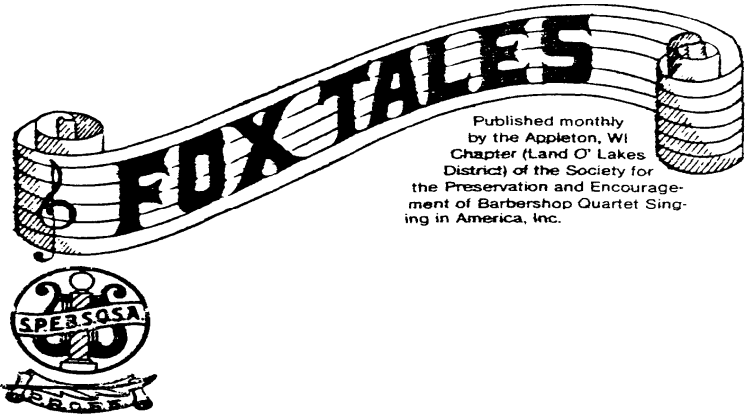


# FOX VALLEYAIRES



Published monthly  
by the Appleton, WI  
Chapter (Land O' Lakes  
District) of the Society for  
the Preservation and Encourage-  
ment of Barbershop Quartet Sing-  
ing in America, Inc.

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Chapter meeting & chorus rehearsal  
Tuesday – 7:00 p. m. Village Hall  
108 Main Street, Little Chute, WI  
www.foxvalleyaires.com

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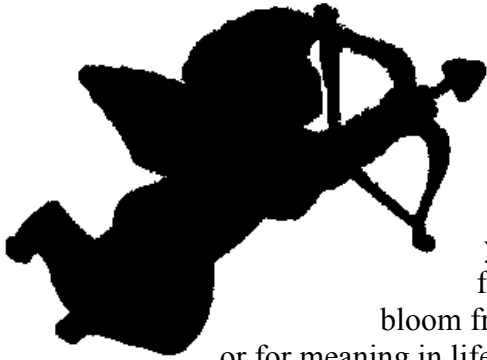
MARCH-APRIL-2009

NUMBER 2

## MARCH-APRIL- 2009

### Love is Self-Donation: A True Valentine

Submitted by Don Derozier



Many romantic songs smack of selfish desires for possession (...say you'll be mine) or for lust (...the

bloom from a wild rose) or for meaning in life (...would be nought without you.) Such is the nature of romance but true love is much more.

From the beginning of creation, true love is born and raised from the giving of one's self to another. Self-donation seals, like glue, the lives of two individuals into the life of one.

Some love songs address true love but many speak mostly to the romantic, possessive, lusty and existential aspects of a relationship. Singing valentines, on the other hand, can be a type of real love brought about by romantic songs.

For example, "Bag-of-Tricks" was feeling a little tired after about 60 songs in places ranging from pre-schools through hospital recovery rooms. We had

earned a little money from sales, and the 'freebies' helped to keep our enthusiasm high. It was a 'tired-but-enthusiastic' quartet that arrived at a private home late in the day.

It was obvious from the start that the folks living here were working people, probably struggling to make ends meet. Smaller than some modern foyers, the living space was cut into rooms resembling cubes, each square serving a function. We sang in what was the living room cube.

Actually, it was a loving room.

A wife had us serenade her husband, a man who apparently drank from life's half-empty glass, and whose self-esteem was at low ebb. Each song brought the couple closer together, in both physical and spiritual space. When the last song was sung, his tears of hope mingled with her touch of joy to declare, "love lives here!"

True love bloomed in this small cube because a selfless woman donated her savings to a man who needed hope. In return, he gave her his heart, his tears and an off-loading of self-doubt. What more could a couple ask?

It was a moment to savor, one that the B-O-T quartet took home to donate to their loved-ones.

