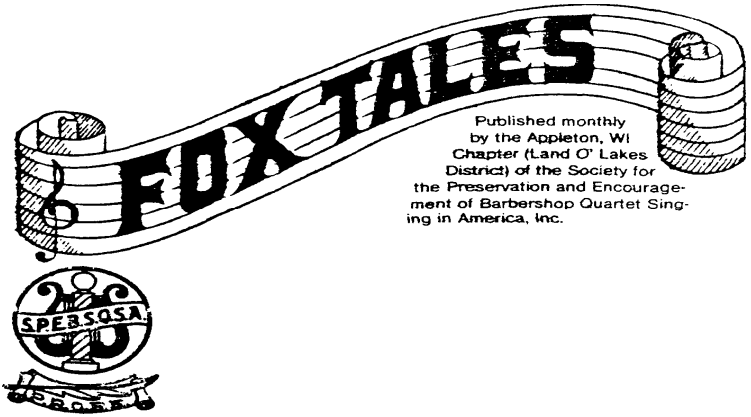


FOX VALLEYAIRES



Published monthly
by the Appleton, WI
Chapter (Land O' Lakes
District) of the Society for
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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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NUMBER 06

Nice to be back

Submitted by Ken Cherney



While the rest of you were faithfully attending choir rehearsals this past summer, some of you (those who cared at all) might have wondered where I was and thought I was playing hooky. As some of you know I volunteer with *Builders for Christ*, a group

affiliated with the Lutheran church that builds churches and schoolrooms for congregations around the country.

Well this summer there were no projects, or so I thought, so I volunteered with another builder friend and his wife to work at a fish hatchery in Rifle Colorado, about 180 miles west of Denver; almost to the Utah border. I hitched up my camper and drove 1600 miles to the hatchery and worked there, performing various maintenance tasks as required by the manager of the hatchery; cutting the grass, fixing things that broke, and cleaning out fish raceways.

The hatchery is a division of the Colorado Department of Wildlife raising and stocking rainbow trout in lakes in Colorado. In 2008 they stocked 4.6 million fish. I was fortunate to help on several of the stocking trips, taking thousands of “catchables” (fish

eight to ten inches long) to remote lakes in the Colorado Mountains; sometimes as high as 11,000 feet. On off days we toured the area and even got in a little horseback riding at a mountain ranch.

When the ranch owner discovered I play guitar and sing a little, he invited me to play for the guests. After one session, I was invited back and played for several other groups. My compensation was room and board, and unlimited access to the horses and ranch work.

So while you all were learning and practicing new songs for the upcoming 2010 show, I was playing hatchery worker and ranch hand. I did take along the learning CD and got in many hours of practice in the truck on the way to and from Colorado.

While that helps, it's not the same as the sectionals that you all enjoyed, and of course I'm behind in learning choreography, so I'll just have to work at that. When I returned, I got a call from one of the Builder project managers who asked me to help with a project at Camp Phillip near Wautoma, WI. So I did get in a few weeks of construction work after all.

Well that's my story for not being at rehearsals this summer and I'm sticking to it. Consider this a note from my mother.

OUR  SUCCESS HINGES ON  YOU

2009 Fox Valleyaires Chapter 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 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.

November

- 02 LeRoy Bauman, Dan Allen
- 07 Scott Crevier
- 09 Clary Reinhardt,
- 17 Kathy Rescheske,
- 17 Paul Schreiner
- 23 Robert Starner
- 25 Alan Schultz
- 26 Dorothy Hortsch
- 27 Don Houdek



December

- 01 Paul Holzschuh
- 02 Dawn Staedt
- 08 Bret Lewis
- 14 Nancy Allen
- 29 Mary Beth Micke

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 12-10-59 Bill and Dorothy Hortsch
- 12-27-61 Les and Junice Hannemann



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

Chorus Responsibilities:

