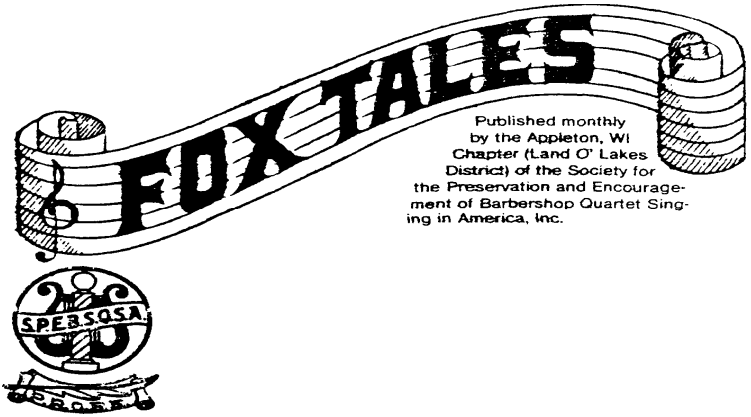


FOX VALLEYAIRES



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

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

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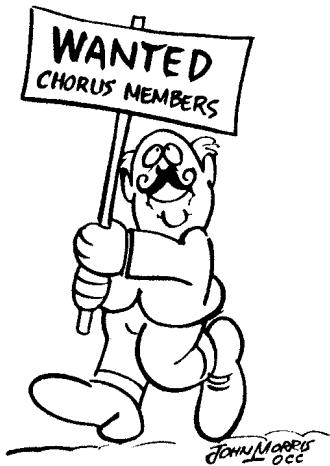
JULY-AUGUST-2009

NUMBER 04

New members welcome!

Submitted by **Bill Kutscher**

You would think, with a population in the valley totaling approximately 150,000, that we could have a Barbershop Chapter of about 100 members. Those do not include cities within a 25-mile radius like Freedom, Hortonville, etc. Did you know that less than 25-years ago we actually had such a chapter? It's true.



A while back I was looking for a certain piece of music and came upon a membership roster from the 1985 Fox Valleyaires.

As I paged through the five pages of names, totaling 105 men, I was reminded of the **second place finish** our chorus had attained in the L O'L District Fall Contest at that time. Just for my own curiosity, I went through this roster list and sorted the names into three categories, deceased members, those that chose to leave (for whatever reason), and those faithful to the barbershop sound who still remain in the Fox Valleyaires. I totaled 28 deceased, 50 who left and 27 still on the roster today. Are you doing the math? That's about 25% still on the risers with the Appleton Chapter.

If it were possible to psychoanalyze each one of those 105 men, there is almost nothing that any of them had in common, except for the love of four-part harmony.

Now, we know there are many reasons for the decline, from those that chose to find another hobby, to those that left because of job changes or moved to other areas. Unfortunately, the current economic downturn impacting the nation has forced many to make some very difficult decisions many of which are money related.

However, I feel we can still grow again. Our leadership team has come up with some new (?) promotional ideas for bringing new members into our "Singing Fraternity", as some in our society have labeled our hobby. (See the article in the Mar/Apr. 2009 Harmonizer). If you're looking for money as a reward, the chapter will pay fifty dollars to those who bring in and sign up a new member this year.

Aside from the money there are many other reasons for adding to the chapter ranks. I may be a little biased, but I must say that I find it very gratifying in many ways. It's more than just singing and performing. It's the camaraderie of the fellas and the wives, the great feeling of making a shut-in person smile, the chance to attend schools and improve our vocal techniques and socializing at chapter parties. These are just some of examples.

Whatever your reason was for joining you must have enjoyed it. So why not pass this enjoyment on to someone else who likes to sing!

Let's increase our membership again and in so doing, help others to enjoy the same sounds and exciting moments that we have experienced.

