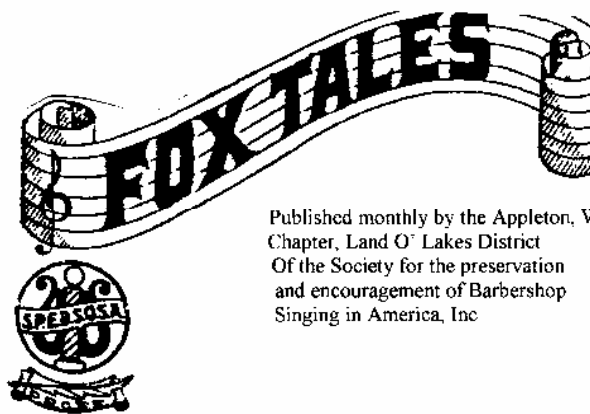


FOX VALLEYAIRES



Published monthly by the Appleton, WI Chapter, Land O' Lakes District Of the Society for the preservation and encouragement of Barbershop Singing in America, Inc

Clary Reinhardt, Editor
137 State Street
Neenah, Wis. 54956-5232
920-725-1485—920-915-2355
E-mail rhino139@sbcglobal.net

Chapter meeting & rehearsal 7-10pm
Tuesday, Little Chute Village Hall
108 Main Street
www.foxvalleyaires.com

VOLUME 25

September-October2007

NUMBER 07

STAGE PRESENCE More than just looking good

Submitted by **Bill Kutscher**

Hopefully these few points will be of some help to all of the **Fox Valleyaires** as we compete again this fall in Rochester, MN. Remember to keep it professional and let's have fun on stage.

It might sound trite to explain stage presence as a professional department, but that is the way it is described in the handbook. It's much more than that however. It is an emotional involvement with the audience that keeps sparks flying back and forth. The more you communicate with the audience visually, the more they want to accept you. In a contest stage presence accounts for about one-third of the score, but you'd better believe it's half of the presentation. If you don't believe this, offer to send a tape of your singing for your next singout, but don't stand around waiting for the check. "Ya gotta be seen to be appreciated."

ENTRANCE: This is the first chance the audience has to see you. The first impression you make before you start to sing; you want them on your side right now, so don't wait until the tag. By then it's too late. The opening curtain is your entrance. Keep the mouth open with your teeth showing, even if they are from Grant's Bargain Basement, and put on that big **SMILE**.



PITCH PIPE: The pitch pipe is a necessary evil. If you are going to use it, don't be afraid of it. The sound appeals to the ear not the eyes, so don't watch the pitch pipe for the pitch. Listen for it. It's not written on the floor either, so don't be looking there for it. Keep your eyes on the director and make it part of the act.

SONG EXPRESSION: Get into the words and the meaning of the song and express it visually, just as you would if you were telling the story to someone. If you don't get the message across visually, you are wasting your time putting it to music. Get inside of the song and feel it!

ACCEPTIONG APPLAUSE: What gives you the license to do a great job and then sit and scowl at the audience while they are beating "blood" out of their hands? You have to respond to them while they perform by applauding. It's your turn to respond by smiling. When you don't, it's like a slap in the face to the audience. Be genuine and give them a big thank you look, and head nod of acceptance.

TABOOS: Lip licking, distracting gestures like head nodding, finger twitching and letting your eyes roam about. Eye wandering is one of the biggest offenses. Watch your director!

Fox Valleyaires Chapter 2007 Leaders

www.foxvalleyaires.com

Fox Valleyaires Chorus meets on Tuesdays, at 7:00 PM at Little Chute Village Hall – 101 Main St.

