

Miami-Shelby is a Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society's Johnny Appleseed District



FACE-TO-FACE
My View From The Front
By Dick Baker, Director

The have been numerous conversations and emails between Board members and the Show Committee this month regarding the focus and direction of The Melody Men Chorus. Are we just Tuesday Night singers? Do we want only to do an annual show and sing in local churches occasionally? What about Contest?

We do a great show. We enjoy singing in churches and other local functions. However, the contest venue is where we learn to focus and improve our performances. We work on sound with more intensity. We work stage presence to improve our visual presentation. We get off our butts and on our feet which improves our musical presentations.

I am a firm believer in the need to participate in this experience. Granted, it takes a lot of work. But that work helps to improve our overall Musical presentation.

Participation is the key. When you come to practice, 'bring something to the party' to quote Dr. Greg Lyne. Know the words. Attempt to work on the music and stage moves at home. Come to rehearsals ready to perform. Bring your energy and use it. Practice personal discipline and avoid useless conversations during practice and learning sessions. You will have a much better experience singing in the chorus if you will do that. With that attitude, District Contests will be a pleasure. We can show off our talents and our audiences will see the difference at show time and on Sundays.



Western Divisional Contest
Sept. 10, 2005
Lima, Ohio

Here are some details:

- **Date:** September 10, 2005
- **Headquarters Hotel:** Wingate Inn, 175 West Market St. Lima, OH 45801, (419) 228-7000.
- **Contest Venue:** Lima Senior High School Auditorium, 1 Spartan Way, Lima, OH 45804
- **Quartet Contest:** Starts at 12:00 noon
- **Chorus Contest:** Starts at 7:30 p.m.

Data pasted from JAD Web Site.

Divisional Contest Thoughts

Dale McKinney

Gentlemen, our chorus is facing a tough decision about going to contest. Perhaps that decision could be made easier if there was a concerted effort on the part of the majority of the membership to commit ourselves to going. Perhaps I am wrong in my assessment, but I do believe that there are many members who would be willing, indeed do look forward to, participating at contest. It is a way to see if our efforts throughout the year are paying off with improved performances. Are we doing our best for all the audiences for whom we perform throughout the year?

Continued on page 2

TOP 10 WRONG WAYS TO INITIATE YOUR SON INTO MANHOOD

10. Teach him the secret male ritual of leaving the toilet seat up and the toilet paper roll empty.
9. Have a ceremony where you give him his own remote control.
8. Lead him through an afternoon of rigorous physical training in the back yard while you sit in a lawn chair with a half-gallon of ice cream.
7. Eat until you're about to burst and then ride the Screamin' Hurler roller coaster.
6. Put cream on his face and let the cat shave him with its tongue.
5. Walk behind him through his school halls yelling, "You da man!"
4. Send him to the local discount store to buy mom's "personal things."
3. Give him Grandma's lime green Gremlin with personalized license plates that say, "TUFFGUY."
2. Send the womenfolk shopping, then get out your secret Old Yeller video and have a good cry together.
1. Shot put catching.

today'sTHOT=====

I started early teaching my kids the value of a dollar. From then on, they demanded their allowances in gold.

=====

PASS IT ON!
Yeah, you can send this Funny to anybody you want. And, if you're REAL nice, you'll tell them where you got it!
www.mikeysFunnies.com

Contest Thoughts continued from page one

Yes, I know that some of our members only want to sing on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Yes, I know that some think that contest is a waste of time and an exercise in futility. Yes, I know that some are sure we will hear the same criticisms that we have heard every year for as long as most of us can remember. For those who look for a reason not to go to contest, I doubt that there is any way to change their minds.

There is another group of us who either "go along" with going to contest or who truly look forward to going. The latter is probably a relatively small group. I guess it is to this segment of the membership to whom this note should go. If you attended the last two chorus rehearsals, I can only assume that you too must wonder what happened. In front of a coach, we were terrible. A week later (with no coach) we did a much better job. Dick told us Tuesday evening that we have three weeks in which to decide whether to attempt to participate in the contest this year. If it can be arranged, the coach will be back in a couple of weeks. Dick can arrange that but it is up to us to commit to the effort required.