Remember,

"Singing is Life"

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 Starner	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:

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



BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 01 LuAnn Starner
- 02 Alex Kuen
- 10 Nancy Gehring,
- 11 Mary Dunning,
- 17 Elaine Gibson
- 19 Dale Dorschner
- 21 Richard Staedt
- 22 Carol Derozier
- 27 Donna Paltzer
- 28 John Micke

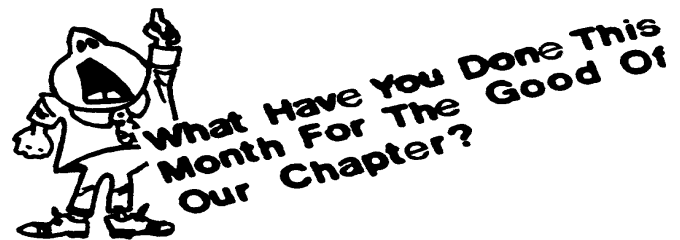


AUGUST

- 02 Carole Houdek
- 04 Marla Uhlenbrauck, Bill Schmitt
- 06 Jean Braun
- 07 Blanche Bauman
- 13 Keith Harris
- 14 Carol Tyink
- 24 Bill Hortsch
- 29 Jim Vandenberg
- 29 Everett Rescheske
- 30 Rosemary Johns

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 7-11-59 Dave and Carol Tyink
- 7-29-95 Bill and Kathleen Albrecht
- 8-30-52 Harold and Donna Baerenwald
- 8-10-74 Jerry and Kathy Brien
- 8-11-51 Robert and Esther Murray
- 8-04-55 Gene and Margaret Randerson
- 8-03-68 Royal and Marla Uhlenbrauck

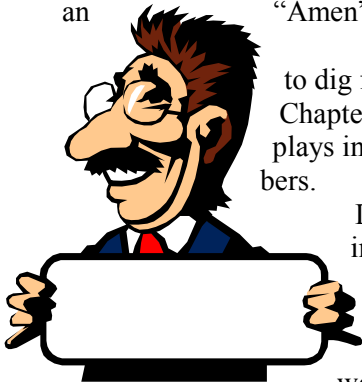


On a Personal Note:

To Provide a Sustaining Environment

What is the meaning of life?
 Is heaven a parallel universe to our own?
 Can Baritones sing ‘Soul?’

These and other questions bantered about at afterglows, will **NOT** be answered in this column. (Did I hear an “Amen” and “Praise the Lord?”)



Still, at times it may be helpful to dig for a little deeper meaning of a Chapter, especially the role its chorus plays in fulfilling the needs of its members.

Does the chorus experience inspire the individual to do his best? Do his section partners reflect a high level of commitment? Do all members work hard to master the music and

presentation in a timely manner? Is there a sense of community that ties all singers into a *nexus* of positive relationships?

Nexus?

It is not an ephemeral thing. Rather, it comes from the Latin word for “to bind” from which we get the word “annex” for example. Specifically, a nexus is a link between individuals of a group. This link serves both to identify the group (e.g., barbershop chorus) and each individual in the group (barbershop singer.) A strong nexus of relationships is the hallmark of a healthy Chapter chorus.

What binds us together is not merely membership in the Harmony Society or any chorus or quartet subsets of it. Rather, it is the ability of this particular group of friends to provide a sustaining environment for individual satisfaction and growth.

Like my tomato plant, for example. It has the potential for robust production of juicy, red fruit right up to the first hard frost. But its potential would die if it were not planted in well prepared soil, supported by wire and strings, watered sufficiently, set in the sun for most of the day and watched over during times of storms.

It’s the plant’s job to be a tomato plant. It’s my job is to provide an environment that sustains its growth.

A strong nexus of relationships in any Chorus requires all members to contribute to the sustaining environment of each other. We must bind ourselves to one-another through preparation, support, encouragement and fellowship. And a little water once in awhile.

Hmm. Maybe this nexus IS the meaning of life through which Baritones can sing ‘Soul!’