**2009 Fox Valleyaires Chapter Leaders**

[www.foxvalleyaires.com](http://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 725-1485  
 President Jack Marcoe 727-0110  
 Past President: Ken Bester 954-8369  
 Secretary: John Scherer 739-6687  
 Treasurer: Tom Vandenberg 788-3137  
 Program: Will Mackin 733-0593  
 Membership VP: Ken Felton 734-8597  
 Public Relation VP: John Micke 336-2590

**Members at large**

John VerBockel 734-9104  
 Alan Schultz 836-9558  
 Kelly Vandehy 830-0105  
 Albert Eg 687-9107  
 YIH Chair: Richard Staedt 734-9495  
 Music Director: Bill Albrecht 231-4645  
 Asst. Director: Carl Schumacher 731-0976  
 Chorus Manager: Bob Starnier 757-6153  
 Uniforms Bob Pautz 766-0455  
 Valentine Chair: Bob Pautz 766-0455  
 Octoberfest Chair: John Scherer 739-6687  
 House Comm: Albert Eg 687-9107  
 Sunshine Comm: Bill Kutscher 725-3855

**2008 BOTY: Ken Bester**

**2008 Dan Waselchuk Award: Gerry Dunning**

Show Chair: Ken Bester 954-8369  
 Historian: Will Mackin 733-0593  
 Web Master: Scott Crevier 339-9993  
 Bulletin Editor, Clary Reinhardt 725-1485  
 Service Chair:  
 Music Librarian: Clary Reinhardt 915-2355  
 Music Committee: Bill Albrecht, Bill Kutscher, Bill Hortsch, Carl Schumacher, Les Hannemann, and Will Mackin, Clary Reinhardt.

**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**

**MARCH AND APRIL BIRTHDAYS**



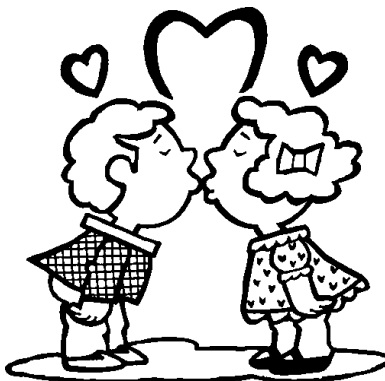
**March**

- 02 Judy Pautz
- 03 Ken Felton
- 09 Chris Nimmer
- 12 Rita Kutscher
- 17 Joyce Schreiner
- 20 Millie Brigham
- 26 Irene Lee

**APRIL**

- 01 Stacey Cloutier
- 02 Kelly Vandehy
- 19 Tim Thiede
- 21 Bill Albrecht
- 22 Carol Mackin
- 23 Joan Scherer
- 25 Dawn Dorschner

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**



**April 25  
 Don and Carol Derozier**

**WE GET MAIL**



*Mr. Schumacher,  
 Thanks to you and the other members of the Fox Valleyaires for singing at Russ Johns funeral service. Please use this small gift of money to purchase music for the next show.*

***“Keep the whole world singing”***

***Russell Johns Family***

\*\*\*\*\*

*Hi guys,*

*We really appreciated the quartet (Bill Hortsch, Jack Marcoe, Gerry Dunning, Clary Reinhardt) stopping by. It really gave us a lift that day and the whole week too. The Tuesday nites were great relaxing times...you are a super bunch of men! You have a wonderful way of making people feel so special...so loved...Keep on singing.*

*p.s. We also heard a singing Valentines quartet at the Menasha Knights of Columbus. They were a big hit. Music is a life en-richer and another one of Gods Blessings!*

*Norbert and Jean Braun*

The following article may be worth reading as we get ready for the spring competition.

*Taken from the Old Capital Chorus Town Crier, David Haase, editor*

**What can I do to improve the chorus?**

By J. P. Marshall, Chapter Development V.P.

I want our chapter to be better but how can I change the whole chapter? I am not on the music committee. How can I improve the overall sound of the chorus? I am not on the board. How can I make the chapter more successful?

I am not the VP of Chapter Development. How can I help our chapter grow? I am not the President. How can I help our rehearsal structure?

I am sure that many of you have asked yourself these questions before, as have I, and I have had a hard time coming up with the answers. Then I saw a fellow barber-shopper in another chorus standing off to the side working on one move until he had it perfect. I thought it looked good before he worked on it, but he was not satisfied until it was perfect.

When I asked him why he spent so much time on that move he told me that it was hard to make it look right and he was not going to miss it. It was then I realized the answer to all these questions. No one had told him he had to get that move right or he wasn't going on stage, but the guy next to him had it right and the next guy and the guy after that. He was not going to be the only one who didn't have it right.

That is something that can be put to each of those questions I posed at the beginning of this article

***How can I improve the overall sound of the chorus?***

If you take personal responsibility to get your part right every time, the guy next to you is not going to want to be the guy wrong so he will get it right every time, and then the next guy and so on.