Perhaps Dave Eyelet will be circulating a sign-up sheet shortly but it seems to me to start with a commitment to identify who is going by making an effort to get your name on the "yes, I am going to contest" list. That must then be followed up by a commitment to work at knowing the music. Most likely, this requires effort outside of Tuesday evenings. Trying to learn the music and choreography with the coach present is a waste of everyone's time. The other commitment is to make every effort to attend all the chorus rehearsals between now and the contest so that Dick knows what group he has to work with and perhaps might even be allowed the luxury of doing some voice placement.

Thanks for listening and if I have been preaching to the choir, so to speak, then I apologize for taking up your time. If you could personally make a larger commitment to the contest then I know it would be appreciated. ... Dale

PS: I have heard some feedback that in part the difficulty in preparing for contest is the overwhelming load of learning so many new songs for our 2005 show. Give me a break! However, I will leave that as a topic for another time.

Gentlemen:

My apologies for not being around much. Hope to get back into the swing of things by middle of August.

In the mean time, I have been directed to make chapter business cards for the chorus. These cards will have space for you to fill out your own name and phone number on the back. They will be available to all chorus members starting around August 9.

As an alternative to generic cards, I am proposing that each of you may have personalized cards with your name/singing part and phone number printed on the front of the card. This will save you the time of filling out the back and does look more finished to the final recipient of the cards.

Quartet members will also have the option of having their quartet name and contact phone number put on the cards.

To help offset the cost of these personalized cards, I am asking each member that is interested to send 10.00 for each card set ordered. That will get you 100 cards with your own information printed on them. 200 cards (maybe you chapters would use that many) for 15.00.

I do need to make all these cards at one time to keep the price low. Help me by letting me know ASAP as to what name and numbers you want on your card.

You can view samples of these cards below.
Thanks

Tim

Thanks to Tim and Miami Graphics for some good work! Editor

U Can Sing Too ADVERTISING

by Sam Sloan

Hello Harmonet Land!

I have some news to tell you about, and I hope in the process you can tell me some stuff too ...

ONTARIO DISTRICT is putting a months worth (we hope) of radio commercials for the U CAN SING 2 program, on one of our largest radio stations .. at 50,000 watts, it is the 2nd largest coverage in North America (second only to WGN Chicago).

We're lucky cause they cover all but about 5 chapters in our district, so that's good for us!

For JAD, SLD, MAD, NED, DIX, and maybe even SUN, their website says they reach this area as well! What this means, is that since we are using the 1-866 number back to HQ, your chapter just may get a call because of this!

Here's the favour I am asking .. from anyone out there ... anywhere ... if you turn your dial in the evenings to 740am .. can you hear this station? (for double check www.am740.ca <<http://www.am740.ca/>>)

Please drop me a line if you can! The website says people as far away as Florida and Bermuda can hear them ... I'm just wondering if they are correct!

Thanks a lot, and we hope everyone is ready for UCANSING2!

Sam Sloane
Marketing Guy, ONTARIO District



YMIH and what might be ... *A Harmonet Thread submitted by Dale McKinney:*

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 09:42:39 -0400
From: Don Gooding <don@a-cappella.com>
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

I thought I'd share a recent insight I gained from subscribing to Choralist and Choraltalk, email groups for choral directors.

There was a discussion among church choir directors about "how to attract youth" to their choirs, as in many cases they have a demographic similar to the BHS (my words, not theirs). And some of them talked about trying to sing "lighter" fare in addition to their Sunday worship music, in order to make the experience more attractive.

It just occurred to me that YMIH and YWIIH have been focusing on music educators - which is good - but there is potential for symbiosis with church choirs as well. Specifically, working with some church choir directors to organize young quartets from among their congregations, and figuring out how to link that to the youth participation in the larger church choir.