1. The Chorus membership shall make every effort to be in good attendance.
2. The Chorus membership shall make every effort to learn the music and be prepared for each meeting rehearsal.
3. The Chorus shall provide a desirable meeting place.
4. The Chapter President, or someone appointed by him, shall be responsible for controlling all disturbing influences, such as outsiders disturbing rehearsal, disturbances by Chorus members, drunkenness, rudeness to the Director, or ungentlemanly behavior.
5. Should undue criticism of the Director arise, it shall be brought to the Director, in private, by the Chapter President or someone appointed by him.
6. The Chorus shall inform the Director of Chapter rules and administrative decisions, and shall give the Director the opportunity of suggestion or opinion on administrative matters.
7. The Chorus shall be responsible for constant and selective recruitment of new members.
8. The Chorus shall consult with the Director before accepting a singing engagement.
9. The Uniform Committee shall give the Director the opportunity of suggestion or opinion on costuming and make-up.

SECTION LEADERS

Be aware and monitor the musical progress of your section

Section rehearsals may be requested by the director, Assistant director or section leaders. Section rehearsal outside of the Tuesday rehearsal would be preferred and are encouraged. Section leaders will be available to their sections to answer any musical questions from the members.

If the director points out a questionable passage during rehearsals, the section leader will make note and follow up with the member or section to correct the issue.

Section rehearsals will consist of:

Helping section with section (musical) unity through:

- Proper vocal production
- Vowel match - Target word sounds
- Tone Quality
- Diphthongs - when to mm and how long to hold
- Singable consonant
- Breath support –

Work on notes and words are the responsibility of the individual outside of chorus and section rehearsal. Section leaders are responsible for providing learning tools for their members, i.e., learning tapes, as necessary.

Tapes should be made during the (section leader) process of learning a new song, word and note perfect with good vocal quality.

The success of your section is dependant on your concern and leadership.

We received this letter and a check for \$500 on behalf of Ken Bester, an employee of Kimberly-Clark.

WE GET MAIL

On behalf of the Kimberly-Clark Partners program, we congratulate you on your grant and thank you for your continued efforts. Together with volunteers you are working towards making a difference in your community.



*Kimberly-Clark Foundation
The Matching gift Center*

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 at the Kimberley Senior Citizens building.

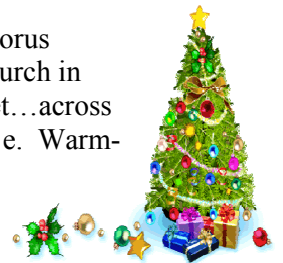
The board of directors meets at 7:00 P.M. on the **third Wednesday** of each month at the Kimberley Senior Citizens building. All chapter members are invited to attend.

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

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

Sunday, December, 13: Holiday Chorus performance at St. Paul; Lutheran Church in Neenah(Commercial and Water Street...across from the YMCA.) 7 pm performance e. Warm-up at 6:30pm.

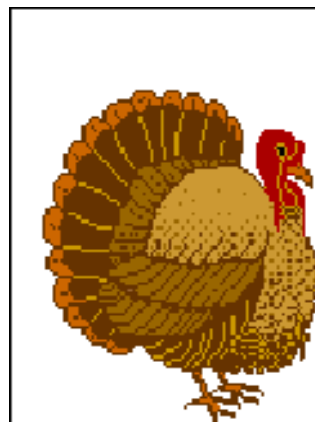
Tuesday, December, 22: Nursing Home performance (Brewster Village) and white elephant party. Location of party to be determined.



Friday, January 15, 2010: Annual dinner and officer installation at Germania Hall in Menasha.