***How can I help our chapter grow?***

If you take personal responsibility bring in two guests to every guest night, the next guy is going to see that and he will bring two guests in and on and on. If we all improve about ourselves what we want to see the chorus improve on and really make an effort to do it right every time, that will be seen by other members and our chorus will become better in that area and as an overall chapter.

**TIME'S A-WASTIN'**

Howdy Pardners. It's yore ole cowhand "Wild Bill Hic-cup" one more time, just a-wrappin up some loose ends. Now Ah know ya'll know the werds and music to all the songs, so there's no use harpin'bout all that song larnin'. But that an't any reason to stop larnin' on them songs. Durn yore hide if-n ya been thinkin' the hard work is over with, cuz we-un's still have plenty to do.

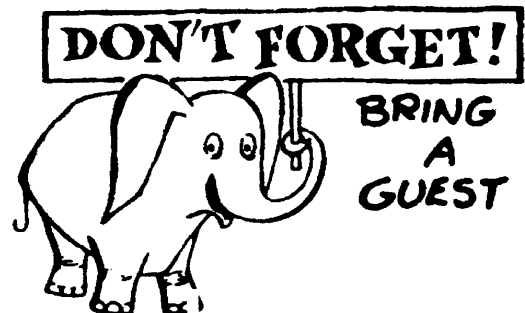


Chairman Ken and Director, Bill has got a plenty enuf worryin' to do. So we'runs should be thinkin' of helpin' all we kin. Dog-Nabit! Yer werkin' habits are needed as much as yer yodelin'. If-in ya-all werk a little bit, the load won't be so heavy fer a few. See the show chairman and find out where the help is needed and put yer name on the committee of yer choice.

Tickets are out and only a few have been sold. Ball O' Fire! That's not enuf. How in thunder are we gonna pay off them forinners we got hired to sing with us, not ta mention getting' us some new rags?

Looky here. Show time is just a creepin' up as fast as a stampedin' herd of cattle. So keep traipsin down to the meetin' hall and jine in the fun. This yar we-uns gonna make them rafters ring for sure! See ya-all at the show time.

**Yer Pardner, Wild Bill Hic-Cup**



## Meet the Member:

Submitted by **Andy Weyker**

I've seen other organization newsletters that publish a "Meet the Member" article each time, highlighting a different member. I thought this might be a fun way for long time members to get to know newer members, and vice versa. So, here we go.



My family and I have lived in Appleton since 1996. I grew up near Sheboygan and my wife, **Kim**, is from Wisconsin Rapids. We have two children. **Rachel** is a freshman at Ripon College (Art, Spanish, and Business). She is really enjoying college, and looking forward to a semester abroad, likely in 2010. **Ryan** is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Classical School. He loves football, coming off a perfect season last year. His team shut out every opponent and averaged over 40 points per game. He will be going on a Spanish trip to Costa Rica this summer! My wife started and owns her own silk flower business, (*byKimberlycustomfloral.com*). She creates beautiful silk arrangements. Now I know where the kids get their artistic talent from!

I have been singing all my life, but with job changes, and busy life, my singing the last 10 years had been limited to an occasional Sunday at church. When I am not singing, I stay busy as a financial advisor with Marketplace Financial Group in Neenah. I find this profession very fulfilling because I can have such a huge impact on peoples lives.

In 2007, I was mobilized with the Army Reserve. While home for Veteran's Day 2007, I heard the *Fox Valleyaires* sing at the courthouse. I talked to several of you that day, and stayed in contact with **Don Derozier** while I completed my mobilization. When I returned to civilian life in May of 2008, I contacted Don. He invited me to a rehearsal, and the rest as they say, is history.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the group so far. It was a great experience competing in the District Contest last October. The dinner show and my first singing Valentines performance with **Bill Hortsch, Clary, and Gerry**, was a barbershop experience which surpassed expectations. I also appreciate the friendships that I have already made. I really enjoy sharing

fellowship with a group of truly good men that enjoy singing together.

Because of my work and Army schedule, there will be times I cannot attend a rehearsal or performance, but I look forward to many years of singing with the *Fox Valleyaires*! Thanks guys.

I hope you found this interesting.....now, one of you needs to write a "meet the member" piece for the next newsletter!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Hearty Times Singing Valentines

Submitted by **John VerBockel**

After missing the event last year, it was heartwarming to be asked along with **Chris Nimmer** to top off the talented *Sound Mechanics* quartet when the regular lead and tenor had other obligations.

