



The CIDER PRESS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE JOHNNY APPLESEED DISTRICT
of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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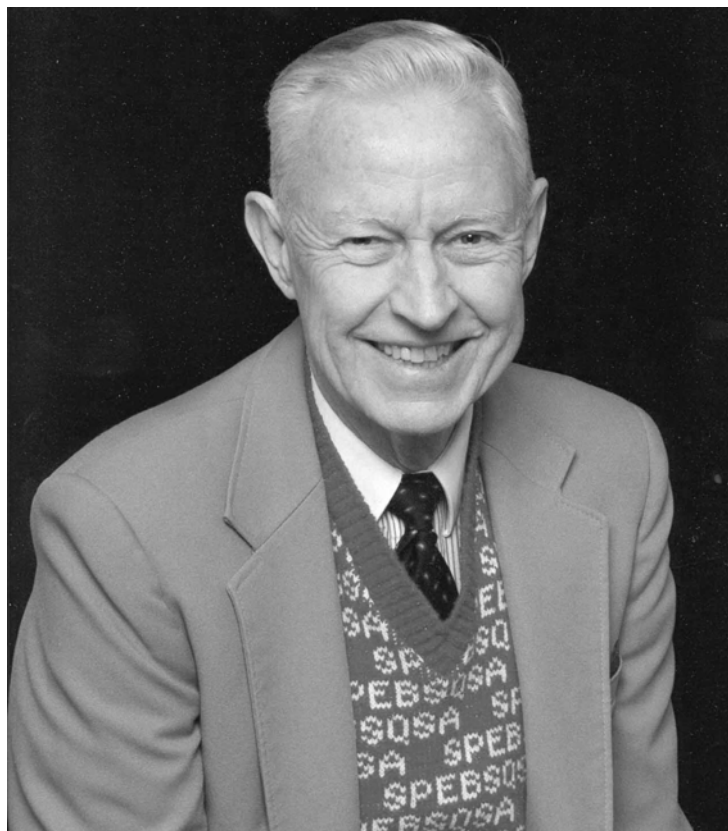


Volume XL Issue 1

January 2004

District of Champions

DICK STUART RETIRES



After nearly 34 years of dedicated service to the Johnny Appleseed District, to the Society and to the hobby Dick has retired as the Editor of the Cider Press.

If you had served 5 years in a leadership position at any level, that would be considered outstanding, 10 years would be phenomenal and 20 years unheard of, but 34 years is justdownright unbelievable. It has not yet been confirmed with Kenosha, but odds are this is a record for any district bulletin editor in the Society.

Those of us who have been involved in publishing news letters, bulletins or periodic communication documents of any type, know how much effort is involved. For those who have not been so involved, consider this: each issue requires hours of work, while assembling the Cider Press; before that many hours of gathering the news by email, telephone and personal visits is required, then there is editing and writing which has to be done and concerns about advertising which he and his daughter Betty Howe had to address – and on and on and on.

And he did this for you and me that we might be better informed for 34 years. Next time you see Dick at one of the district functions take a moment to stop and thank him.

We plan to have additional coverage relative to Dick's service in the near future. On an interim basis Ted May has agreed to serve as Editor, with Fred Pummill as Assistant Editor.



"Relax Dick and enjoy more time with Jane. We're sure she won't mind."

NEW LOOK FOR 2004

by Ted May, Editor-Pro-Tem

In 2004, the Johnny Appleseed District publication, The Cider Press, has a new editor, a new format, a new means for publishing and new rules for submitting information for publication. This is your opportunity as barbershoppers to help get information on your chapter, your quartets and your members into the Cider Press. Not everything you send will automatically appear in an issue. But if you do not submit information and on time, it certainly can not be published. Additionally, the Cider Press will in the future be posted on the JAD web page.

First of all, all district officials need to get their articles to the editor by the deadline posted in the previous issue. Next any chapter bulletin editors, who have any noteworthy chapter activities need to send their articles to the editor by the posted deadline. Any chapter or quartet member, who have information (or pictures) for the good of the district, must submit this information to the editor by the deadline. Hard copy can be mailed to Ted May at 514 Laurel Ave., Hamilton, Ohio 45015. The preferred method is email to ted@harmonystreet.org. Pictures and graphics are best sent as .jpg files. Articles can be sent in MS-Word or Rich Text formats. Advertisements must be camera-ready and sized for ad placement in black (continued on page 2)

Attention Bulletin Editors

If you wish to have your chapter information to appear in the Cider Press, send your bulletins to Ted May at:
ted@harmonystreet.org



WHADDA YA MEAN OPS?

Everyone knows when you make a mistake you say oops. That's right Greg Swan, but we're not talking about a mistake we're talking about a whole new method of management, Mark Blake explained

OPS will be the subject of a lot of discussion at the district and the chapter officer level in the coming months. There will be articles in the Cider Press and details posted on the district web site and information disseminated in other formats during early 2004.

International leadership has requested all districts accept this new approach by 2005. Our district House of Delegates elected to start early and so the new management system is being initiated in 2004.

Along with OPS you will be hearing and seeing the acronym SWOT, an evaluation tool that will be used to assist chapters in identifying strengths and weaknesses and to determine needs and provide potential solutions.

Our district Board of Directors is excited about the possibilities of these new ideas and asks that all of us remain open to any changes which may be instituted.