Saturday, April 10: Annual show at Xavier High School. Guest quartets are: **Lunch Break and Skyline.**



Definition
Turkey (ter-kee)

What one who doesn't wear their name tag is. Believes everyone including new members knows his name

Impromptu Success

Submitted by **Alan Schultz**

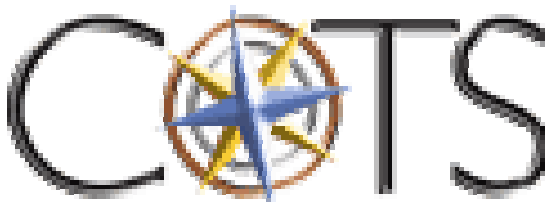


For me, one of the highlights of the Rochester Contest trip took place unexpectedly and in a small local restaurant. On Saturday evening eight members of our chorus, including myself, decided to

patronize a nearby bar and grill (Newt's) to sample their highly touted hamburgers. After ordering and while enjoying our beverages a group of four at a nearby booth became the subject of a "Happy Birthday" song. Apparently, one of the ladies at that booth had just turned 50 years old.

As you can imagine, this was like someone blowing a pitch pipe in our ear and of course we joined the refrain boldly and in harmony. Immediately following the birthday song, and to the complete surprise of all the patrons, we began a loud and clear version of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" directed at the birthday lady. (I must say, it was pretty darned good as we had all four parts and blended very nicely) Complete attention was given to this performance and was followed by a rousing applause from all the customers enjoying their food and drink. The staff at this establishment even left their stations and gathered near our table to also hear this anomaly.

This was a highlight because the birthday lady and her family/friends will remember this event and speak about it in the future when recalling the milestone birthday. We brought joy to someone through our hobby and it's an important result of we do. This unexpected event also gave me a sense of personal pride in that I'm part of a group capable of presenting an impromptu performance with such a professional sound.



**NOT JUST FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS
THERE IS SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE**

Jim's Jottings...

Expectations:

Let me first say I am proud to be associated with the Fox forward to the opportunities.



A tip of the cap to those joining us for the Christmas shows. When all is said and done, I hope your experience has been rewarding and you've given us serious consideration to joining our journey. Although I have only met a few of you, as of this writing, I want to assure all of you that we are a serious men's chorus that strives to sing and perform at the highest level. Well, where do we go from here

(Jim Hall- chorus director)

and what will the New Year look like? Change ... Most directors see things differently from one another. That's not to say one is better than the other. Let's give **Bill Albrecht** credit. He has done a great job.

I will be introducing a number of new pieces of music this coming year, starting with **Old Kentucky Home**. It a great old song in a new arrangement. As a part of new song introductions, we will be providing you with the best learning tools we can. Will we retain some of the current repertoire? The main ingredient in keeping a current song is how much does the chorus get involved and excited with the song? Can we make it better?

There are a few songs that all choruses must have in their bag of tricks, such as, **God Bless** and **I Believe** to name a couple.

Growth: I see and feel that there is an opportunity for growth that we ought not to pass by. I would like to see sixty men on the risers by the end of the year. Just as important is membership retention; keeping everyone upbeat and involved. This is not a one person job. Everyone has responsibility in this area.

Our motto for the New Year: **Blessed is he who is flexible, for he shall not be bent out of shape!**

The Grandpa Test

I was out walking with my Grandson. He picked up something off the ground and started to put it in his mouth. I took the item away from him and I asked him not to do that. "Why?" my Grandson asked. "Because it's been on the ground; you don't know where it's been, it's dirty, and probably has germs," I replied.

At this point, my Grandson looked at me with total admiration and asked, "Grandpa, how do you know all this stuff? You are so smart." I was thinking quickly and said to him. "All Grandpas know this stuff.

It's on the Grandpa Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a Grandpa." We walked along in silence for 2 or 3 minutes, but he was evidently pondering this new information. 'Oh.....I get it!' he beamed, "So if you don't pass the test you have to be the Grandma".

'Exactly,' I replied with a big smile on my face.

Presidential Ponderings



“Since the last edition of my *“Presidential Ponderings”* a lot has happened...and something didn't happen...and there is more to come. What didn't happen was my article for last month's newsletter. No excuse...I just dropped the keyboard.

What did happen? Here is a brief rundown:

- New director
- The fall competition in Rochester during October
- Oktoberfest in Appleton
- Kermis festival in Little Chute
- Preparations for Holiday Dinner Show
- Recruitment for Christmas chorus
- Holiday sing outs at local care giving facilities.

