

Sunshine's International Qualifiers



Jacksonville Big "O"

Secretary's Desk	3
Raise a Crowd?	4
Spring Conv. Reg.	5
Youth in Harmony	6
Harmony Foundation	7
Important Guests	8
New Kid	9
Capt & Q'tet Happ.	9
Recognition?	12
Society News	13
Fall Conv. Pics	14
Hall of Fame	17
Panhandle Success	18
In Memorium	21
Tag Corner	23



Our Seniors Champ
Great Western Timbre Company

Keep your address current in the Society database.. That is where the address list is taken from prior to each mailing.
DO NOT send address changes to the Editor or any of the district staff.

Articles with no byline are contributed by the Editor. Clip art courtesy of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

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From the Secretary's Desk



*Lewis Law
Sunshine District Secretary*

Happy Holidays to all barbershoppers and friends. This is a great time of year to be with family, have sing outs, and to show good will to all mankind.

By now your chapter should have completed, your election of officers for 2010. It is very important that you get these names entered into the Society's database as soon as possible. This is critical for the Chapter Counselors and the Society or District Leadership Teams so they may send information to you and your chapter officials. Remember, if you don't have correct personal data on file (e-mail address), important society information can not be forwarded.

Reporting Procedure

Reporting your 2010 elected officers through <https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness> requires you to log in with your Membership ID and Password. Once entered into the system select **My Memberships**, then **My Chapters**, then **Officers**. In this screen, you can add names for related positions. At each office, select **Choose an Office** and pick the appropriate office. You may now click on the pull-down menu for the persons ID or Role to fill in each position. Insert the **Start** and **End** date, lastly select **Add Officer**. The names are reported to Society and displayed under Chapter Officers on the Members Only page.

LEADAC

After you have completed this task, don't forget to sign up and attend Leadership Academy 2010. This training seminar is a valuable way to get the latest on the position you have graciously volunteered for. Besides, what better reason can you think of, to get together with other chapter officers to trade notes and sing songs?

Annual Report

Your chapter's 2009 Not-For-Profit (NFP) Corporation annual report should be received by the listed agent around the first of the year. If a chapter secretary or other officer who was acting as the Corporate Agent, no longer holds the chapter job, than it is important that the forms be processed with the new agent named. The form may be submitted on the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations website, sunbiz.org.

Failure to submit the annual report by the deadline will result in the administrative dissolution of your corporation and you will no longer be recognized as an active chapter within the Barbershop Harmony Society.

A chapter that is not incorporated is not technically in compliance with the Society Bylaws, Statements of Policy, rules and regulations, and is not eligible to compete, have a vote in the House of Delegates meeting, register quartets as part of its chapter (which will affect their ability to compete also) or be covered under any of the Society's liability insurance coverage. Wow, what incentive to take care of your NFP annual reports ASAP...

Show Reporting

As Barbershoppers, we like to entertain the public, and doing so, the music entities request us to be responsible singers. Don't forget to submit your BMI/SESAC for that annual show coming up, or the ASCAP fee for performances you may have had during this past year. The fee increased last year to \$215 for the standard performance schedule.

Society has also requested that I send them venue information for your chapter performances. If you would please send a note with your application listing the show title (if there is one), any guest ensembles performing, ticket information, contact information, phone numbers, e-mails, or website url's, that can be a resource for show information, I will submit it to Society along with the BMI/SESAC form and check.

Keep a Song in Your Heart

BMI/SESAC show approvals.

December 12, 2009 Tampa P-015
December 13, 2009 Englewood P-038
December 19, 2009 Jacksonville Big O' P-034
February 13, 2010 Greater Canaveral P-017
February 19, 2010 Englewood P-038
February 20, 2010 Englewood P-038
February 26, 2010 Fort Walton Beach P-019
February 27, 2010 Greater Sun City P-045
March 05, 2010 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023
March 06, 2010 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023
March 13, 2010 Cape Coral P-037
March 20, 2010 Charlotte County P-006
March 27, 2010 Polk County P-026
March 27, 2010 Manatee Sandpiper P-004

How Do We Raise A Crowd?