Little Chute, WI 54140	920-725-1485
President: Ken Bester	920-954-8369
Past President: Gerry Dunning	920-731-4203
Secretary: John Scherer	920-739-6687
Treasurer: Tom Vandenberg	920-788-3137
Music & Perf: Kelly Aschebrook	920-232-8935
Program: George Paltzer	920-733-5464
Membership VP: Don Derozier	920-235-7905
Public Relation VP: Ken Felton	920-734-8597
Members at large	
Clary Reinhardt	920-725-1485
Jerry Wagner	920-841-0939
Bob Pautz	920-766-0455
Gene Randerson	920-733-4240
YIH Chair: Richard Staedt	920-734-9495
Music Director: Bill Albrecht	920-231-4645
Asst. Director: Carl Schumacher	920-731-0976
Chorus Manger: Bob Starnier	920-757-6153
Uniforms & PR: Bob Pautz	920-766-0455
Valentine Chair:	
Octoberfest Chair: John Scherer	920-739-6687
House Comm: Albert Eg	920-687-9107
Sunshine Comm: Bill Kutscher	920-725-3855
2006 BOTY: Kelly Aschebrook	
2006 Frank Wagner Award: Harold Baerenwald	
Annual Show Chair: John Micke	920-336-2590
Historian: Will Mackin	920-733-0593
Web Master: Scott Crevier	920-339-9993
Bulletin Editor, Clary Reinhardt	920-725-1485
Service Chair: Ev Rescheske	920-725-0923
Music Librarian: Clary Reinhardt	920-725-1485
Music Committee: Bill Albrecht, Bill Kutscher, Bill Hortsch, Carl Schumacher, Kelly Aschebrook, and Will Mackin.	

Fox Valleyaires Mission Statement

- * To promote the barbershop style of music in the community.
- * To extend to all men an invitation to join our chapter and share in the barbershop experience.
- * To offer members the opportunity to improve their musical skills through crafts and coaching sessions, quarteting and tag singing.
- * To produce an annual show, perform in the community and for charity.
- * To encourage vocal music in schools and our community.
- * To use competitions to gage musical improvement of chorus.

Silver Sponsors - Wal*mart

Up-coming events

You can also check out the upcoming events by going to www.foxvalleyaires.com/events

The Appleton, Wis. Fox Valleyaires Chorus meets every Tuesday from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. at the Village Hall, 108 Main Street, Little Chute, Wis.

The music committee meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of each month.

The board of directors meets at 7:00 P.M. on the **third Wednesday** of each month. All chapter members are invited to attend.

Harmony for Lunch Bunch meets at 11:45 A.M. every Thursday at Schreiner’s Diner, 2437 South Oneida, in Appleton.

October 26-28 Friday-Sunday: LOL District Fall Convention in Rochester, MN.

November 6, Tuesday: No rehearsal at the village hall. Meet at the Grand Meridian Hall instead.

November 11, Sunday: Veterans Day observation ceremony at the Outagamie County Court House. **Be there by 10:30AM.**

December 5, Wednesday Evening: Annual dinner show at the Meridian Hall on North Oneida. There will be lots of seating space. **Tickets are available now.**

Our **BOTY** dinner is usually in January, but as of this writing the date has not been set.

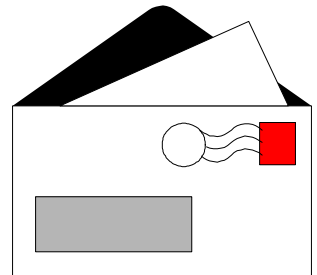
January 11-13 COTS at Menomonee, Wi. This is a week end school for all incoming chapter officers plus they also have a class for Joe-Barbershopper. Plan to attend. The chapter can provide funding.

January 29: Mid-Winter Convention in **San Antonio, TX.** This year will be special because we will have **Youth in Harmony** choruses there. Please read the article in the last Pitch-Piper regarding the group from **West High School in Oshkosh.** **If you want to put your money to good use, consider contributing some of it for their travel expenses.**

Hi Everyone,

In the August 2007

Teaching Music magazine (published by MENC) there is a wonderful article about boys changing voice. What makes it even better is the mention of the



Barbershop Harmony Society in the “Where Can You Learn More about Changing Voices” sidebar on page 40. This mention was totally unsolicited by us.

This is just a little more evidence that what you and your chapters are doing in your schools and communities is making an impact in the world of music education.

Please accept my sincerest thanks for making the commitment to YIH. It IS working!

Rick Spencer

September

- 02 Gene Randerson
- 07 Junice Hannemann
- 13 Joanne VerBockel,
Vicki Reybrock
- 17 John Scherer, Russ
Johns
- 21 Kathy Brien
- 27 Kelly Aschebrook
- 28 Ken Brigham



October

- 12 Donna Baerenwald
- 14 Esther Murray
- 27 Andy Smith
- 30 Marlene Knutzen, Brian O'Neil

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 9-03-55 Don and
Nancy Gehring
- 9-10-60 Bill and Rita
Kutscher
- 9-13-03 Mark and
Diane Cappeart
- 9-16-95 Dale and
Dawn Dor-
schner
- 9-19-59 Dick and
Dawn Steadt
- 9-19-98 Clary and Mary Ann Reinhardt
- 9-29-62 George and Donna Paltzer
- 9-25-93 Chris and Mary Nimmer