Don Derozier

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.

Saturday, September, 26: Octoberfest on College Ave. This is an all day event. We will need lots of help selling brats and burgers. Come join us. Its lots of fun!

Sunday, October, 10: Sweet Adeline’s Show. More details later.

Friday-Saturday October 23-24: L O L District fall contest in Rochester, MN.

Tuesday, November, 02: Holiday Chorus...*first rehearsal...a good tool for recruitment.*

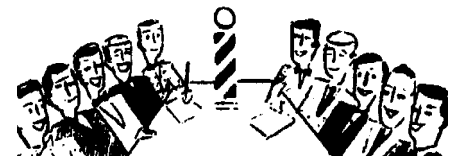
Wednesday, November, 11: Veterans Day performance on the Outagamie Court House steps.

Thursday December, 3: Holiday Dinner show at Grand Meridian Hall.

Saturday, April 10: Annual show at Xavier High School. Guest quartets are: Lunch Break and X-Factor.

Music Committee and Board Notes

1. Annual dinner show usually held on the first Wednesday in December will be changed this year and held on Thursday, December, 3.



2.. Singing Valentines program net profit were down considerably from pervious years. We must do a better job selling.

3. **Jim Vandenberg and John Micke** working on a new chapter brochure.

4. Website: We still do not have a updated website: see **Ken Bester** for more details. 54. Chapter logo on clothing is now available. For a small fee you can have the chapter logo printed on almost any clothing. See **Kelly Vandehy** for more details.

6. Board voted to send 6 boys to Harmony Explosion Camp.

LOL Harmony Explosion Camp 09

Submitted by **Dick Staedt**



What can I say but **THANK YOU**, to all that provided scholarships or just made a donation to the camp fund! The **Greater**

Saint Paul chapter sent \$1700.00 to support their Campers and more. Where do they come up with that kind of money to support their Campers? All the chapter members who are President Council members or Ambassador's of Song requested the 30% of their contributions returned to the chapter be put in the HX Camp fund to provide scholarships. What a novel idea! For every member of President's Council in your chapter the 30% returned would provide two scholarships to Camp each year. Combine that with the fantastic support for Camps and Festivals from Harmony Foundation and you have a win, win situation.

Once again **Sam Sather** worked his music magic with the boys. As I listened to the video I made, (because of video regulations it can not be copied), I realized that this was the best Harmony Explosion Chorus to date. **THANK YOU, SAM!** We also had two very good quartets step out and perform a song on the show.

Main Street Station was instrumental in assisting with section rehearsals. They added some of the finer points of our style and reinforced what Sam was asking for from the boys. Great job and **THANK YOU!** We have asked for a CD of the performance and if it is as good as the video I made, each Camper and scholarship provider will receive a legal copy.

The Harmony Explosion Camp for 2010 will have an Alumni Chorus. Each returning Alumni member will receive an extra piece of music they will perform on the show.

Almost every one of the evaluations indicated they would like to return on June 17 – 20, 2010. **Sam** has been asked to return as clinician for 2010. The grin on his face was all the answer I needed. He received a big round of applause from the Campers when I announced he would return.

Some comments from the Evaluations:

- I had a great time and learned more about barber-shop theory than I knew
- Sam and Main Street Station have been absolutely amazing both years I've been hear. Thank You!
- Having a teaching quartet really helped. They all had unique advice.