It also would help bridge relations between barbershoppers, who at 60,000 singers in the U.S. are dwarfed by the 4-5 million who sing in church choirs, and build more mutual understanding.

There's potential for a win-win!

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 14:06:28 +0000
From: ENau@comcast.net
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

For years, the music staff at Harmony Hall has concentrated efforts on attracting music majors and music educators to our style, and done a very good job of it.

But, a bigger audience is out there, one that we often unintentionally ignore.

Have you ever asked yourself, "What happens to the guys who sang in high school, liked it, went on to college to study business or engineering and had no more musical opportunities due to their schedules in school?"

Here is an audience for whom the BHS can become a safety net, a fraternity and an outlet all rolled into one. Just because a guy does not become a music major doesn't necessarily mean he has no musical skills . . . far from it. And where are we to support

these guys? Nowhere, really. Not yet, anyway.

Imagine a scenario that sees a young man enter college, be embraced by the BHS with musical opportunities that can fit into his schedule and then upon graduation provide him with a network of possibilities all over the world to continue his singing avocation. What power would that have? What influence on building a Society of younger men and musically oriented performers would that provide? Boggles your mind, doesn't it?

Just wondering, because I was never able to sell that concept very well. Instead, we sponsor lots of things for the music majors, but only the CBQC really allows for any involvement by non-music majors.

Think we can do something about that?

Here's to our every success. Ev Nau

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 15:36:20 +0000
From: ENau@comcast.net
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

Thanks, Joe,

Yours is an idea that is similar to those already planned and being done. What I'm asking for is a paradigm shift from those already involved in collegiate music programs to those may not be able to be involved, and thus pick up some very good members and singers.

There is only so much room on anyone's plate for anything. If a guy is already in a music program, it may be tougher for him to add more with us . . . he may even view it as a replacement opportunity, and decide not to pursue it. Whereas a guy with no singing opportunity may replace something else in his life to take us on. THAT is where we should be looking for the low hanging fruit! Ev Nau

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 11:29:19 -0400
From: Joe De Felice <showglowjoe@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

Excellent thought Ev, and one which I have also wondered about.

I think what needs to be done is a tie-in to College singing organizations such as Glee Club and

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providing an intro to our brand of chorus and quartet singing and more importantly, learning and continuing to grow.

I know when I sang in my college Glee Club we had a Double Quartet and it was a very popular feature. And, we didn't have a music major in the bunch.

Perhaps we could offer free services of some quality quartets in their programs with free music, etc. Or perhaps we could arrange free passes to our shows or a joint music wing-ding some night.

The college quartet program should already have made inroads here, but we need that tie in for post-graduate-work so to speak.

Good to have you back Ev. SHOW GLOW Joe

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 16:47:42 -0400
From: Don Gooding <don@a-cappella.com>
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

Here are a couple ideas...

- "Singing Valentines" are a big BHS program. Guys in college love to sing to attract women. And college students need money. Put together a "College Singing Valentines Franchise Package" with learning CDs, business plan, poster templates. Recruit quartets on campuses, say, in October to get them ready by February. Then show them the "barbershop busking" business plan - how to get pizza money by singing on streetcorners.

- Approach some of the existing male college a cappella groups and offer them "cross-training" - tell them that just like Michael Jordan played golf to improve his basketball game (I'm not a sports guy so I could be wrong here), singers should learn barbershop to improve their pop a cappella singing.

- Give each graduating senior of existing college groups a one-year "free" membership in BHS, where that "free" membership is very low cost and net-centered in terms of its deliverables, other than membership in a chapter. And make sure they have a complete directory of chapters. Since most seniors are above 21 by second semester, attract them with a "Four Beers and Ten Tags" night (a tip to The Perfect Gentlemen) in the springtime, at which they get their free membership kit. (yeah, yeah, you gotta be careful about this one)

Must be the heat... so much thinking out of the box.

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2005 21:25:30 +0000
From: ENau@comcast.net
Subject: Re: Re: Young Men in Harmony

Great stuff, Don . . .