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NEXT DEADLINE
March 1, 2004

The CIDER PRESS

The Cider Press is the official publication of the Johnny Appleseed District Association of Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (SPEBSQSA). The opinions herein contained do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the JAD administration nor its members. **Subscription rate is \$4.00 per year for district members and \$10.00 per year for others.** District members' dues are paid as a part of their per capita dues; other subscriptions should be handled with the Business Manager.

Editor: Ted May, 514 Laurel Ave, Hamilton, Ohio 45015; phone 513-868-6037; email trmay@iglou.com

Assistant Editor: Fred Pummill, 141 Orchard St, Middletown, Ohio 45044; phone 513-423-4361; email f.pummill@sbcglobal.net

Business Manager: Betty Howe, RR#2, Box 137, Williamstown, KY 41097; phone 606-824-0691; email knox_howe@fuse.net

Photographers: Ted May, Fred Pummill, Betty Howe

News copy should be in the hands of the editor by the deadline published in this issue.

Publication date is approximately three weeks after deadline.

Advertising rates are \$4.00 per column inch for Society activities and \$5.00 per column inch for non-Society organizations. Special quantity rates are available upon application to the business manager.

Members should report address changes to the international Records Dept.

SPEBSQSA, Inc. 6315 Third Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143-5199. DO NOT REPORT ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE CIDER PRESS, except for non-member.

BAH HUMBUG! XMAS IS CANCELED.

from Jay Garber

T'was the night before Christmas - Old Santa was dissed.
He cussed out the elves and threw down his long list.
Miserable little brats, ungrateful little jerks.
I have a good mind to scrap the whole works.
I've busted my tail for darn near a year.
Instead of "Thanks Santa" - what do I hear?
The old lady's mad cause I work late at night.
The elves want more money - The reindeer all fight.
Rudolph smokes pot and is drunk at parades.
Donner is pregnant and Vixen has AIDS.
And just when I thought things might get even better,
Those wise guys from IRS sent me a letter.
They say I owe taxes - now if that ain't darn funny.
Who the heck ever sent Santa Claus any money?
And the young kids these days - they sure are the end.
They ask the impossible ...and they don't want to bend.
I spend a whole year making wagons and sleds,
Assembling dolls...all those arms, legs and heads,
I made tons of yoyo's - but got no request for them...
They want computers and robots...like I'm richer than IBM.
I fly the whole night...dodging thousands of trees,
Often falling down chimneys and skinning my knees.
I'm quitting this job...there's just no more enjoyment.
I'll just sit on my keyster and draw unemployment.
There's no Christmas this year...and here is the reason...
I found me a blonde and head'n SOUTH for the season!

NEW LOOK FOR 2004

(continued from page 1)

& white for size of ad purchased and sent to Betty Howe at 412 Knoxville-Gardnersville Rd., Williamstown, KY 41097 or emailed to knox_howe@fuse.net.

All submittals need to be as brief as possible. The Johnny Appleseed District Cider Press articles will endeavor to get to the point (400-600 words preferably). Any pictures submitted need to have recognizable faces, which are identified. Pic-

tures taken from the back row of an auditorium will not benefit the reader and are not usable.

This is the opportunity for anyone to get your chapter, your chorus, and your quartet activities in print. The editor reserves the right at all times to limit or edit or omit any submitted information. All submissions must give proper credit and sources of information and the submitter must identify himself and provide a means for the editor to corroborate the information.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I don't know about the rest of the 30,000+ members who enjoy the Cider Press, but it seems to me that it would be more enjoyable if the print was all the same size & at least large enough so most of us old "fogies" can read it without a magnifying glass! The type on the front page of December issue is about right, or maybe one size up. While I'm making a fuss, you could reduce the 1-1/2 margins to utilize the space more efficiently, & just perhaps save a page, & \$\$\$'s as well! Also, while I'm criticising I'll add that I get enough junk email & don't appreciate same stuff in the Cider Press. If you don't have anything to write about, then don't write it! Again, save space, & \$\$\$'s!!
Cliff Shandle, North Coast Chapter
The Cider Press has provided information to thousands who have differing tastes. You can't satisfy everyone and the newsletter must be in multiples of four pages or it would cost far more than we are willing to spend. Sometimes "filler" is a good thing. Just read the parts you like and leave the rest to others - (editor)



AN OFFICIAL INVITATION

For those who need a 2x4 to get started, got an idea that you think could help the Barbershop Harmony Society become better known and increase membership in the years ahead? E-mail it to marketthesociety@clarkeco.com or send regular mail to: Market the Society, Clarke & Company, 535 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116. Include a name and telephone number in case we need further information. While we can't promise that every idea will be used, all submissions will be appreciated and acknowledged. Please respond by December 31 (or thereabouts).

JUDGES NAMED FOR LOUISVILLE

Judges for the International competition in Louisville, 2004 have been announced. They will be:

Music:

Brent Graham, Mark Hale, Steve Jamison, Scott Kitzmiller, Rod Sgrignoli

Singing:

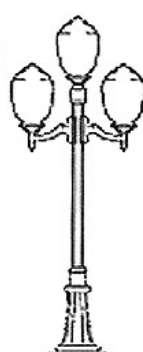
Mark Holdeman, Joe Liles, Bill Rashleigh, Ed Williamson, Russ Young

Presentation:

Larry Clemons, David Leeder, Dale Thomas, Richard Treptow, Gary Wulf

Contest Administrators:

Dwain Chambers, Jim Nolan, Chuck Watson



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CHASE THE DREAM

By Skipp Kropp

We have now completed all of the District functions for 2003 and I believe ended with a bang—COTS. While there were slightly fewer chapters attending this year than last, I think that those that attended really developed energy for making 2004 a banner year in which the member chapters of Johnny Appleseed District will see a great deal of progress. There are several reasons for my optimism.