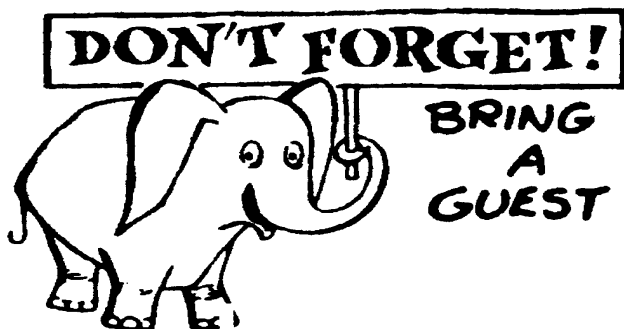
As always this is in addition to our weekly meetings/rehearsals, daily jobs, volunteer work, everyday living, and a little relaxation.

Gentlemen, I applaud and thank you for all you have done to make everything on that list not only happen but also be successful. To accomplish these things took your time, talent, skill, commitment and most of all your willingness to share yourself with the chorus. Again, thank you.

This past month we had the passing of the leadership baton from **Bill Albrecht** to **Jim Hall**. We have not yet properly thanked Bill or welcomed Jim...that activity is coming up.

The delay is due to our packed holiday schedule. Jim described coming onboard as *“jumping on a moving train”*. *Where is the train heading?* Well, we are in the midst of rehearsing with our Christmas chorus. We are preparing for our *“Dinner Show”*. We have several church, hospital, and retirement home presentations. All this and we have our own personal holiday preparations to complete. Yes, the train is moving fast but with your help, time, and commitment we will keep the train under control.

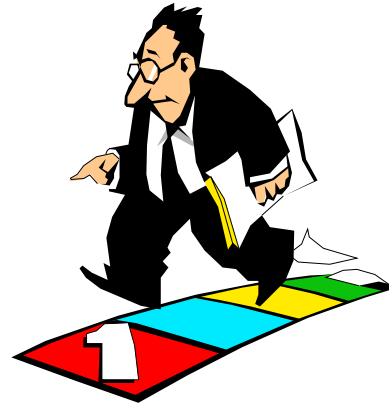
Be Fantastic,
Jack



It's winter before we know it. ...

Submitted by **Will Mackin**

You know, time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young,



just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. And yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. ... I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is... the winter of my life and it catches me

by surprise.

How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my babies go? And where did my youth go? I remember well.. seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like ... But, here it is ... my friends are retired and really getting gray ... they move slower and I see an older person now. Lots are in better shape than me ... but, I see the great change.

Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant ... but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be. Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day and taking a nap is not a treat anymore ... it's mandatory, cause if I don't on my own free will, I just fall asleep where I sit.

Now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done, but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last...

This I know, that when it's over ... it's over.... Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done, things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.... So, if you're not in your winter yet ...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. Whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!

Life goes by quickly. Do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life ... so, live for good today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember ... and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!

"Life is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one."

Appleton Chapter Foxtales
137 State Street
Neenah, WI 34956
www.foxvalleyaires.com



FALL CONTEST RESULTS



The Appleton Fox Valleyaires finished in sixth place in Rochester this past October.

Placement 1 to 13 as follows:

- 1 Hilltop.. Plateau AAA Champion and qualified for International Contest
- 2 Greendale
- 3 Minneapolis
- 4 Fargo-Moorhead-Plateau AA Champion
- 5 West Allis
- 6 Appleton
- 7 Stevens Point
- 8 St. Croix Valley
- 9 Mankato
- 10 Oshkosh-Plateau A Champion
- 11 Polk County
- 12 Racine
- 13 Greater St. Paul-Most improved



Quartet Contest results

1. Expedition
2. Engage
3. Counterpoint
4. Sound Image
5. The Cheery-O's
6. Quantum- Appleton Chapter
7. Perfect Timing-will represent the LOL District at International Senior Contest in January
8. 3 Men of Song
9. Notorious- District Novice Champions.