "Wow!".

Each chorus spent most of the day in separate rehearsals and sectionals. The directors selected song arrangements designed to appeal to teen-age youth while being true to the Barbershop style. The boys learned "I'm Sitting on Top of the World" and "Love Me, and the World is Mine".

The choruses came together for "If There's Anybody Here from Out of Town". Helping during the afternoon to teach stage presence and enhance the vocal presentation were Choreographers Alice Kress, List Putney, Lynn Ross and Harrison King

#### Show Time.

At 5:00 p.m., the gymnasium was transformed from rehearsal room to performance hall for the day's finale—the Big Show—for the boys and girls to show off their newly-acquired Barbershop skills. And what a show it was! The gym was full of parents, grandparents, other family, and friends of the youth performers—and, of course, the Barbershoppers and staff that made the day happen.

The show was the highlight of the day!

Each chorus sang its two songs, with both choruses coming together for the group number. In addition, several youth quartets-including "The Dotted Quarters", with outfits festooned with polka dots wowed the crowd with their rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow". The two sponsoring choruses, the teaching quartets and several other guest quartets helped round out the show program. The audience was delighted and showed their appreciation with hearty applause.

Said Festival coordinator Donna Knapp, "The boys and girls performed magnificently, and we were all so proud of how well they demonstrated everything they had learned. These kids had a blast!"

The Festival received an overwhelming "Hooray!" from participants, teaching staff, volunteers, parents, family and friends. The second annual Pittsburgh Youth Harmony Festival is already set for October 4, 2014, and the festival committee is also working on additional Pittsburgh-area youth initiatives to capitalize on the BHS International Convention coming to Pittsburgh June 28- July 5, 2015.

Festival planners received a lot of support and advice from those who have gone before, especially from Ted Rose, Dave Kindinger and Darlene Inscho.

Knapp concluded, "Pittsburgh is now firmly in the youth harmony scene, but we've only just begun!" Indeed!



# **Johnny Appleseed District** 2014 Leadership Team



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#### It's all about ME



Steve Wyzomierski **Executive Vice President** 



As our continuing saga moves forward, I am still in my role as Executive Vice President for JAD, learning what it takes to become a District President. Casey Parsons, our current DP, and I, along with several other JAD men, attended our Society's Leadership Forum in Nashville the first weekend of November. Casey's constant care for my well-being and education continued even in Nashville. In an exercise designed to teach me that a DP's role requires strength and endurance to handle all types of tasks throughout the entire year, Casey allowed me to carry his luggage from the lobby up the fire escape stairs to his ninth floor room. And as a show of empowering leadership, he even entrusted the task to me without his supervision as he took the elevator and greeted me upon my arrival. When that task was complete, surprisingly, he dismissed me to be on my own for the next several hours. And that free time is what affords me the opportunity to talk about ME. Yes...ME.

As ME made my way through the various classes offered during the weekend, ME noticed an un-promoted, un-announced theme of unity prevailing over the seminar. The first thing ME perceived was that the classes offered this year were quite different from those offered in previous years. In those years, each of the vice presidents governing specific areas within their districts were invited to sit with their counterparts and share issues, concerns, and hopefully solutions. But this year, ME saw something different. The classes were built around the four main concerns that arose from the Chapter Visitation Program two years ago. Incidentally, JAD was one of the districts in the Society that successfully completed visits to ALL chapters in the calendar year. Anyway, the fact that the leaders of our Society were committed to those four areas of concern showed ME that our Society's management is not some type of a top-down structure where the power and mandates are issued from high atop Mt. B Flat and disseminated to the lower ranks of barbershop citizenry and then farther downward to the lowest rank of barbershopdom.....the baritones. Nay, Me tell you! What ME see now is that our Society's leadership listened to what our chapters had to say and designed a strong, active weekend of content based on what the chapters had to say during the visitation program. That shows ME a new sense of unity in our Society, a more linear approach to problem-solving. And that weekend was only the beginning of dealing with those important topics. There is more that can be placed into action items to dig at the root of those four concerns and that approach excites ME very much.

In addition, ME noticed another sense of unity as ME wandered in and out of classrooms. Many of the men in these classes are men ME've seen before over the years, mostly as ME was teaching Leadership Academies around the country. And as ME

This is the official publication of the Johnny Appleseed District Association of Chapters, of the Barbershop Harmony Society

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#### **January**

JAD Leadership Academy

#### March

**IQT - Columbus** 

#### <u>April</u>

12-14 JAD Spring Convention / International **Quartet Prelim Contest / District Chorus Contest** 

#### May

Cleveland West Suburban - Annual Show 10

17 Huntington Tri-State - Annual Show

Thundertones Chorus - Annual Show 18