Mark Schlinkert

Director of Music and Performance

Over the past several years, I've enjoyed working as Sunshine District's Director of Music and Performance, the Labor Day Jamboree Chairman, as well as Board Member at Large. These roles have helped prepare me for this new and exciting challenge, Executive Vice-President.

I must tell you that I am humbled and honored to have been elected to this role. I need you all to know that I don't take this challenge lightly. As a younger man, I would talk with my buddies about the things that I might do if I ever got to this position to help promote Barbershop Harmony and now my time has come. I can't do this without your help though. I do have a few goals that I feel are very important to the health and survival of Barbershop here in Sunshine. Please let me share a few.

How do we raise a crowd? It's very important to the health of our district that more people and more chapters attend conventions. Why can't we have over 1,000 people attend both district conventions? Chapters, what must we do to get you all to participate?

My favorite conventions were those that were heavily attended. As the saying goes, "the more the merrier!" Also, let's de-emphasize contests and put more emphasis on the overall convention aspect. Don't get me wrong, contests are very important and must take place, but let's not make that the only reason we convene. Let's put more focus on friends getting together, sharing song. In order to get more people to attend conventions, a couple of ideas come to mind.

Above all, we must lower costs.

Registration costs have soared over the past several years due to rising convention costs. We will work to reduce both! It's likely that we will have to use smaller performing arts venues or maybe high school auditoriums in which our overhead will be much less than some of the more expensive venues in the state. This has to be part of our plan to cut back.

We will not sacrifice our lighting and sound expectations. As a matter of fact, our plans are to reinforce those and make them better than ever! Next, we will work to reduce hotel costs. Starting in the fall of 2010 (we are contracted in Jacksonville one last time) we will negotiate lower hotel room rates. We will shoot for room rates that fall at or be-

low the \$99 mark per night. Last, reduce dining and parking costs. It is also our goal to find locations that have inexpensive dining options as well as inexpensive or free parking. Your convention team has also been working very hard to find more centrally located convention sites. They have been looking in Ocala, Orlando, Tampa, and Lakeland.

A New Web Site?

Another objective this coming year is the development of a new district website. We will be looking for a webmaster. If you are an experienced webmaster and would like to join our district team, please drop me a line.

There are some terrific programs being offered by the district for your chapters and quartets. Please look over them and take advantage of them. One of the concepts being considered now is to combine many of these programs with our Sunshine Sizzle (date being considered). We would have our typical Friday Sizzle schedule,

but your Saturday might consist of Chorus Director Workshop Intensive (CDWI),

Top Gun Quartet Coaching, Standing Ovation Program training (SOP), Coaches Guild quartet coaching, Sizzle Harmony Education classes, Chapter Membership Development, and so on. The idea was to combine many of our district programs on one weekend utilizing many of the same people instead of having multiple weekends that incur multiple sets of expenses. Thanks to Roger Ross for this great idea!

The goal... Raise a Crowd!

If you would like to volunteer or you have suggestions or ideas, please feel free to give me a call or drop me a line. My cell phone # is (321) 229-0571 and my e-mail address is mschlinkert@cfl.rr.com. I'd love to hear from you!



**Spring Convention
Jacksonville, FL
April 9-11, 2010**

All Events Registration

Friday Evening Quartet Semi-Finals
Saturday Morning Chorus District Championship
Saturday Evening Quartet International Qualification
And Parade of Champions

Office Use Only

No.

Date

Early Bird All Events Package for Competitors and Guests

Absolute Deadline for discount is Midnight, April 4, 2010!

Please register at District Website or complete this form and mail to:

**\$40
BEFORE**

**Tony Fortune
2901 Cypress Ridge Trail
Daytona Beach, FL 32128-6967**

**\$50
AFTER**

or Fax to: **386-760-1008**

Make checks payable to **Sunshine District**. Please do not staple check to form. No phone orders, please.

Registration must be made using this form, or via the District website, at www.sunshinedistrict.org.