First, we held the initial meeting of the Operations Team on Friday night before COTS. That meeting included not only the guys on the then-proposed operations Team, but also eight of our 13 Chapter Counselors and the then-proposed Board of Directors. We covered a great deal of material including another discussion of the Society-mandated District reorganization, an explanation of how the new Operations Team and Board will relate to each other, and an exercise on team building and working as a team. In addition, we reviewed and edited a major component of the District's 2004 Work Plan, the acquisition of feedback from chapters through a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis that the Chapter Counselors and other District managers will be perform with as many chapters as will accept the process. It is my hope that every chapter will participate because this will be the primary means by which the Board determines the course for the District in future years.

Second, we convened a Special meeting of the House of Delegates at which the proposed District reorganization structure was approved, the District By-Laws were amended to incorporate the new structure, a new Board of Directors was elected, and the Operations Team for 2004 was appointed. I submit that this meeting signals the beginning of a great year for the District.

Finally, COTS was terrific. This year, the operations Team guys sat in on most of the chapter officer classes to get a feel for what our customers, the chapters, want and need in terms of resources as well as to meet some of the new chapter officers. If you did not have the opportunity to attend, please put the first Saturday in December on your calendar for next year. We will be offering more course tracks next year in areas other than elected officers and I believe that next year will be an even better experience for all who attend.

I will close by saying that my first year as District President has flown by and I thank you for both the privilege of serving as your President and the opportunity. I hope that you all have a happy holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Convention and Contests in Columbus!

SWOT AT COTS

Chapter Assessment Procedures were discussed at COTS. The document detailing it is still being revised and will be distributed to attendees and non-attendees alike in the near future. The intent is this: In the past, Chapters have been asked to create a Mission and a Vision statement specific to their chapter and the needs of its members. This document was to be a future gauge for everything a chapter intends to do and not gather dust.

However it has come to the Societies attention that perhaps some chapters need help in assessing their needs to make this document a living reality. Other chapters have created the document as directed, but may not have taken into account the changing needs of its members. Some chapters have a lock on the idea and that's fine. But for those who may not yet have things well in hand (most of us) The Society has now created SWOT.

SWOT stands for "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats." The concept is basically simple. Call for an idea session with team of idea men in your chapter. If you need help, you have a chapter counselor, assigned by Steve Wyszomierski, to help you to perform this exercise.

The steps are laid out to help you identify your chapters Strengths and Weaknesses. You can then focus on your Opportunities for improvement and avoiding the Threats to your success in improving your chapter. Ultimately you develop your own personalized chapter plan for success. The plan is yours, developed by you and executed by you, with the help of your chapter counselor if you chose.

This needs to be completed by the HOD at Spring Prelims with your chapter beginning to take the identified steps to a stronger, healthier Chapter.

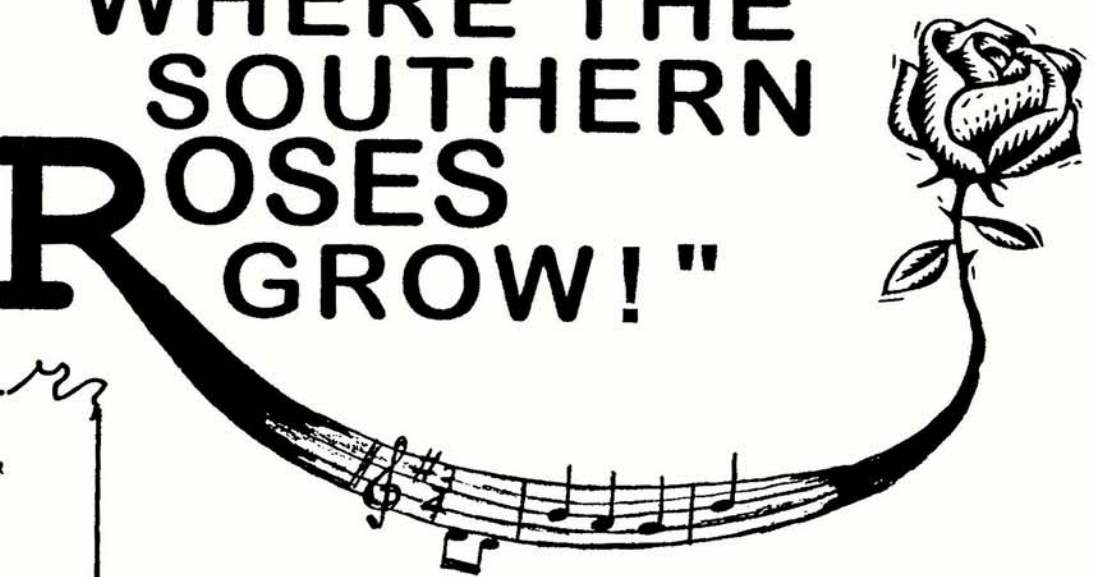
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COTS was Awesome



COTS attendees arrived Saturday morning from 34 chapters at the University Plaza Hotel, in Columbus, OH.



First stop was the registration desk and receiving information packets and room assignments.