But, let me again focus on the market I'm after. Specifically, I'm looking to attract the HIGH SCHOOL graduates who are entering college with four more years ahead of them. Particularly, I'm looking at those HIGH SCHOOL graduates who are not able to function in an existing college program.

Therein lies the greatest opportunity thus far untapped by our resources.

Going after guys already in other programs is risky because in many cases they will feel it necessary to make a choice between what they're already doing and what we'd like them to do. Guess what? we lose more than we win here.

But, the other guys are fair game, and should be easy to get. They don't have any other avenues to pursue with a national organization behind them.

This ought to be a huge win for everyone! Ev Nau

Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2005 17:43:00 +1200
From: "David Brooks" <brooksd@globe.net.nz>
Subject: RE: Re: Young Men in Harmony

> Have you ever asked yourself, "What happens to the guys who sang in high school, liked it, went on to college to study business or engineering and had no more musical opportunities due to their schedules in school?"

... who, after graduating and settling down, tend to become the core membership of barbershop chapters!

A very good question, and one that has been asked in New Zealand, with some fruitful results. The systems and financial requirements of an adult chapter aren't always ideal for students, but there are other ways...

In Wellington, there's a young men's chorus "Vocal Effects", directed by the high school teacher whose school choral programme produced Musical Island Boys. Vocal Effects style of management are based around what they perceive to be the needs and wants of young singers, and certainly they have a ball. Their rehearsals are short and very focused, and the academic year is necessarily a factor in the

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Salt Lake City Numbers - Good News!

by Grady Kerr

This Just In

In an effort to promote some folks who did a GREAT job before and during the Salt Lake City Barbershop Convention, i wanted to pass along these numbers from the Int'l office. Some have wondered how "we" did. How did this one compare to past Internationals? Did we make (enough) money?

I'm happy to share with you this convention may have been the GREATEST of all time as far as the numbers below. This is not just a positive "spin" - it illustrates the unique nature of the venue, host city, host chapter, pre-convention work, contracts, local media participation and outstanding public response.

This may never happen this way again and I'm sure there are some Harmonitiots who will quickly poo poo all this to prove some moot, egotistical point. But let's give recognition to those who worked there tails off - including some Society Board members who made the right decisions.

Here are the numbers confirmed by those who know (and not mentioned here to protect them from personal attacks and direct email spamitiots - you're welcome)

Total attendees (convention attendees and general public combined):

=====
Sacred Gold - 13,500 estimate

Contest sessions – 11,630*
(convention registrations plus individual tickets)
AIC Show - 6,509
MBNA College QT Contest - 2,824
Harmony Foundation - 1,989

Barbershoppers/family members in attendance:
=====

Convention Registrations - 8,880*
Sacred Gold - 6,500 estimate
AIC Show - 5,119
MBNA College QT Contest - 2,387
Harmony Foundation - 1,570

* including 175 comp registrations to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir

Public in attendance:
=====

Sacred Gold - 7,000 estimate
Contest sessions - 2,750
AIC Show - 1,390
MBNA College QT Contest - 537
Harmony Foundation - 419

The revenue generated from ticket sales to the public alone exceeded \$100,000 with \$58,405 of this coming from area residents attending the quarter-finals (283 tickets), semi-finals (637 tickets), wildcard chorus (241 tickets), chorus finals (527 tickets) and quartet finals (1062 tickets).

Grady Kerr
Barbershop Historian / Webmaster
9498 East Valley Ranch Pkwy #1107
Irving, Texas 75063
214 57 GKERR (214.574.5377)

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chorus timetable. The group started as an outreach programme of local chapter Harbour Capital, and has developed into an independent group. They sing well. Last year they "evaluated" with a score that would have made them New Zealand champions if they'd been competing; this year they're competing!