Thanks to the strategic planning by **Bob Pautz** with the help from his wife, **Judy**, in the background, we performed over a dozen contracts all around the Valley. Between contracts, time voids were filled in with goodwill freebies (public relations) including a stop at Appleton Medical Center to sing for our would-be-driver, **Jerry Wagner**. The timing was perfect because Jerry was sitting up finishing his lunch before leaving with his family after his thorough heart check.

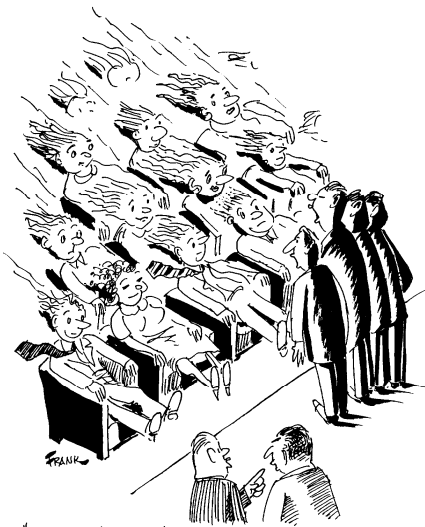
After singing to him and his family, a young lady walked in and politely asked if we could sing for her father before he went to surgery. He heard us from down the hall and asked for a song. He was a former barbershopper from Shawano. While singing to him, **Jerry** joined us in singing with one hand behind his back, holding his hospital gown from exposing his posterior.

After a few extra songs in the lobby we walked out at the same time as the Wagner family. We told Jerry his driving replacement, **Mary Nimmer**, was much better looking! Mary was a great driver, precursor, and photographer.

The most fun was at the three schools where kids were involved along with their teachers. They seem to respond most sincerely. One fourth-grade boy followed us out from the full gym to say "**you guys rock**". He's a probable future barbershopper! It was a fully rewarding day for us and the Valleyaires Chapter.

COACHING NIGHT WITH CINDY

Submitted by **John VerBockel**



"This is what I call a really powerful performance!"

The Fox Val-leyaires Chorus is ultimately prepar- ing for two great shows on April 18 and is even better after **Cindy Becker's** sugges- tions to improve our sound along with added show- manship ideas.

If you couldn't be there for **Cindy's** critique, you missed a great rehearsal, but we'll help you catch up in the few weeks remaining before the roundup at the **Xavier Corral**.

Director **Bill Albrecht** put many notes on the easel for recall each week so as to follow up and perfect the sound and moves we learned.

A special thanks to all who come early each week and don't rush off before completion of all the events of the evening.



**Happy St. Patrick's Day poster designed by John VerBockel**

**"SINGING VALENTINES"**



Submitted by **Bill Kutscher**

Last month, February, 13 to be exact, the **Touch of Old** met, along with other quartets, at **Tooties I** in Kimberly for our assignments for the day. Now if you recall last year, the snow was very deep and still falling on the particular day. So this year with the 13<sup>th</sup> being on a Friday, we anticipated even worse weather, but that's only if you are superstitious. So to everyone's delight, the sun was out and we all had an uneventful, normal Valentines Day ahead of us, or so we thought. Little did we know our destination.

After performing the usual two "Love songs" for **Harold Baerenwald** and his lovely wife, **Donna** at the Country Buffet in Appleton, we proceeded west to Waushara County. Now if you've never been in the "boon docks"(that's wilderness to you city folks), there's a good chance of getting lost on these back roads. However, **Carl Schumacher** had his GPS along and the nice lady inside it told us where to go. Sometimes it wasn't too nice either.

Thanks to **Paul Olsen** who owns the ethanol plant in Utica, he bought six Valentines for some relatives and employees of his; we sang in Poy Sippi, Auroraville, and Utica. We finally ended up in Oshkosh.

Then, we went flying back (it seemed like we were fly- ing) to the Fox Valley to sing for a young gal in the music class at Neenah High School. After we finished our Valentines, we enjoyed a song from the girls choir. The teacher asked if we knew any other songs; to which we naturally said "Yes." We then sang **Java Jive** to about 30 screaming girls. We now have a small idea of what it must have been be like when the "Beatles" sang for a large group of women.