- I liked learning new techniques when it came to singing barbershop music. I will definitely use these styles for solo ensemble.
- Had a great time and learned about Barbershop singing
- I greatly strengthened by ability to sing on my own
- I learned some new singing techniques.
- I really liked the songs the best. Awe some experience

Additional comments and Thank you notes:

- I've been to many one day workshops and none of them compare to this. It was my first year here and I had a great time.
- I would like to thank you for inviting me to be a part of this experience. You have really opened a new world of Barbershop music before my eyes.
- Thank You. I had a lot of fun and learned a lot about singing. I plan to join barbershop and sing with my **Grandpa in the Winona chapter**. Thank you for making me a better singer.
- **Sam**, you were really, really fun! I love your style and attitude.
- **Main Street Station Wagon (Sam singing Bari from Band Wagon)** you were always upbeat and energetic and it was a pleasure to listen and work with you.
- Sam, you make it fun and easy to work with. Good music selection. Thanks a lot. This weekend was great fun
- Thanks for every thing, I had a lots of fun. Possibly the best time. Can't wait till next year.
- I got to have a great experience with music. Thank you for everything. You are doing a great thing.

These are only some of the many comments and thank you notes from the camp. I'll be sending a thank you to all the campers and if it turns out a CD of the performance. I will also send one to each chapter, group and individuals that provided scholarships.

ATTITUDE

Submitted by **Gerry Dunning**

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude , to me, is more important than facts...It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, a school, a home (or a chapter). The remarkable thing is that we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string that we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you....we must be in charge of our attitudes “

By **Charles Swindoll**

Presidential Ponderings



“Since the last edition of my “Presidential Ponderings” a lot has happened.”

That is how I started last issue’s message. It fits for this month’s issue as well. Let’s review what we have done:

- A Flag Day appearance in Appleton
- A joint performance with the Manitowoc chorus in Two Rivers
- A performance in Kimberly
- Chicken Chew in Oshkosh
- Mini-Hep for some members
- New director search activities.

This is all in addition to our weekly meetings/rehearsals, daily jobs, volunteer work, everyday living, and a little relaxation.

Like last month, just about the time we think we are ready to “coast” for a while...it’s time for these coming activities:

- The fall competition in Rochester during October
- Oktoberfest in Appleton
- Holiday Dinner Show
- Holiday sing outs at local care giving facilities.

As always this is in addition to our weekly meetings/rehearsals, daily jobs, volunteer work, everyday living, and a little relaxation.

Let’s face it guys, the Fox Valleyaires is an active organization. I listed the reasons why we do what we do last issue. This issue I want to explore some things that will make what we do easier. Just like in business, we must work smarter not harder.

To do this the board, music team, and I have to improve our planning and administration of activities. I think we are doing a good job, but like continuous quality improvement efforts in business...we can do better.

For us to improve, we need your help, both physical and mental. With the physical part you all have been very generous (with your time, muscle, and voices). Now it’s time for you to share some of your skill, expertise, and brain power.

If you have a suggestion for a new activity, or the execution of an existing activity, pass this information on to a board or music team member. If you have not been as active as you would like because the same people do the same tasks every year, ask them if you can help, give suggestions; ask questions (a good one is Why?). Many times we do things the same way year after year because “that’s the way we’ve done it year after year”. Help us think about why we do what we do...there may be a good reason, but then again, there may be a better way.

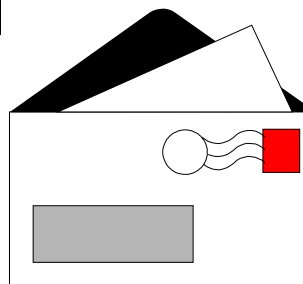
Another way to create continuous improvement is to look at our activities in a new way, or come up with new ideas...for us mature (not old) men, that is easier said than done. How do we get new ideas then? Well that is simple, we get some new members. New members mean more hands, more voices, more muscle, and more brains to help us with our existing and new activities. New members mean new ideas, and different experiences that may help us work smarter not harder. How do we get new members?

That question will be left for another issue, but until then ask other men to sing, work, and socialize with The Fox Valleyaires.

Be Fantastic,
Jack

WE GET MAIL

Letter received from **Christopher Mauel**, Executive director of Greenlawn Memorial Park



I wish to extend a warm thank you for your generous donation of songs toward our Armed Forces Day program here at Greenlawn Memorial Park. It is a pleasure having groups like you graciously provide a donation of entertainment in honoring our past and present veterans. On behalf of myself the attendees and the staff here at Greenlawn Memorial Park, I thank you for your generosity towards our Armed Forces Day program.