Meanwhile, Sweet Adelines has set up a Young Women In Harmony national chorus, which meets over a long weekend in June. (Good for the semesters of some universities but not all). Once again, they have a ball, and membership of this group is much less expensive, and much easier to maintain through tertiary education, than regular week-to-week attendance at a local chapter. Fulfilling the needs of post-high school students was one of the main reasons for setting up the group, though it is open to younger singers as well.

Attracting music majors is great for developing a music leadership, but attracting the many singers who head off in different directions is the key to building a membership!

David Brooks
Director, Wellington City Chorus
Sweet Adelines Region 35 champions, 2005
Wellington, New Zealand

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER, SPEBSQSA INC. HELD **AUGUST 1ST 2005** AT GREENSTREET UMC
PIQUA.OH

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Bob Moore. The roll was taken. Those present in addition to Pres. Moore were:

Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford	Art Wehneman
Denny Julien	Dan Black	Dave Maxson

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the July 11th meeting were approved on a motion by Denny Julien and a second by Ken Crawford.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for July indicated receipts at \$424.30, expenses at \$1,313.81 with a balance in all funds of \$9,457.16. This was approved on a motion by Dan Black and a second by Art Wehneman.

MEMBERSHIP No Report

MUSIC No Report

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Denny went over a sample of the new chapter business cards printed at cost by Tim Parmenter. These will have a space on the back for the member to write his name and phone number. which can also be printed at a slight additional cost. The new brochures are also ready to pass out. Denny is also setting up a voice mail box for the chapter.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

There was discussion held concerning the contest numbers and show tunes with concern being voiced about commitment.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Sidney Hospice has asked for a performance on Sunday, Dec. 11th. at their annual meeting. It was decided by consensus to take this before the chorus to see if there is sufficient interest.

OLD BUSINESS

RISERS Dan Black gave the Board a quote for the new riser sections including 4th step and back rail. It was \$2732.29 including shipping and tax(which we would not pay) A decision will be made in Sept.

SHOW TICKET PRICES A short discussion was held on show ticket prices with no action taken.

INSTALLATION NIGHT Bob informed us that Holiday Inn Sidney would like to move our annual Installation dinner to the second Tuesday of December in order for us to have the larger banquet room. He will explore other options.

As there was nothing further a motion to adjourn was made by Art Wehneman and seconded by Dave Maxson. Motion carried .Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Dave Eleyet Secretary

2005 Chapter Officers

President	Bob Moore
Secretary	Dave Eleyet
Treasurer	Ken Crawford
VP Music	Jim Riley
VP Membership	Mark Reedy
Program Co-ordinator	Dave Maxson
Director of Public Relations	Denny Julian
Trustee 2005	Tim Parmenter
Trustee 2005	Fritz Lefever
Trustee 2006	Art Wehneman
Trustee 2006	Jim Haley
Trustee 2007	Bill Ganger
Trustee 2007	Dan Black
Past President & District Delegate	Stan Friedline
Show Chairman	Mark Reedy
Show Director	Dave Maxson
Service Chairman	Gordon Davis
Music Librarian	Art Wehneman
Quartet Contact	John Gearhardt
Editor	Jim Moore
Bulletin Production/ Distribution	Jim Haley
YMIH Chairman	Dale McKinney
Director	Richard Baker
Ass't Directors	Bob Moore Brian Phillips

Miami-Shelby Calendar

Aug 14	Sun		Tipp City Nazarene Church
Aug 16	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church
Aug 20	Sat	3:00p	Chorus Picnic @ Greenville Park Time needs to be confirmed.
		6:30	Performance at the Great Darke County Fair Details Later Times needs to be confirmed.
Aug 23	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church
Aug 28	Sun		Cove Spring Church of Christ
Aug 30	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church
Sep 6	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church
Sep 10	Sat		Western Divisional Contest
Sep 12	Mon	8:00p	Board Meeting
Sep 13	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church Introduction to Barbershop Harmony - BRING A FRIEND!
Sep 20	Tue	7:30p	Rehearsal at Green Street Methodist Church

NotePaper is scheduled for distribution on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.



Miami-Shelby NotePaper
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