- 10-01-60 Norbert and Jean Braun
- 10-09-54 Will and Carol Mackin
- 10-06-80 Paul and Vicki Reybrock
- 10-11-75 Robert and LuAnn Starnier
- 10-19-79 Tom and Ann Vandenberg
- 10-25-85 Kelly and Kim Vandehy
- 10-31-87 John and Mary Beth Micke



WE GET MAIL

Greetings from the Naval Technical Training Center Meridian, MS. where there's only one temperature... way too hot! I graduated from my "A" school this morning, but I will not be leaving here any time soon because I have not gotten my orders to depart for "BESS" (basic



enlisted submarine school) in New London, CT. While I wait (impatently I might add) I am working for "Training Support" in the holding company. It is not the best job out there, but there

are worse things that I could be doing right now. Things down here in Dixieland are pretty fun (minus the heat). Our base club "Rudders" has been the main hangout lately, and there is NEVER a dull night down there! I mainly serve as the "designated walker", helping my friends back to their rooms. That alone can fill my weekly entertainment void! Currently, I am planning to be home some time in October - but that all depends on when I finally leave from here and finish my seven weeks at sub school. I hope everyone is doing well; I sure do miss you all! I keep myself busy recording my tags - but beware when I come home... tag-marathon (Vandehy is already practicing!!)

Take care. Keep the Whole World Singing..

Go Navy!!! YNSN Alex Kuen

The following article was found in the Harmony Rag, Joseph Schlesinger, Editor. From East York; Ont. Rag by way of Burnaby, B.C. chapter Fortune Teller

Five ways to improve your performance

Author, unknown

Our goal is to make the best possible visual impact on the audience. How can we as individuals and as a group go about doing that?

1. Know Your Music

Wait a minute, you say, I thought she was going to talk about stage presence. Knowing your music is an inherent part of every successful performance. No amount of clever choreography or dazzling costuming can compensate for the absence of accuracy and basic musicality. Being musically accurate gives you confidence in your ability, which is reflected in the selling job you do with a song.



2. Know Your Choreography

I've heard all the detractors' complaints, so there's nothing else you can tell me. So you thought this was a singing society! Wrong. People don't want to just hear us; or they'd listen to a record. Just like knowing your music can add to your air of confidence, knowing your choreography can, too. The look of fear and worry and discomfort about your next move will not enhance your visual performance. Your nerves are bad enough on the competition stage without that added factor. If you know your music and your moves, you can't help but feel confident, and a confident chorus gets higher marks. How do you go about practicing your stage presence? Aside from attending all rehearsals, you can tape the chorus singing and practice at home in front of a mirror. When you're not sure which foot goes where check with the notes we've written for the song. Practice with a friend or two. Check to make sure you're all doing the same thing at the same time. Check to see that you blend with each other. Remember, creativity is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration.

3. Be an Actor If there weren't a bit of HAM in you, you wouldn't even be here, so don't tell me you can't do it. Being an actor means assuming a role: forlorn lover; father, soldier, errant child; bandleader, whatever. You are temporarily cast into that role and it's your job to convince the audience that you are that person. How do you create that illusion? First of all, convince yourself. Believe you can be that person by relating to the story your musical package depicts. Pretend you are away from home, longing to return to its emotional comforts.

Think of a quartet you sang with or a special friend no longer in your life. Summon up your fond memories of that person and reflect on them. The emotional commitment to the words and feeling of a song is best reflected in your face. Like everything else, facial expression must be practiced so that it becomes part of the harmony between movement and music. Movement without expression degenerates into robot-like mechanics. And don't tell me you can't sustain it in rehearsal, but you'll "turn on" when you get on stage, because it doesn't happen.

If you're boring to look at during rehearsal you'll be boring to look at on stage. Work on "turning on" every time you're on the risers and it will become natural. Getting inside a song and transmitting that feeling to an audience can be an electrifying experience. Ask anyone who's "been there." Leap emotionally across the footlights—it will be as exciting for the audience as it is for you.

4- Believe in Yourself

You have to believe that what you're doing has meaning. If you do, your audience will find it meaningful. The assurance and command resulting from your inner strength and confidence will visually enhance and illustrate the musical presentation.

5. Believe in the Group

The performing group is a unit, a single entity, no one is a star. It is essential that rapport be developed within the team. If the team hopes to develop rapport with the audience, you have to be able to count on each other and your director. Like a good marriage, you recognize your differences but within that context you have common goals. Your main goal is to do the best possible performance on stage.