Everyone had their class assignments. Even chapter coaches met to hone their craft. Some had multiple classes to attend.



Practical applications of learned skills were tested. These guys were cheered on to new and more creative thinking.



Attendees learned new music. The directors class was pressed into service to help teach this selection.

Something for Everyone



Classes were combined at times to allow sharing of ideas and coordination of talents.



Students spent 24 hours in class, learning the do's and don'ts of their specific jobs.



Several times general sessions were held to give everyone the same perspective, to learn music and to put new concepts to the test.



Well-trained instructors used numerous tools to educate the incoming chapter officers and other attendees.



From Society administrators to District officers, everyone was focused on giving attendees the needed information.

Everyone Had Fun & Learned



Everyone seemed to have a good time. Smiles and song were found in classes and in the halls.



Saturday night quartets came to sing. Buckeye Blend provided entertainment.



Class Ring rang chords to the delight of the crowd.



You Bet added to the festivities and even added a snapshot to their own scrap book.



2003 District champions, Rhythmix capped off the evening's parade of quartets.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S COMPE- TITION

CALLING ALL BULLETIN EDITORS! If you think you produce a notable bulletin, get your submissions together and get them to me shortly into 2004. For rules, go to the Society web site and look for the PROBE web page and on to the bulletin editors contest page. Please note that PROBE is still trying to figure out how to judge electronic bulletins. Three hard copies of your submissions must be sent in January, 2004 to Ted May, PROBE Contest at 514 Laurel Ave., Hamilton, Ohio 45015. By the way I do not judge these submissions. They will be sent the judges, who are yet to be determined. One winner and one runner up will be judged in time for Spring prelims. Here are a few of the particulars from the PROBE bulletin editor competition rules.

An IBC (International Bulletin Contest) chairman shall be appointed by the PROBE president not later than November 15 of the year preceding the contest. The PROBE VP-BE shall appoint a panel of nine certified judges, three from each category. The IBC chairman shall provide each judge with a copy of IBC general guidelines, along with necessary category score sheets and the bulletins to be judged.

For monthly bulletins, three copies of each of three consecutive issues published during the year are to be submitted. One copy of each issue must be an off-the-press copy (for L&R judges), but the other two may be photocopies. For weeklies, 12 consecutive issues are required, the first four together, the second four together, and the third four together. For biweeklies, nine consecutive issues are required, the first three together, the second three together, and the third three together. Bulletins and verifying materials must reach the IBC chairman by April 1.

PROCRASTINATION

by Ted May
(to be continued)



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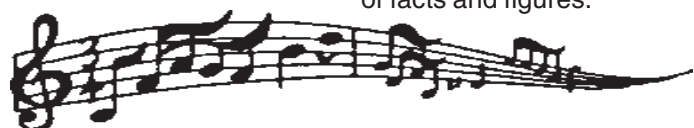
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

by Frank Riddick, AP Member Services

Fellow JADers, our membership continues to drop not only in our District but also in the Society as a whole. Retention of our members after the first renewal continues at 87+%, however we are losing too many new members before their first year of membership is completed. That fact plus the very slow pace of recruitment of new members are the major causes of this membership loss. Among the factors contributing to non-renewal of first year members is the lack of a well thought out orientation program for these new members. The new members we have signed up have certain ideas of what being a member will entail. If we don't advise them of what expectations the chapter has of them and what they can expect from the chapter we are not being fair to them. You

say you don't know how to put together an effective Orientation Program. I HAVE THE ANSWER FOR YOU but you will have to come to one of the Membership Summits being held on January 17th for the Western Division at the Holiday Inn in Sidney, Ohio or the Eastern Division on January 18th at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge, Ohio.

You say you have asked everyone you can think of to join SPEBSQSA and don't know how to recruit any other men, again I invite you to attend one of the 2 Membership Summits in January, 2004. At these Summits you will have a chance to learn some new techniques of recruiting as well as talk with men from other chapters about how they recruit new members. These summits will consist largely of audience participation rather than a lot of facts and figures.



IF YOU BELIEVE

When you step out on a stage all eyes are on you. It can be intimidating, unless you believe in yourself. After all, isn't this moment what you worked so hard to attain? Make a mistake and the audience may not know it. Act like you've made a mistake and they're sure to notice. But, continue with confidence, and they may not know. Even if they do, they will be very forgiving. Believe in yourself and they will believe in you also.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Recently, the Johnny Appleseed District lost not one but two of its premiere contributors. They were well known to the barbershoppers locally and at the District level and both had made unique contributions to the District. Mickey Baier and Dan Fitzpatrick probably had little in common, except for the hobby that we all love. Dan died November 27, having contributed to his community and had developed quite a reputation as a performer and

for his graphic arts talents. Mickey had dedicated a number of years to District administration and left us far too soon.

Dan created numerous graphics that became legendary. Not the least of these is the JAD apple logo that is used extensively today. He also created the graphics that were used to represent the International competitions in Cincinnati (twice) and to depict the efforts of men such as Bob Mucha and Jim Miller of the Southern Gateway Chorus. As a singer he competed with several quartets, including The Sleepless Knights in '71 & '73, The Last National Prank in '78, '79 & '80, and The Old Regime in '87 & '88. For his efforts he achieved the JAD Hall of Fame in 1989.