Forms received after Sunday, April 4, will not receive the discount. Please print clearly.

For **confirmation** of receipt please include SASE or request by e-mail to: fountain9@bellsouth.net

Registration and Name Badge Information

Name..... President's Council HOF 50 Yr. ?

Chapter Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Chorus Name..... Home Phone.....

Quartet Name..... e-mail.....

Spouse or Guest Name Badge Information

Spouse's Name.....

Guest Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Guest Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Check here if you are a first-time convention attendee.

Event Selection for Competitors and Guests

Quantity	Amount
<u>All Events Registration Pass and Competitors Badge</u>	
.....Received before Sunday, April 4 @ \$40 = \$.....	
.....Received after Sunday, April 4 @ \$50 = \$.....	
.....Student (Under 24 + Student ID) @ \$20 = \$.....	
<u>Single Event Spectator Tickets</u>	
.....Quartet Semifinals (Fri, Apr 09) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Chorus Contest (Sat, Apr 10) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Quartet Finals (Sat, eve Apr 10) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Student Single Ticket Price @ \$10 = \$.....	
	TOTAL \$.....

Payment Information

Circle One

Visa Master Card Check No:

.....
Please print name as it appears on Credit Card

- - -

Card Number

Exp. Date.....

.....
Signature

Online Registration at: www.sunshinedistrict.org

Name badges are required to be shown each time upon entry/reentry to the auditorium.

Youth in Harmony Update

Things are going great in the Youth in Harmony arena. We had six very successful workshops this fall. Over 1500 students and 45 teachers were introduced to high quality Barbershop. I would like to thank the following chapter YIH coordinators for their hard work in making each of these workshops a success.

Pinellas County – **Hari Barrett**;

Santa Rosa County – **Jeb Stewart and Jack Champlin**; Citrus County – **Bob Spence**;

Dade County – **Gene Cokeroft**;

Highland County – **Rex Darrow**.

I coordinated the workshop for Hillsborough County.

I would also like to thank the clinicians and quartets that shared their talents at each workshop:

Pinellas County – Alex Rubin, Clinician & **Xclusive** with **Eddie Mejia, Christian Diaz, and fill-ins Paul Sacca and Alex Rubin**.

The SAI clinician was **Denise Helbig**.

The girls quartet was **Daydreamers** with **Camille Sanabria, Denise Helbig, Linda Gundel and Barb Kunath**.

Santa Rosa County – **Dr. Bill Adams**, Clinician & **N2Deep** from Alabama. **Jennifer Cooke** was the SAI clinician.

Hillsborough County – Tony DeRosa, Clinician & a great pick up quartet with **Tony, Paul Agnew, Mitch Greenburg and Ben Miller**.

The SAI clinicians were **Debbie Cleveland & Denise Helbig**. The girl's quartet was **Daydreamers** with **Camille Sanabria, Denise Helbig, Susie Courtice and Barb Kunath**.

Citrus County – Mike McGee, Clinician & **Pepper Jackrabbitt** with **Mike McGee, Jamie Breedon, Tristan St John and Tyrell Givens**. The SAI clinician was **Denise Helbig** also singing with **Helen Moon, Diana Shirley and Maria Spence** as the teaching quartet.

Dade County – Paul Sacca, Clinician with help from **Gene Cokeroft & On Demand** with **Tristan St John, Paul Saca, Jamie Breedon and Jonathan Meadows** and **Dade Youth Quartet** composed of **Albert Rico, Will Rodriguez, Marcee Amajuwan, & O.J. De La Osa**.

The SAI clinicians were **Iris Cokeroft and Dee Kastler**. The SAI quartet was **Bling**.

Arne Helbig
Director of Youth in Harmony



Highlands County – Gene Cokeroft, Clinician & **The PURSUIT** with **Ben Miller, Chris Coffee, Jeremy Conover, and Paul Agnew** and **Dade Youth Quartet** composed of **Albert Rico, Will Rodriguez, Marcee Amajuwan, & O.J. De La Osa**. The SAI clinician was **Iris Cokeroft**. The girl's quartet was **Snap Shot**.