GUEST GREETING PROGRAM

This *Guest Greeting Program (GGP)* is designed to welcome men who visit to enquire about the Fox Valleyaires Chorus and the Appleton Chapter, BHS. A member of the GGP will greet him, fill out the visitor book, make a name-badge and socialize with him until the rehearsal begins.



VI. Follow-up: The VP-chapter development, secretary and sponsor will follow-up regarding future involvement. Formal audition will be provided by the director and music committee at an appropriate future visit. The secretary will monitor application and membership once the guest chooses to join.

Don Derozier, VP-Chapter Development

I. Greeting Prior to Rehearsal: Once the visitor has a name badge, circulate him among members and introduce him 1:1 or in small groups. The Music librarian will arrange a guest music book for him and point out the contents page to him. Our purpose is to make him feel welcomed and comfortable. In a casual way find out his musical background, motivation, family and vocational aspects of his life.

II. Chorus Warm-up: Escort the guest to the proper section and place him near a dominant voice or the section leader. Sponsor or director or board member will introduce him. Assist him in finding the right page.

III. Introduction to Barbershop Harmony: At the 8:00 PM business meeting, a board member, the VP of chapter development, and a designee of the music committee will escort the guest to a private area for orientation of approximately 15 minutes.

The visitor will be given a short verbal introduction to Barbershop Harmony and a folder of informational handouts describing chorus history and the Society structural model. Membership dues and payment options will also be provided.

A preliminary voice evaluation will be made by the music committee representative who informs the director of his impression. The guest will be placed back into the appropriate section later.

IV. Visitors Demonstration: The visitor is returned to the chorus, seated in the front row as a guest while the chorus performs two (2) numbers (e.g., pending contest pieces or director's discretion numbers). Then the visitor returns to the risers for the remainder of rehearsal.

V. After Rehearsal: The visitor is encouraged to stay for fellowship. Chorus members and quartets will invite him into tag singing, small group singing and casual talk.

Grand Meridian Concert 2007

“December 5, 2007

Barbershop Bistro”

Uniform: Class A Tuxedos, Winter Scarves. (No Santa Hats.)



7:00 Warm up
8:00 Chorus enters wearing Class A Tuxedo. (Bring along scarves.)

Georgia On My Mind
Waitin' For the Robert E. Lee
Basin Street

Touch of Old-“After You’ve Gone”

Lida Rose/Dream of Now
I Wonder Who’s Kissing Her Now
If the Lord Be Willin’

Chorus puts on scarves.

One Button Short: O Holy Night

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth

GQ4: Let It Snow

White Christmas
Silent Night
Jingle Bells (Sing-a-long)
Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Sing-a-long)
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Golf Outing Just Beats the Rain