After a few more singing gigs in Menasha we returned to Neenah. We finished the day by singing to one of our inac- tive members, **Cliff Lee**, who is having some health problems. Instead of the usual Valentines type of songs, we asked if he would rather hear some "good old barbershop" songs. Cliff grinned from" ear to ear" and said YES! Throughout the several numbers we sang to Cliff, his grin never left his face. His wife, **Irene**, commented "that this was the first time he had smiled in several months." Needless to say we felt good that we had brought a little cheer to his day.

So, after traveling 190 miles and performing for a dozen singing Valentines, not to mention a few extra original Barber- shop songs, the **Touch of Old** were able to put the pitch pipe away for another day.

## The road back to harmony

By Jason Pues

As long as I can remember there has always been harmony in my life. Starting with my dad's quartet rehearsals in the basement, **The Switch Cord Operators** set the stage for my taste and appreciation of barbershop music.

Listening to the ring of chords before bedtime should be every kids lullaby! Just because I had to go to bed doesn't mean I didn't stay up. Laying in bed and thinking that Switch Cord was the best thing since peanut butter and jelly.

As I got older (around the age of 6 maybe 7) we started going to the **Foxvalleyaires** shows at Neenah High School. I was awe struck at the sound of so many voices singing. The shows were memorable with plots of the chorus in space, the circus and college.

The first international quartet I remember on the show was **Interstate Rivals!!** Some of the best performed on these shows...**Chiefs of Staff, The Ritz, Acustix, Most Happy Fellows, Keepsake, Gas House Gang, FRED,** and of course lets not forget the year two international champs graced the show **Revival and Marquis.** There was no lack of comedy quartets either **The Salty Dogs, The Aliens, The Ivy League, and local favorite Ham n' Rye** shows to remember for sure!!

Some of the greatest memories were as a boy, dad taking us to Appleton West High School before contest and watching as his quartet practiced on stage before the chorus rehearsed. Then we would sit in and watch chorus rehearsal, it was like our own private show.

My brother and I joined the chorus with dad when I was 12 and our first contest was at Green Bay and District none the less. I will never forget the look on the faces of some chorus members when second place was achieved. Grins from Ear to Ear!! The Best Chorus in Wisconsin WOW, narrowly missing the chance to knock off Hilltop. It was quite the rush.

Well years passed and I got more involved in sports, and went to college for the best year of vacation I EVER HAD! Drifting away from the chorus but still keeping ear out for them, and the heart to sing once again.

In a way Switch Chord brought me back into the chorus again. **Keith** (lead) and **Paul** (tenor) hooked up with my brother to sing a few weddings and decided to give contest a try. In 2008 **Switch Cord Revival** was singing in the Packerland and District. I attended both, and made a promise to myself after the District Convention I was not going to be spectator any more, I need to get off my duff and sing.

**A road filled with Harmony will always lead to Memories and Song....** I found that road once again with the **Foxvalleyaires.**

**Keep a Song in you Heart**



## CBQC Registration Now Open!

The registration form for the 2009 Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest (CBQC) is available online! Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the CBQC gives young quartets from around the world the chance to compete for the title of "international champion". All you need is two songs, nerves of steel, a little dedication, and the desire to sing for the best audience in the world. The contest is open to males ages 15-25, and Society membership is not required for any singer in the quartet. \$1500 scholarships are awarded to all quartets who qualify for the International contest, taking place in Anaheim, California on July 4, 2009.



### Coming With Us?

Our international convention and contest is being held in Anaheim this year – and we need YOU to be a part of it. To



be more competitive, some air-

lines are trying to "one up" one another with lower fares to gain market share. But it's not just airlines trying to woo customers.

We just received word that the Anaheim Hilton (the headquarters hotel for our convention) has lowered their prices by \$10 per night! When's the last time something like that happened? Hotels in the convention block start as low as \$89 per night. Better yet, the Disney organization is partnering with us to create some great opportunities for family fun starting on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Membership News

If you haven't heard, males under 26 years of age, who have not been members of the Society, may join for a \$10.00 fee and NO DUES for their first year. Dues in subsequent years are HALF of normal dues until such time as they reach their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Presidential Ponderings



In the last "Presidential Ponderings" I listed three things needed to make "The Fox Valleyaires" the best competitive, best performing, and best chapter for socializing and spreading the spirit

of barbershop singing. Remember what they were? If not here they are again:

- Great chapter leadership
- More energized meetings/rehearsals
- More men.