Mickey on the other hand, sang in competition with Four-Part Therapy in '88. He served as District Awards and scholarship committee chairman from 1990-1994, ran the endowments committee in '93. In acknowledgement of this, Mickey was awarded

Barbershopper of the Year in 1995. Mickey went on to serve as district secretary from 1995-1999, he produced the District Directory from 1995-1998, was District Treasurer in 2000.

Both men deserve our thanks for their contributions and we will remember them fondly as dedicated barbershoppers and friends. We will miss them both.

YOU BET!

A Barbershop Quartet

Carl - Jason - Jeff - Paul

Contact Jeff:

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Phone: (513) 755-0075
jeff@youbetquartet.com

www.youbetquartet.com

PARTNER IN HARMONY BENEFITS YOUNG SINGERS

By Warren Willard

Several years, ago after organizing a benefit concert for a local high school's music program, Warren Willard had a dream to do something on a larger scale. As envisioned, the program would enlist the cooperation of local service clubs and benefit music programs at many schools in many communities.

The dream is now a reality called "Partners in Harmony." Willard's idea has taken hold in communities around his San Clemente, California, home and he offers the plan for other quartets and chapters to adopt and put into action- (editor)

I asked the guys in our quartet what they thought of the idea of offering to visit local Rotary Clubs and be their "program." They didn't hesitate in saying yes. My own club, the Irvine Spectrum Rotary Club, became our beta test. The program chair gladly accepted our offer and, after hearing several songs and a brief description of how we would use any money that the club donated to provide resources for a local high school vocal music department, they made a generous donation and we were on our way.

We contacted the Rotary District and asked if they would allow us to make a presentation at an upcoming district presidents meeting that would be attended by the presidents of 50 Rotary clubs. We made a presentation, sang a few songs and asked to be considered as guest program speakers/singers at their clubs' weekly meetings. Shortly after that offer and presentation, my phone started ringing and it hasn't stopped yet. It's reached the point where we now need to get other quartets and chapters involved.

Here's the plan. You are welcome to use it but I caution you that certain elements are critical for its success, so be careful about making any radical changes without careful consideration. Goal: To provide needed resources to

local high school music educators. Source of resources: SPEBSQSA Harmony Marketplace, local chapter assistance with workshops and coaching, YMIH summer camps, music festivals. Funding: Local service clubs, in our case, local Rotary Clubs. But this can easily include other service clubs and fraternal organizations such as Kiwanis, Lions, Elks, Moose American Legion and others. Procedure: Offer to provide the program at a club's weekly meeting. The presentation: Our quartet attends the meeting and presents a program of songs, then tells the members what we plan to provide for the school of their choice. We ask for their financial support at a minimum level of \$250 for each school designated. We obtain the club president's signature on a certificate that says: "Partners in Harmony, a partnership between the local SPEBSQSA Chapter and the service club (by name) presents to (name of school) this certificate of appreciation and support entitling the bearer to teaching aids and other valuable resources from SPEBSQSA Harmony Marketplace and the local Barbershop Chapter (by name).

Follow-up: After obtaining the service club's donation, we contact the music educators and tell them that they have X number of dollars credit that can be used to acquire teaching aids, music, etc., from the Society. We provide a catalog and ask the teachers to make their selections and return them to us for ordering. We are considering simply giving them a check and a Harmony Marketplace catalog. Our belief, after several months of presentations, is that it might be better if there were no strings attached. That's a judgment call that's up to you.

Presentation at the school: If possible, we personally deliver the selected items and present them in front of a choral music class. Our quartet provides a demo of our music style and a workshop -- if invited to by the music educator. A Mission Viejo teacher turned over three classes to our quartet for a harmony workshop.

It's working well: We have raised more than \$4,000 in cash and pledges with more coming. We are hesitant to push for additional service club presentations until we have a few more quartets participating in the program. Even if every presentation doesn't yield a donation, we feel that we have been ambassadors of harmony in our communities.

Additional plans: We advise the Rotary clubs that about 80 percent of the money donated will directly benefit their designated school and that 20 percent is being set aside for local area Youth Harmony activities. One is to help fund the production of a High School Harmony Festival in 2004 or 2005. The plan for the festival is to showcase male, female and mixed ensemble a cappella groups. One-hundred percent of the money being donated is going toward youth harmony. No money is being spent on administrative or travel expenses.

What's lacking? The female vocal music students are kind of left out of the program. Of course we encourage the music educator to select whatever resources they want and some will be useful for female vocal music students.

Frosting on the cake: Rotary Club members are exposed to barbershop harmony and become candidates for membership and to attend shows. The quartet has received performance opportunities, both paid and unpaid. Community awareness of our wonderful hobby is enhanced. Young singers are exposed to barbershop harmony and realize that singing can be the source of a lifetime of enjoyment. Music educators come away with a greater appreciation of our style of music and our civic consciousness.

Okay, now what? I am refining this whole process and our quartet is dedicating time to see it thrive. Our Laguna Hills Quartet Chapter is solidly behind us. Chapter President Jim Kay is our biggest cheerleader. I recognize the void of not having SAI involvement and I propose to offer our experience and knowledge of the process with our

sisters in harmony. I would like to see SAI become an integral part of our "Partners in Harmony" initiative.

Interested? We would be happy to share our experience. Feel free to contact me by email at willard@cox.net or by mail at: Warren Willard, 5 Corte Tallista, San Clemente CA 92673.