I recently attended the Society's Mini-Forum in Dallas and met with 13 of the 16 District Youth in Harmony Directors. This was a "glass is half full" group that had exciting discussions on the future of the youth program.

This was a "glass is half full" group that had exciting discussions on the future of the youth program.

Here is a brief outline of some of the items we discussed that perhaps you can use to increase youth activity in your chapter:

- Invite local high school or college groups to sing on your show.
- Give away tickets to your shows to local schools.
- Attend local school performances. Send a letter of appreciation to the music educator on the great job they did on the show, and send a letter to their principle addressing the great work the teacher did.
- Offer to help with tickets, ushering etc. at these performances.
- Offer to help raise money for music or risers.
- Offer free music to the music educators. There are hundreds of free songs on the Society website. Click on "Sing" and then "Get Music" to find these songs.
- Order the "Get America Singing Again" books from Harmony Marketplace and give them to local elementary schools. This is a great outreach program for those who are retired and can visit local elementary schools with a quartet. This works well for 4th and 5th grades. Bring about 30 books.

We discussed the new insurance clause for Youth Protection. Beginning in 2010 anyone working with youth at an event covered by our insurance policy must go through training prepared and provided by our insurance company. Contact me for additional information.

Youth (continued)

Continued from page 6

I encourage everyone to become a member of the Ambassador of Song program. For as little as \$10.00 per month you can help fund youth events that will help ensure the future of our Society. Let's not allow this great hobby to die with our generation!

Please remember to set aside some funds for Harmony Explosion camp scholarships in your chapter's budget.

-Please let me know about any youth activities occurring in your chapter. The District YIH Directors are going to be communicating on a regular basis and I'd like to share what you are doing. I can be reached at: chbgh@allstate.com or 813-310-6914.

Harmony Foundation

Bill Phipps
VP Financial Development



The Harmony Foundation (HF) is working to support the core programs and objectives of our Barbershop Harmony Society. When we support HF, our gifts are used to fund BHS core programs aimed at music education and involving youth in barbershop harmony. Youth membership means future growth that ensures our ability to keep barbershop harmony ringing into the future.

Last year, nearly a half-million dollars was given through HF and channeled directly to critical, core programs:

- Youth Education and Outreach and Harmony University scholarships,
- Harmony Explosion Camps and Youth Harmony Workshops subsidies,
- Bank of America Collegiate Quartet Championships and College Quartet demonstration tours,
- Directors College scholarships,
- Music-educator packets and sheet music for high school choral directors and college chapters, and
- International Youth Chorus Festivals at BHS Midwinter Conferences.

...all aimed directly at the CORE and FUTURE of barbershopping.

Better methods for good reasons

HF is developing a “**culture of philanthropy**” among BHS members. Replacing the old bucket-passing culture with organized, planned giving is better for several good reasons:

- **Tax Deductibility** – you get an income tax record of your charitable gifts to your Chapter, District, or HF. All are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.
- **Records and Giving-Statistics** – BHS gains the ability to demonstrate the level of commitment of its own membership. This is critical when we apply for additional funding from outside-donor organizations.
- **Proven fact – regular, incremental, and planned giving yield a larger total** than random giving.
- **“Donor’s Choice”** – this feature lets you designate up to 30% of your HF giving to go straight to your choice of any chapter or district, or a combination.

And, there's one more reason:

Stewardship – member commitment and support enables BHS to spread the joy of barbershop harmony.

Three ways to play

Ambassadors Of Song (AOS)

On the simple premise that there is great power if everyone pulls a little and pulls surely, AOS families give at least \$10 monthly, using automatic monthly checking or credit card deduction. AOS makes giving affordable and easy, yet Sunshine District has 1300 member-families who are not presently supporting HF and less than 20 AOS families. Reach out and be a new Ambassador of Song. Sign up at the HF website www.harmonyfoundation.org or call HF for a form.