Christopher Mauel, Executive director

You Live in 2002 If.....

sent by **Bob Highfield**

- You start tilting your head sideways to smile.
- You consider second-day air delivery too slow.
- Your dining room table is now your flat filing cabinet.
- You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
- Your daughter sells Girl Scout Cookies via her web site.
- Your grandmother asks you to send her a JPEG file of your newborn so she can create a screen saver.
- You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.
- Every commercial on television has a website address at the bottom of the screen.
- Your idea of being organized is multiple-colored Post-it notes.
- You call your son's beeper to let him know it's time to eat. He emails you back from his bedroom, "What's for dinner?"
- You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
- You buy a computer and 6 months later it is out of date and now sells for half the price you paid.
- Using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase would be a hassle and take planning.
- You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
- You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home.
- You get an extra phone line (or a ADSL/cable modem) so you can get phone calls.
- Your reason for not staying in touch with family is that they do not have e-mail addresses.
- You wake up at 2 am to go to the bathroom and check your E-mail on your way back to bed.
- You chat several times a day with a stranger from South Africa, but you haven't spoken with your next door neighbor this year.
- You disconnect from the Internet and get this awful feeling, as if you just pulled the plug on a loved one.
- Cleaning up the dining room means getting the fast food bags out of the back seat of your car.
- Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 years of your life, is cause for panic and turning around to go get it.

The Whiffenpoof Song ..

By **Bill Albrecht**

"To the tables down at Mory's, to the place where Louis dwells,
To the dear old Temple Bar we love so well,
Sing the Whiffenpoofs assembled, with their glasses raised on high,
And the magic of their singing casts its spell."



Every Monday night since 1909 a group of (generally) 14 seniors from Yale University has gathered at a local restaurant and bar in New Haven, CT

named Mory's. These gentlemen songsters originated as an offshoot of the Yale Glee Club and have been entertaining audiences worldwide ever since. Songs in the early years included "Shall I Wasting" and "Mavoumeen" and many others.

The proprietor of Mory's was a man by the name of **Louis Linder** ("the place where Louis dwells") who became the first Honorary Whiffenpoof and who lived in the upstairs of the building that was a restaurant and bar on the lower level. Mory's happened to be located on Temple Street in New Haven, bringing new meaning to "The dear old Temple Bar we love so well." Interestingly, Mory's moved to York Street in 1912 where "The Whiffs" still dine and sing every Monday during the school year. To be truthful, they have been known to drink at the Temple Bar as well!

The Whiffenpoof emblem is designed to look like nothing else on land, sea or air. The most important characteristics are that it has mint leaves for wings and that it sits on a swizzle stick!

This song has a special meaning for me like no other song on earth. I was lucky enough to be in both the Whiffenpoofs and the Glee Club during my senior year and sang well over 300 concerts that year around the world. I think one of the magical parts about being a Whiffenpoof is that you can only do it for one year. Accordingly, everyone takes full advantage of the opportunity. For one year, we are truly "*Gentlemen Songsters off on a spree*" and then, as the song says, "then we'll pass and be forgotten with the rest."

NOTE-ables

Submitted by **Don Derozier**

Et Kah Nee Nah means “here you belong” in the Hochunga language of the Winnebago. It seems proper to apply it to one of the Fox Valleyaires’ newest members, **ALAN SCHULTZ**.

Alan was born and raised in Neenah and currently resides in a newer developed area in the Town of Clayton. Alan was the second of two boys whose parents inculcated a strong sense of responsibility, a solid work ethic, and loving-family fun on vacations “up north.”