MINI HEP CLASS BEING HELD

by R.D. Mathy

On Friday evening, February 27 and Saturday the 28 (9 a.m. 5 p.m.) we will be holding a mini HEP school for directors and all who are on chapter music teams. It has been a bit frustrating in trying to arrange meetings with JAD chapters and falling short of desired goals. The 27-28 of February is a call to arms for those who would like to have a hands on experience with the various Music Man techniques.

I will be contacting all JAD directors and presidents to better inform and acquaint you with our Music Man concept.

Some 30 years ago I attended a similar mini HEP school where Tom Gentil and Freddie King were there to assist beginning and advanced directors. I registered for the beginning class with Freddie King. Freddie unlocked the mystery of directing barbershop line to the class.

I want to assist you with unlocking tonal concepts and ways to instantly correct flat singing. We have 59 active chapters in the JAD and I'd like to see 59 music teams attending.

You only cost will be overnight, mileage and food. The site will be in Columbus at Upper Arlington High School.

Chapter presidents and directors will all be contacted. Please reserve the 27 and 28 of February for an event that could very well assist your chapter's singing efforts.

Have you heard ...



THE NEWS!

A Barbershop Quartet

John Betts – Tenor
Rick Haywood – Lead
Dave Rubin – Baritone
Dave Smotzer – Bass

Call Rick at (440) 323-0616

TheNewsQT@aol.net

IF BEN FRANKLIN HAD BEEN A BARBERSHOPPER

If barbershop harmony had been around in 1776, imagine the trouble this country would have endured. For example, many of our forefathers might have formed quartets and while practicing for competition could have set back the constitutional process many years. Being a smart man, Benjamin Franklin probably would have been a baritone and who knows how that would have set with the French.

When Ben visited England, he might have started a chapter, encouraging the Tories to try their hand at producing a chord. To make matters worse, he might have gone before King George and lost his head, trying to convince him that listening to a baritone solo was a good idea.



Carl Taylor Bill Woodward
Bud Haggard Ken Buckner

The Barons

2003 Int'l Seniors
Quartet Champion

Contact — Bill Woodward
301 Melbourne Way
Lexington, KY 40502
859-260-2020

Email — ABCWoodward@aol.com

FOR THOSE WHO MISSED IT

JAD COTS held December 6 & 7 found attendees from over 28 chapters came to The University Plaza Hotel in Columbus, Ohio for the 2003-2004 Chapter Officers Training School. This title is a bit of a misnomer, as all barbershoppers are invited to come and learn about how to do what is necessary to keep things singing in the JAD.

As usual many chapters sent representatives to learn from the experts. "Students" sat in classes, sang in the halls and received more than their share of entertainment. A special House of Delegates meeting was held Saturday morning to resolve old business left over from the October meeting and to receive information about new Society restructuring, that is filtering down to all the districts (see "Whadda Ya Mean Ops" page 1).

Instructors cam from all over to impart wisdom on the lesser informed of us. They included:

Gary Stamm (Dean) – Land 'O Lakes District (Wisconsin). A 33-year Society member & Cots instructor since 1985, Gary has been twice honored as COTS Dean of the year and is a certified Presentation Judge.

Don Challman (Presidents) – Land 'O Lakes District (Minnesota). A 40-year Barbershopper; Don has 27 years with the Night Howls quartet, is a past chapter & district President, a Society Board member, received Chapter & District BOTY honors and is a Certified Presentation Judge.

J. Noah Funderberg (Secretaries) – Dixie District (Alabama). A 20-year Society member, Noah is Sr. Assistant Dean at the University of Alabama School of Law. He has served in virtually all chapter offices, several District positions and Society capacities related to Laws and Regulations.

Richard (Dick) Newton (Treasurers) – Mid-Atlantic District (Virginia). Dick has been a Society member since 1984. Dick has served as Chairman of the Chapter International Committee, Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, Chairman of the Presentation Team, and Music VP.

Brian Dunkel (Chapter Development) – Pioneer District (Michigan). Brian has served 3 terms as Chapter President, Chapter VP Membership and is on the Society committee in the creation of United We Sing program. Brian has 25 years professional teaching experience.

Terry Jordan (Marketing & PR) – Mid-Atlantic District (Virginia). Terry is a 38-year Society member and has served on numerous COTS faculties, Harmony College faculty and PR COTS faculty Advisor for 5 years. He has served at the District level as PR Officer, Bulletin Editor.

Tom Nasman (Music and Performance) – Seneca Land District (New York). Tom is a 24-year barbershopper. He has sat in most Chapter officer chairs, including Director. He is a CASA Ambassador for upstate New York. His quarteting experience includes 1982 District Champion.

Ron Knickerbocker (Chorus Directors) – Mid Atlantic District (Pennsylvania). Ron joined the Society in 1967, spending time quarteting (Intl. champion Regents quartet in 1974), directing and as chorus coach. Ron served his district on committees and as District Music Educator.

Richard (Dick) L. Staedt (Young Men in Harmony) – Land O' Lakes District (Wisconsin). Dick has 43 years in the Society, serving his Chapter in most offices, except for treasurer. At the District level he has served as President, Secretary, VP, and Area Counselor.

Vaughn Albert (Chapter Counselor) – Cardinal District (Indiana). The senior faculty member with 55 years experience, Vaughn held Chapter offices from Secretary to President. A 10-year COTS faculty member, he has served as Dynamo Coordinator, VP, and Chapter Counselor.