President's Council (PC)

PC member-families have assumed a leadership-giving role in HF. Their gifts support the core programs just as AOS gifts do. There are more than 60 PC families giving a minimum of \$1000 annually in our Sunshine District. At this level of giving there are barbershopping perks, such as preferred seating at International Conventions and District Events. Consider a leadership-giving role for your family. Call Ev Nau directly at HF.

Continued on page 8

Harmony Foundation

Continued from page 7

Founder's Club (FC)

FC members have planned a deferred gift to barbershopping through their wills or estate plans. FC is significant to the Society's future success because we can all participate — even those of us who need all of our current income and assets for today's living expenses. A simple codicil amendment to our current will can designate a percentage gift of whatever is left after we pass on. What's more, we receive that pure joy of giving to support our love of harmony, right now. Call Ev Nau at HF.

I believe that if we are comfortable in our understanding of giving to BHS, we'll know what to do.

FOR SALE
Wenger Risers
3-step, 4 sections
w/back and side rails.
\$1500
Sun City Center Chapter.
Will meet you 1/2 way for delivery, if
distance is a problem.
Jon 813-810-0216

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Melbourne, Florida Chapter is seeking applicants for the position of Music Director. The Chapter is an active chapter of about 45-50 men and are seeking to continue to improve their quality of sound. If interested, please contact:

Don Anderson

donander@cfl.rr.com

Phone

Home: 321-636-1751

Just a friendly reminder that Standing Ovation Reviewers across the State are willing to come to your next chorus or quartet performance - for free even - to give experienced opinions and suggestions on what they see and hear. The intent of this Society program is to bring help to local chapters - to improve Barbershop Shows nationally and give greater satisfaction to you, the performers who work so hard to make these events special.

To schedule a review, email Jon at StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org.

Our Important

*Bart Vande Mark
Dir. Chapt. Development*



The most important resource for most chapters at any meeting is the guest. If you can, make him feel he's a successful part of what's going on before he gets in the door. And feed him little successes all meeting long. Even if it means adjusting the program some.

This is especially true for video gamers who thrive on instant personal success. Tags do wonderful things for them. Especially simple tags, at least at first. Pole Cats are marvelous.

Recent generations find themselves with less time available. They need to feel that attending a meeting is an efficient and enjoyable means of self improvement. Learning CD's are wonderful things. Consider planning and communicating detailed meeting plans in advance. Consider shorter meetings with no breaks and no scheduled business meeting. If ya gotta pee, go.

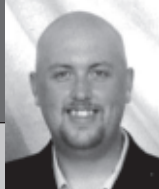
One of the greatest of human qualities is creativity. Every effort should be made to encourage individual and corporate creativity and to offer opportunities to create. If a man can write a simple tag, he might be our next writer/arranger. If he has a feel for rhythm and leadership, he might be the next chapter director. If he is given an opportunity to plan, he could be our next chapter president. If he has an eye or ear for coaching, give him a shot. If he is given an opportunity to sing with three others often, during the meeting, he might be a quartet champ soon.

Even if he is a part of a woodshedding session with a quartet or with the whole chapter, he will likely get some feeling of having created. All these things should be encouraged. They are the sorts or things that build solid barbershop teams.

Have an afterglow where singing can be done.

**Personal
success!
Self
improvement!
Creativity!
Efficiency of
labor!**

New Kid on the Block!



Greetings Sunshine District! My name is **Jeremy Conover**, Bari of The PURSUIT, and I'm excited to be serving as your new Director of Music & Performance.

My #1 focus and goal is to provide the chapters and quartets of the Sunshine District with every tool available to help develop and promote a higher level of Music, Singing and Performance.

These tools include:

- SUN Coaches Guild
- Coordination of BHS Staff Visits
- Standing Ovation
- Quartet/Chorus/Director Development
- District Schools

...and much more!

You will be receiving numerous messages from me regarding ways that the District can help in these areas. Even though I'm fairly new to the District, I'm looking forward to making many new friends and using my experiences and training to help the Sunshine District become full of better singers, put on more entertaining shows and grow in their overall level of performance!