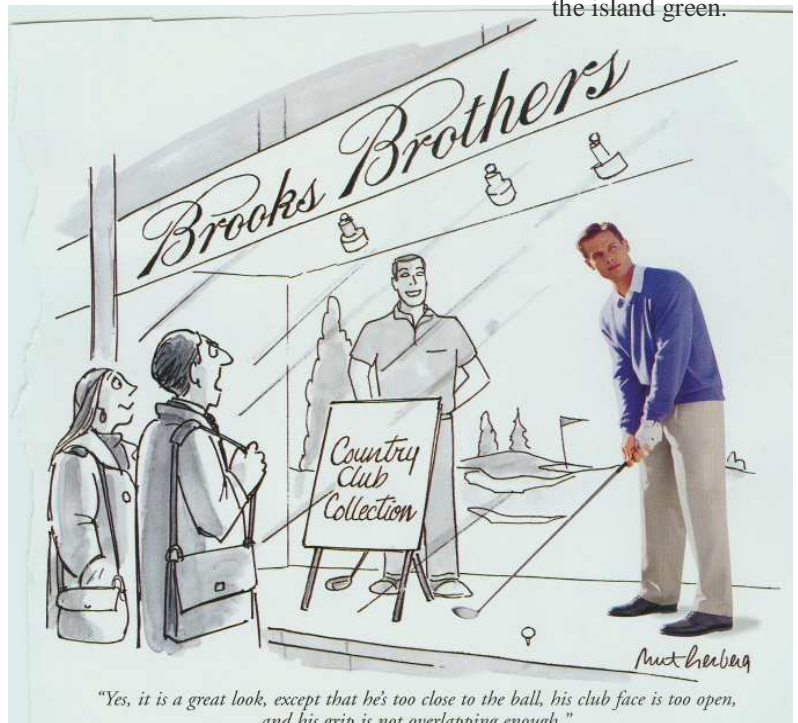
Submitted by Dick Steadt

Area Barbershoppers joined by some wives enjoyed a Saturday golf outing at *Irish Water Golf Club*. Members from **Stevens Point, Fox River Valley and Appleton** chapters played an 18-hole best ball scramble for fun, prizes and a meal. Winners among the ladies were **Debbie Moen**, from Stevens Point, longest drive and closest to the pin in 3 and **Joan Scherer**, Appleton, longest putt and shortest drive. On the men's side, **Steve Stringer**, from Stevens Point chapter, had the longest putt and shortest drive. **Bob Thiel**, Fox River Valley Chapter, was closest to the pin (4 – 6 feet) on the island green. Our own **Bill Albrecht** had the longest drive. The low score trophy went to the team of **Thiel, Finley, and Randerson**, a one under par 70. They will have to share the trophy during the year and defend it next year.

Many thanks go to **Bill Kutscher, John Scherer, Ken Felton and Gerry Dunning** for donating the prizes. (I hope I didn't miss anyone) I must also thank **Ken Felton** for his able assistance in the planning of the outing.

Hopefully all our ailing golfers will be well and healed and able to join in the outing next year. You were missed.

Editor note: the caption reads: "Yes, it is a good look, except that he's too close to the ball, his club face is too open, and his grip is not overlapping enough."



The Lord Was Willing...

Submitted by Jack Marcoe

Way back last month, the Lord was willing and the creek didn't rise but...seventy-eight members of the **Marcoe/Czech clan** gathered together for a celebration. There were beans and burgers and cans of ...all kinds of things. This was a celebration directed by (look out Bill) my wife and three children. This was a celebration that wasn't supposed to happen.

I was joining the ranks of other sexagenarians (that means someone between sixty and seventy not dirty old man). I expected this passage to be as uneventful as most birthday observances...after all it's just another day. **Marilyn** (my girlfriend and wife), **Eric, Megan, and Patrick** (my soon to be written out of the will children) had other plans. To make a wonderful long story short, seventy-eight friends and relatives from all over the state were assembled secretly at our house to surprise me on my birthday. When I walked into the house I really was clueless until they all popped out of nowhere to surprise me. Well done **Marilyn and kids**...and thanks.

Why am I writing about my surprise in this newsletter? Well, my family added one final special touch to the party. They enlisted the voices of **"A Touch of Old"**. This truly was a special touch. Not only was I surrounded by friends and family, but

I also was entertained with my favorite music. **"A Touch of Old"** allowed me to thank **Marilyn** by letting me sing **"The Story of the Rose"** with them. This brought a tear to a few eyes. Gentlemen, thank you for being part of the celebration.

2008 Annual Show Songs

- Hello Mary Lou
- I wonder who's kissing her now?
- Georgia on my Mind
- If the Lord be Willin'
- By the Beautiful Sea
- I found my Sweetheart Sally
- Love Letters
- Crazy Bout Ya Baby
- For Me and My Gal
- My Wife the Dancer
- Lida Rose



The following article might be a little long but it is worth reading especially if you were in Denver and witnessed some of the non-singing time in the competitions.

In our ongoing initiative to add reality and relevance to our contest performances, three years ago we came to the realization that a “two-song – no-talk” performance had a plastic and unrealistic feel about it. We were seeing forced or badly done mime to help set up songs and performance packages. The rule as it existed didn't even allow for such things as “All Aboard” or “a.. One, Two, Three” ... etc. To address this situation the “talking rule” was approved three years ago and our performers have been, as they always do, testing the boundaries of the rule. The rule reads currently:

ARTICLE XII: NON-SINGING COMMENT/DIALOGUE

Non-singing dialogue is generally not a part of a contest performance. However, brief comments made with supporting visual communications may be permitted more clearly to establish mood/theme, to assist the transition of packaged songs, or to add to the effect of closure of mood/theme. Spoken words deemed to be excessive or detrimental to the performance shall be penalized by the Presentation judge(s) up to and including forfeiture. Obviously the word “brief” is one of the major components of the rule that we judge. “Brief” is not judged necessarily by quantity of words or duration of time, i.e., anything over X number of words or Y number of seconds is a penalty. However, our judgment needs to consider the purpose and intent of the rule and as judges we are chartered with the responsibility of creating a “sense of boundary” by the way we adjudicate performances. In creating a more “real” environment in which to present our barbershop songs, the category determined that limiting the interpretation of the rule to “All Aboard” or “One, Two, Three” was not in the best interest of the competitors and was too narrow an interpretation regarding a competitor's ability to create talking, dialogue, or voice-overs that would enhance the performance, generate mood, provide for smooth transitions, etc. However, it was also determined that some of our competitors had strayed too far from the basic tenet that our contests are still, and always will be, primarily presentations of music. At the recent category school there was much discussion of how we are to adjudicate the “talking rule” and how we are to interpret “brief”. The intent of this rule is to address dialogue or spoken words before, in between or after the 2 song performance. In making this determination we chose to expand the definition of “brief” to state that any talking, dialogue, or voice-overs ... or visual “takes” for that matter, needed to be “on-point, concise, and effective.”

Additionally, we determined that it would be appropriate to penalize and list as penalties on our sheets any violations

of this rule. The penalty is, as all penalties seem to be, “up to and including forfeiture” and shall be determined by the judge when weighing the severity of the infraction. This penalty is to be applied “on top of / in addition to” of any score lowering of the performance that resulted from the rule violation / act creating interference or causing a “detriment” to the overall impact of the performance. Our contests are primarily music oriented and any talking, voice-overs, transition material, etc., should be considered as “spice” added to the musical performance and should enhance the overall impact / entertainment value of that musical performance, not be an end unto themselves.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO OUR COMPETITORS:

This is a change from how we have operated - our consciousness has been raised, and we will apply the rule more stringently starting this fall. As a rule of thumb, if you have more than a few words or more than 2 lines of dialogue, you will have to be very sure that the level of effectiveness and pertinence and value to the overall performance is very high. If you can imagine the same effect being had with less words or dialogue, this implies that shorter would be more effective and therefore more prudent. We communicate this to all of you prior to the fall season, so as not to shock or "ambush" competitors who have already prepared packages and performed them at International or other levels of competitions. As stated above - **THE RULE DID NOT CHANGE, BUT WE WILL ADMINISTER IT MORE STRINGENTLY.**

If you have questions about gray areas, please feel free to contact a Presentation judge - our answer will be that we would have to adjudicate in real time to give an accurate answer, but as laid out above, we think this is a clear set of guidelines to work within. We are always looking to allow and encourage our performances to be more real, more natural and more effective, but we also need to maintain the sense of this as a musical competition, within the barbershop style.

Thank You.
Joe Hunter
 PRS Category Specialist

Veterans Day performance at Outagamie County Court House will be on Sunday November, 11. We will sing The Stars Spangled Banner, This is My Country and God Bless America. Be there by 10:30 am. Dress warm.

THE VIKING SHIP

Submitted by **Gerry Dunning**

I would like to tell you about a Viking ship that sailed for many years from a fjord in what is now called Norway. This ship had successes and a few failures while sacking various countries of Europe. One day the ship sailed down the fjord into the North Sea. .

The steward, who was in charge of food, water and other provisions carried on the ship, looked down from the quarter deck and noticed the rowers who were singing, getting a nice tan and looked in good physical shape. He said to himself "I think I am going to join them, they look like they are having good time. " So he went below, picked up an oar and sat with the crew. There were always oars available because not all the crew showed up when they left port. Crew members said "what about your job as steward." He told them one of you can do my job, but no one came forward. The first mate looked at what was happening and he too decided to join the crew because there were still extra oars. The crew members asked him "what about your job taking care of the sails and organizing the fighting company?" He told them that there were well qualified men in the crew who could do his job. The navigator / helmsman decided he would join the others below deck and gave them the same answer the steward and first mate gave. There were well qualified men in the crew who could take his place. Besides the below deck crew member looked like they were having fun and when you have a good wind there wasn't too much work.

Well, the last time observers saw the ship it was going around in circles with the captain and a few others trying to straighten it out without much success. Did I mention the name of the Viking ship? It's the

COOKIE DOUGH PICKUP

The cookie dough that was ordered to help support the Oshkosh boys barbershop chorus will be at our meeting place on November 6. If you have not paid, we will settle then. Please bring cash.

Thank you for helping support these young men.

Smythe



On Tuesday, November 6 we will have rehearsals at the Grand Meridian on North Oneida. We will be checking out our new sound system. This is also the site of the dinner show on Wednesday, December 5.