Alan graduated from Neenah High School in 1965. He had mastered the art of hamburger-flipping but decided to attend college at the UW-Oshkosh. The call of the United States Navy was great, however, and he enlisted from 1966-1970. He served as a signalman on an LST during the time when ‘Nam signalmen lasted only a short while before they were killed. He prepared for the challenge but was sent to the Mediterranean instead. He completed his tour and was honorably discharged with the rank of E-5. He described his ship as a flat-bottom vessel that experienced rolls to over 50 degrees. He traveled about 75,000 miles at the average speed of 15 MPH.

When not dangling from the signalman’s deck or strapping himself into his bunk for sleep, he managed to perform with a 7 piece country music band. This continued his musical interests that dated back to the 8th Grade when he taught himself guitar chords.

After he was discharged, Alan returned to the Menasha Corporation as a sales service correspondent in Hartford, WI for three years. His profound sense of “right and wrong” was challenged during a promotion dispute. He left that company and did various jobs until he entered the home building business with a friend.

He credits the Carter Administration’s infamous 20+% interest rates for wiping out their financial backing. He then joined the Oshkosh Corporation (formerly Oshkosh Truck Corp.) where he worked on various phases of assembly and testing and quality control. This led him in and out of the Training Department from 1987 until 2005 when he retired.

There was a period of time when he traveled to on-site service and training in many countries. On the positive side these experiences led to his great tolerance for different cultures and styles of living. On the negative side, the erratic, schedules and stresses of travel took a toll on his family and health so he welcomed early retirement.

Alan is married to **Linda** and has two adult children and two grand-children. His family is quite close and they and their friends frequent Alan’s residence which is designed for such gatherings. He has many interests beside

family–fishing, golf, volunteer work with the Boys and Girls Brigade, learning to read music and to play the keyboard.

In September, Alan will be ONE year into the Fox Valleyaires. He sang in high school musicals and played in folk bands in the past. After a hiatus of 30 years, he plays banjo and guitar as part of a variety music band. His hope in retirement is to discern where to commit in music. Currently, he is sampling various expressions, including a couple vocal quartets.

Alan asserts that the future of barbershop singing lies in our ability to attract and retain youthful (defined as 40-60 year olds) new members. To do this the Chapter needs to promote the chorus and expand harmony experiences to young adults. He is “not afraid to make a change” and does not ascribe to any “one-best-way” theory of performance. He advises newcomers to “follow directions,” to be “prompt and not afraid of doing something different,” and to “go with the flow.” Et Kah Nee Nah, Alan! You belong here.

**Our National Anthem
“The Negotiator’s Anthem”-**

Taken from the **Green Bay Baylander Chorus news and notes**



God Bless America

During the War of 1812, an attorney asked for permission from President Madison to intervene with the British on behalf of his friend, who was imprisoned aboard the British ship HMS Surprise. As the negotiations got underway, the Captain of the Surprise began to attack Baltimore, and he insisted

all Americans remain on board. The negotiator paced the deck all night long, and by dawn’s early light, he saw a star-spangled banner waving from the flagpole at Fort Mc Henry. Did Francis Scott Key scribble our national anthem on the back of an envelope from his coat or did he keep the verses in his head until he was released? It doesn’t really matter. One fact is clear: according to a letter by Chief Justice Roger Taney, Key “was a volunteer in the light artillery.

Help Us Promote Barbershop!

Taken from LIVEWIRE

We get requests *daily* from members looking for ways to expose this wonderful Society. Did you know that PSAs (audio and visual), tips on how to promote barbershop and suggestions on how to approach media and get free publicity are all posted on our website?

For useful tools and information to help you manage and lead your chapter, visit the "Marketing and Public Relations" section at the Document Center on www.barbershop.org.

2010 convention registrations are now on-sale!

You don't want to miss the 2010 conventions! Register now!

Midwinter

Tampa (1/26 - 1/31): www.barbershop.org/midwinter

International

Philadelphia (6/28 - 7/4): www.barbershop.org/philly

Register before January 15 to get the early bird pricing!