Things are already starting to happen. Plans are in the works for a TopGun School on Feb, 27, 2010 and we will be enjoying staf visits from the BHS Educational Staff from Feb 1-4. I'm still looking for some quartets with daytime availability for some coaching if any are interested.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any Musical Operations questions, or just to say hello!

Here is my contact info:

Jeremy Conover
BHS Singing Judge
Director - Music & Performance
Sunshine District
(912) 596-8123
bowbarbershopper@hotmail.com

More to come...

Chapter & Quartet Happenings

Ft. Walton Beach

For the past two years, the ***Emerald Coast Chorus, Fort Walton Beach*** (the far Northwest Panhandle) has been the second fastest growing chorus in the Sunshine District - second only to Port St. Lucie.

Well, here we grow again. We have inducted 7 men (4 of them teenagers) into the chorus since January of this year, with the prospect of another new member in the very near future. What is also very interesting is that, even though we are in Florida, only 2 of our members are snowbirds.

When asked why we are successful and growing when many other choruses are losing membership, I reply: First and foremost, there must be trust and respect between the members and the Board. Plus, you need leadership, a solid Board of Directors, a sound financial foundation, a good vision, a plan, love of singing, camaraderie, a desire to sing better, members willing to work hard, and a great director.

Of course, your chorus must have the ability to become better or all of the above won't help. The final item you need is spousal support. Why? Because the wives of the chorus **must** like what they see happening, in before they can support what we are doing. Remember the old adage? "*If Momma ain't happy, ain't nooobody happy.*" Our wives are a part of the chorus. They help at all of our functions and we recognize their invaluable support at our annual Installation Dinner.

Ocala

By Warren Coleman

The ***Big Sun Chorus*** of Ocala is proud to learn that while there Director **Ann Lord Bellis** was attending the Mid Atlantic District Convention this fall it was recognized that she is in fact the only female in the whole Society to have been honored with the Barbershopper of the Year Award!



Ann Bellis

Continued on page 10

 **HARMONY
FOUNDATION**
Sing...for life

Chapter & Quartet Happenings

The Pursuit

By paul Agnew

After a little more than a year as a long-distance quartet, The PURSUIT is happy to announce that **Ben Miller** has moved from *Spartanburg, SC* to *Orlando* and is now a full-fledged member of the Sunshine District. Ben's move means we're finding more rehearsal time and, more notably, a significant reduction in travel expenses for shows. So, if any of you show chairmen were concerned about bringing in a long-distance quartet for your shows, we're now just another local SUN quartet ready to entertain your audiences.

Leadership

The PURSUIT is very happy to announce that **Jeremy Conover** has accepted the position of VP of Music and Performance for the Sunshine District. Most of you have already seen him in action via the Sunshinenet email list and we all look forward to some exciting projects he's working on. Jeremy, an accomplished Singing judge, directs the 13th *Colony Sound* chapter in Savannah and is building a youth chorus that will be competing at Mid-Winter in Tampa.

Excellence

In the PURSUIT of musical excellence, we struck upon the idea of forming a mini-music team for the quartet to help us make wise musical choices, further refine our show package, and ensure our success at contests. We're happy to have **Mark Schlinkert** (PRS) and **Adam Reimnitz** (MUS) join the team and are grateful for the time they are investing in our "pursuit". When we add in **Jeremy Conover's** knowledge as a SNG judge, we have a team that covers all of the categories. (Their first decision was to tell me to not write any parodies for The PURSUIT and to stop talking with my hand in the air.)

Shows

The PURSUIT just had the pleasure of being the feature quartet for the 13th *Colony Sound Chapter* in *Savannah* and learned two songs for their well-scripted tribute to **Johnny Mercer**. Seeing as we were in Savannah and the show was all Mercer tunes, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to make the pilgrimage to the *Mercer-Williams House* and to the Mercer gravesite. If you haven't been to Savannah and seen these sites you are missing an inter-



The Pursuit at the Mercer Williams House

esting experience. Seeing the marble bench engraved with the titles of his most famous songs and seeing the lyrics on the grave stones was very moving. As our own little tribute to this wonderful lyricist, we sang one of our new songs for a couple of tourists outside the *Mercer-Williams House*. The *Savannah Chapter* members were tremendous hosts and put on one of the best Barbershop Barbecue Afterglows we've ever been to. (Ask **Jeremy** about the barbecue pie!) Seeing as they are our closest DIX neighbors and are just getting back into attending the conventions, perhaps we should invite them to join us in Jacksonville – providing they bring the barbecue!