To help with the third item...more men, I'm going to follow the example of our government...No, not bailouts. I was thinking more along the lines of "incentives". Three incentives come to mind. Here they are:

- Reduction of the cost for membership into this fantastic hobby
- A "finders bonus" for recruiting a new member
- Intangible incentive.

The first incentive "Cost reduction" is already available for new members under the age of 26. The cost for the new members is a mere \$10. Talk to your friends. For those of us that are a bit more advanced in age, talk to our nephews and grandsons. For the very young but still eligible for membership, the Barbershop Society has even more opportunities...first year membership scholarships, Youth In Harmony activities, chapter scholarships etc.. So the more mature members and potential members (those over 65) don't feel left out, their fee for membership is half the current membership dues. Whether young or not so young, talk to these people. You don't know what they will say until you ASK.

Incentive number two, is plain and simple...CASH. Our chapter will reward you with a new (well, at least spendable) \$50 bill for each new member. To get you to hurry, an added incentive of a \$50 gas card will be given the first one to sponsor a new member...the clock is ticking.

The "intangible incentive" is the feeling you will get by sharing this unbelievable hobby with others. All the things you have gained by being a "Barbershopper", that sound, the creative outlet, the friends can be multiplied by the new members you recruit.

How do we get more men? We give them a good deal, we provide rewards for sponsoring new members, and we give ourselves more of what our hobby has given us.

### SPARK PLUG AWARD

The Spark Plug Award for the first quarter of 2009 goes to Paul Reybrock.



Congratulations Paul.

\*\*\*\*\*

We want to extend our condolences to Gerry and Judy Wagner and family on the death of Judy's father.



\*\*\*\*\*

### FOCUS



TELL

THE

STORY

WITH

ATTITUDE!

Appleton Chapter  
137 State Street  
Neenah, WI 54956

## Windmill Raffle

We have \$522.75 to date, aiming for \$1000 for a plaque in Windmill Visitor Center.

We are planning another raffle on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Post-Show & Contest Party at the hall. Bring your money. If you have any new or almost new raffle items to donate to the Prize collection, bring to rehearsals on 4/21 or 4/28.

### John VerBockel & Scherer

PS: You may sell tickets in advance to your friends & families. You can get six tickets for just \$5:00.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SELL, SELL, SELL,**

**We need to sell a lot more tickets Lets fill the house for both shows**

## MUSIC AND BOARD MEETING NOTES

**Chilton performance April 26, 2009....90-minute performance scheduled of performance: Chorus and three chapter quartets. Uniform: Matching colored shirt and tie with black pants and black shoes**

### Tentative song list as of March 16, 2009

Set 1 Jingle Jangle Jingle, Deep in the Heart, Cool Water

No New Tunes.

Set 2 Wahoo, Riders in the Sky (if we have a quorum) Ragtime Cowboy Joe, Hello Mary Lou, Happy Trails

Set 3 For Me and My Gal, Love Letters, If the Lord Be Willin', Keep the Whole World Singing

Set 4 This Is My Country, Basin Street, By the Beautiful Sea

God Bless America

Chorus members should to be there one-hour before performance.

### **Kimberly Amphitheater performance July 12, 2009**

90-minute performance, Chorus and chapter quartets to perform for one hour and *Something Old-Something New* quartet from Green Bay to perform

for 30-minutes. . Board is planning a party.... Board-members-at-large will be in charge.

Suggest we print up hand-outs advertizing our up-coming events (people may want to be put on our mailing list)

**Chapter meeting programming**....Jim Henry Video and Dave Stevens presentation. Plan to use these two videos after the spring contest. Plan an exciting evening for May 5...Tuesday following our spring contest.

**2010 show music:** Master tapes are made for the "Old Favorites" theme

Song list: Baggy Face, Cabaret, Mother, New York, Please Mr. Columbus, Sweetheart of Sigma Chi, Wiffenpoof, Beer Barrel Polka, When the Toy Soldiers March on Parade.

**Baggy Face, Sweetheart of Sigma Chi, When the Toy Soldiers March on Parade, California Here I Come** can be used for competition.

**Contest May 2, at Stevens Point....Cindy Becker** to coach the chorus on April 21

Songs: **For Me and My Gal and There'll Be No New Tunes.**

Approved for membership: **Jason Pues and Mark Vandenberg.**

**Web Page:** Being designed by **Todd Smith.** It should be up and running soon.