Steve Patrick (JAD) (Temporary stand-in)

All in all this was a very informative and entertaining "school", where all attendees came away with great deal of information and a lot of enthusiasm for their tasks ahead.



HARMONY STREET GOES THE EXTRA MILE

This is a story of a Christmas quartet experience. The Cider Press welcomes any such stories throughout the year - (editor)

Harmony Street booked a job at Strauss & Troy, a very large and prestigious law firm in downtown Cincinnati as a repeat performance from the previous year. Early in November, quartet members Ted May and Fred Pummill volunteered to edit and produce the Cider Press on an interim basis. This required meeting with District Officers on Friday night, Dec. 5 then covering the JAD COTS session in Columbus that weekend.

The singing stroller lasting from 1 to 5 PM Saturday, during which the quartet entertained hundreds of members, guests and clients of the law firm. One special guest was a little boy, perhaps 5 years old; who said his favorite song was "Twinkle, Twinkle, Jingle Bells." A little girl around 8 wearing reindeer antlers blushed full red when Harmony Street told her she looked like Rudolph's girlfriend and then sang "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" to her and her family. They didn't just stand and sing in the hallways or the food service areas, but mingled with families in smaller rooms and sought out groups to whom they could personalize their performance. They took only two very short breaks.

Other entertainers on hand included a Harpist and a wonderful piano player from the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra. But follow-up correspondence from the folks at Straus & Troy thanked Harmony Street profusely; reporting that they were indeed the hit of the day and were being invited back again next year.

The extra mile? Actually there were about 225 extra miles round trip to Cincinnati from Columbus and back Saturday and though tired, the quartet was filled with enough great memories to keep them going for months to come.

DON'T FORGET YOUR SPRING TUNE-UP

By Greg Swann, VP Events

It may be cold, and the snow may be blowing, but now's the time to start planning for your chapter's "Spring Tune-Up". Yes, once again, it's time for the district event that has been described as a mini-international. "Tune Up" and plan to be in Columbus, Ohio on April 16 – 17, 2004. The final hotel and venue plans are still under construction, but the date is set and the city selected. Stay tuned to your next issue of the Cider Press for all the details. But for now be sure to mark your calendar for an event you won't want to miss.

The competition judging panel will be:

Music: Greg Lyne, Steve Delehanty, Nick Papageorge

Singing: Tim Brooks, Larry Deters, Jim Richards

Presentation: Roger Ross, Steve Plumb, Connie Keil

Contest Administrators: Brian O'Leary, Dave Kannberg

Registration forms and additional information will follow - (editor)

OPEN LETTER

by Michael J. Banish

2004 YMIH Activities are as follows:

February 28, Upper Arlington HS in Columbus, OH, times to be determined (I have yet to hear from R.D.) – Advanced YMIH Training; an extension of the COTS class, this training workshop will include demonstration "how-to's" from two chapters that have been most successful with them, a live high school quartet (tentative), as well as additional hints, tips and ideas for making the most of your chapter's YMIH Program. There will even be an opportunity to share some ideas with the musical leaders from other chapters, as we are running this session to coincide with R.D. Mathey's Music Man Program at the same location.

April 17, High School Quartet Contest – Schools need to be contacted immediately if they are to prepare for this contest. Information is on the website. Registration is \$20 per quartet, and is refundable after the contest if the quartet competes.

August 17-21 – Buckeye Harmony Camp. More information is available on the JAD and Buckeye websites. We want to encourage chapters to be more involved this year in any of 3 ways: 1) Financial support through the camper scholarship program, 2) HS demos in their areas to encourage students to attend, 3) volunteers to be camp counselors for the camp week.

New information on our website at www.singJAD.com, YMIH link. More to come, including a new design.



TAGS, GAGS & SWIPES

Hold the press, where did 2003 go? No matter, the years just seem to fly so quickly as you get older. At age 10, a year is 10% of your life, at age 25 it's 4%, at age 50 it's 2% and at age 100 it's . . . well anyway, you get the idea . . . tempus fugit. 2004 is here and we all get the chance to start afresh with new resolutions and goals for the year. We at the Cider Press hope this year will bring you health, wealth and lots of plaster cracking chords. One resolution we hope you Bulletin Editors will make is to send your bulletins and/or news to ted@harmonystreet.org or fred@harmonystreet.org in a timely manner so we can include it in the 'Press'.

As was mentioned in the last issue, Bettie Howe, Dick Stuart's daughter, was recently honored for her years of service as Business Manager of the Cider Press. We want to add our kudos with a big thank you for agreeing to stay on in the same capacity under the new management. Ads can be sent to her at knox_howe@fuse.net

In chapter news about 10 days before Christmas, the **Middletown Chapter** sang carols at four local high-rise seniors' apartments and rest homes with the Middletown Fire Department providing their transportation and with a firemen playing Santa Claus for the residents, passing out candy and other goodies. They have been doing this every year for over 50 years. There is tremendous satisfaction in serving others, particularly at the holiday season.

Dec. 13 & 14 **Western Hills** produced an original Christmas show at Mt. St. Joseph's College with the *Miami University Men's Glee Club* providing additional harmony. Both performances were well attended, despite some adverse weather conditions.

The **Cincinnati Chapter** had its annual Christmas dinner on December 14, with Denny Daum returning as President after a 2-year hiatus. The BOTY(s) were Bruce Martin & Jerry Wallman.