New way to order convention registrations: Now you can order registrations at ANY time of the day on ANY day! Call (800) 595-4849!

Barbershop Quarteting... is it a lost art?

Currently, we have 1444 REGISTERED quartets in the Barbershop Harmony Society. That means, approximately 5776 (it is probably less since several men are registered in more than one quartet) members of our Society sing in a registered quartet.

Can you believe that less than 22% of our current membership is enjoying this incredibly important component of membership? I can't either! As a matter of fact, I KNOW it is more than that. We have hundreds of quartets in our organization who are not registered with the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Many ask the question, "other than to compete, what do I get for being in a registered quartet...why *should* I register my quartet?" Below, you can see a list of reasons/ benefits to registering your quartet.

Tangible:

- Ability to compete
- Receive "On the QT" Newsletter geared specifically for quartets
- Name appears in HQ database for potential gigs
- Your quartet name is protected
- Eligible for scholarship opportunities at Quartet College

Intangible:

- Your quartet registration plays a vital role in helping the Society perpetuate Barbershop Harmony
- Fellowship and fraternity

- Increased opportunity for performing on chapter shows
For a small fee of \$40 (\$10 / man), you can register your quartet in three ways:

1) Online - you can register a new quartet (or renew your existing quartet) by going to eBiz. On the top menu items, hover over "quartets," and a pull down menu gives you the option to "Register New Quartet." Then click on the "Register New Quartet" radio button on the left side, and input all needed information - it is as simple as that!

2) E-mail - bbbox@barbershop.org (Becca Box) is in charge of handling quartet registration and renewals

3) Phone - call our Toll Free number at 800-876-7464, ext 4122...Becca Box will handle your quartet registration

For the full version of this article, go to

<http://www.barbershophq.com/?p=855>.

LOVE THOSE GUESTS



Pictured above is Bill Albrecht and guest, Bob Hoffman

Bill has a very good track record when it comes to recruitment. He was instrumental in signing up **Kelly Aschebrook, Rick Helm and Don Derozier**. You would be surprised where he finds these guys, in the church pews!

In reference to Ken Felton's article: What is the average age of our chapter? What is your age? That will give you an idea where our chapter will be in 5, 10 or 15 years. If we want this chapter to continue long after we are gone, we must start a super recruitment program, NOW!

Appleton Chapter Foxtales,
137 State Street
Neenah, WI

Burma Shave

SPEED WAS HIGH
WEATHER WAS NOT
TIRES WERE THIN
X MARKS THE SPOT
Burma Shave

THE MIDNIGHT RIDE
OF PAUL FOR BEER
LED TO A WARMER
HEMISPHERE
Burma Shave



Singing tags with a guest: Jim Vandenberg, Bill Albrecht, Don Derozier, guest, Bob Hoffman, and Don Gibson

Seen in the Rogue County Rogue Rhapsody, Alan Burt, Editor

CRAFT TIP

Listen actively and critically

By Alan Burt, Editor

Barbershop music, more than any other vocal music I know, requires that we, as singers, engage in active listening and critical listening. We must listen “actively” to be aware of how our sound contributes to the ensemble’s perceived sound, and listen “critically” to ensure that our voices blend perfectly with those around us, and to help us maintain pitch.

Ideally, the sound we produce should meld into the general sound of the ensemble—it should be neither too loud nor too soft, nor too bright or too dark. If we can hear ourselves sing, we are probably singing too loud or we are not blending correctly.

We achieve active and critical listening by always being aware of where we are in the music, and how we contribute to it, and then by adjusting as needed to fit in.

We don’t just shoot arrows into the air without regard to where they will land. For high quality sound, we can’t sing that way, either.

For example, we need to stay aware of whether we are above or below the lead to adjust our volume relationships appropriately, to balance the chords, and to promote and maintain the unit sound of our section.

Don’t just “listen.” Practice listening actively and critically. When we all do that we make exquisite music.