Bill Reisling of **Loreign** reports that their recent show was an artistic and financial success, with a great guest quartet lineup on *Matrix*, *Hot Air Buffoons* & *Avalon*. Their show was built around tributes to Ohio's birthday, Bob Hope & the good old USA, entitled "Everything Old is New Again."

Cleveland East recently hosted a Melrose Division novice quartet contest at their meeting place, Recher Hall in, Euclid. The competition was hot and heavy, with 5 quartets battling it out for the crown. When the dust settled, *I Don't Care* from Independence and *Three Steinways and a Bald One* from Cleveland East shared the title.

Ed Crosley of the **Akron chapter** reports they are in need of a Director. Contact is Ray Stone at 330-869-6287 or stonenetwork@aol.com.

Paul Shannon, director of the **Zanesville Y-City Chorus**, recently attended the Sage Lake Roundup in Michigan, to which he drove 430 miles each way - now that's

really going the extra mile. By the way the Sage Lake Roundup is by invitation only to a very exclusive group of 70. The group includes Ben Ayling (*The Ritz*), Ken Buckner (*The Barons*), Denny Gore & Buzz Haeger (*Four Renegades*) Joe Lyles and Jim Miller to name a few..

Speaking of **Zaneville**, they have certainly raised the bar as far as recruitment and growth are concerned. They now have 78 members and are ranked in the top 15% in the Society in size. That's an accomplishment of which to be very proud.

The **Defiance Chapter** recently had its installation dinner, at which Dave Meyer was named BOTY. Congratulations Dave and to the chapter for a very high level of activity and good contest performances.

Mansfield recently held its annual installation dinner and a good time was had by all. Class Ring provided entertainment. The BOTY was their director, Steve Kovach.

If your chapter wasn't mentioned in this column, have your bulletin editor send us a copy or assign someone to send us news items.

LOTTERYWINNERS

from Mike Bannish, VP YMIH

Thank you for participating in the YMIH Lottery this year. We raised \$2100 for the fund, with 26 chapters purchasing 42 chances. (*You Bet contributed \$500 in addition - ed*) We hope to continue this fundraiser and to have more quartet participation next year. All proceeds go into the JAD YMIH Fund, which gets used for JAD YMIH events and other YMIH projects throughout the year.

Please note that all of these are NOT obligations until the chapter and the quartet negotiate a contract for the quartets and making these arrangements (in other words, MY task here is done). Please do so as soon as possible so there are no misunderstandings. Neither JAD nor the quartets have any control or responsibility for unforeseen circumstances that may occur before you have a contract. If

these problems occur, it is also the "luck of the draw," so to speak, and cannot be fixed.

East Cabel Co - Harmony St. Clarksburg-Frmt - Class Ring Greater Kanawha - The News Grand Lake - Park Avenue Heart of Ohio - Remix Mon Valley - Hot Air Buffoons Cincinnati W. Hills - Hot Topic

Thanks to all those who participated.

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN'T HURT YOU... BUT IT CAN'T HELP YOU EITHER

At a recent quartet coaching session, I came to realize just how much I don't know. Quarteting is not about four guys belting out songs. Singing in a quartet is an opportunity to learn from those around you. You learn from each other. Moreover, you learn about yourself and your quartet members from working with a coach.

Have you ever stopped to realize that your contribution means nothing without that of the other three? What I mean to say is, you can't ring a chord by yourself nor can you force a chord to ring by leaning into it. You not only must have the four notes, but also balance those four notes in a particular way. But that balance is not the same for every chord sung.

Where is the root? Is there a double on the root? What is the vowel? Who has the third or the fifth? Is there one? Is there a reason to lean on one note or another or should your note possibly be mailed in? Generally the more chords you ring, the better the sound. But some chords will not ring, no matter how hard you try. Sometimes the locked chord rings better in a quieter voice. At certain times, throwing your weight into a chord is appropriate and effective. Knowing when to do it is the mark of a good singer.

All these things apply to chorus singing to be sure, but in a quartet if you mess up, you let down the guys around you, because there is no one else to cover for you. If you



2004

January

24 Tuscarawas County Annual show

25 - Feb 1 Midwinter Convention Biloxi

February

27 - 28 Akron Annual Show

March

6 Independence Annual Show

6 Mon Valley Annual Cabaret

13 Lima Beane Annual Show

13 - 14 Southern Gateway

Annual Spring Show

April

16 - 18 International Prelims

Columbus

May

1 Cleveland East Annual Show

1 Greater Pittsburgh Annual Show

8 Cleveland West Suburban

Annual Show

22 Shenango Valley Annual

Show

June

17 - 20 Apple Corps, Kenyon

College, Gambier, OH

25 - 26 Cincinnati Annual

Show

27 June - 4 July International

Convention, Louisville

make a mistake in a chorus, it is possible to let someone else cover your part, which may produce a weaker chord than you might want, but at least it isn't a bad chord.

All these things might be taught in a classroom. But you still have to experience the situation for yourself. If you don't hear the problems and work through the solutions, you can't appreciate the value of the lesson. You can't learn technique just by discussing it.

Know that everyone around you wants you to be the best you can be. Barbershoppers want to see you succeed in your efforts. If you succeed, we all win.

Let your friends know you appreciate their efforts. What they do know can help you and what you have learned can help them. Try working together, especially in a quartet and learn what it takes to sing better. It is amazing how much more you can learn when you listen.

Bob Moorehead
Gerry Kelly

ROARING 20S

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