The Future

The PURSUIT is having a blast helping SUN with what is proving to be the most successful Youth in Harmony program in the Barbershop Harmony Society and have been the teaching quartet in for two festivals in recent weeks. Due to some unexpected family illnesses, for our first youth festival in *Hillsborough County (Tampa)* we had to enlist the help of **Mitch "The Pitch" Greenberg** and **Tony DeRosa**. The day was a tremendous success with their help and the young men and women were more than a little enthusiastic about the music. This past Friday we were the teaching quartet for the Sebring Youth Festival and were honored to help **Gene** and **Iris Cokecroft** work with over 80 boys and 200 girls. We know we are planting seeds for the future, but there was one young bass that was already asking about visiting the local chapter. With that kind of success, we are eager help this crucial program any time we can. Thanks to **Arne Helbig's** hard work as our Director of Student Services, the seeds of barbershop are being sown throughout the region.

Communication

The PURSUIT has recently changed our contact man. **Jeremy Conover** will be handling our show arrangements and other communications, so please add his number to your address book: 912-596-8123

Stay Tuned!

Citrus County

By Bob Spence

The Citrus County, FL 'Barbershoppers', of the *Chorus of the Highlands*, and the *'Suncoast Harmony Chorus'*, of Sweet Adelines, International, hosted the tenth 'Barbershop Harmony Youth Workshop' for our three Citrus County High School choral students and their directors. Under the leadership of experienced clinicians, the 175 students and 25 adults

Continued on page 11

Chapter & Quartet Happenings

Continued from page 10

learned how easy and enjoyable it is to learn and perform this style of music, coordinated by **Bob Spence**, the “Young Men in Harmony” chapter rep.



Attended at the Citrus County Youth Workshop

John Edel at *Citrus High*, **Jason Longtin** at *Crystal River* and **Tom Bova** at *Lecanto High* all agreed that this is a strong enrichment for their choral students and have strongly supported this program with additional support from **Bob Brust** as the *Citrus Co. Board of Education* Supervisor.

Frank Roberts the Citrus Chapter President, one of the volunteers helping with sectionals and welcoming the students said, “we hope to offset in part the ongoing reductions in educational budgets for the teaching of the arts in our school systems.” This program is one of the few supported at the state level, since several near-by counties have dropped their vocal music programs. This program is one of the largest music education partnership programs for teens in Florida’s history, conducted at no cost to the state, the students, or the school system. The music, instructions, and lunch were provided free of charge.

The workshop was held at the *First United Methodist Church of Inverness*. Clinician **Mike McGee** from *Tallahassee* and his teaching quartet ‘*Pepper Jackrabbit*’ with members from *Jack-*

sonville, Tampa and Orlando assisted in the program. The high schools students did a ‘standing ovation’ when they heard them perform.

The young women’s clinician was **Denise Helbig**, from *Tampa* and her teaching quartet consisting of **Helen Moon** (Homosassa), **Diana Sherley** (Gainesville) and **Maria Spence** (Homosassa). They worked with the students creating a well-polished performance for their audience with choreographed movements, adding a bit of spice to their portion of the concert.

Mike McGee, clinician, invited the young men to participate in the high school contest to be held next January at the International Mid-winter Convention to be held in *Tampa*.

Jacksonville Big O

By *Tim Walton*

The *Big Orange Chorus* made two appearances, singing the National Anthem at two separate games of the *Jacksonville Suns* this year. The first of the two was under the direction of Mike Sobolewski, the final one performed prior to the final Suns regular season home game, was under the direction of our Front Line Director, **Tony DeRosa**. Rainfall delayed the start of the first game, but not the spirits of the Big O or the fans. After a 45 minute rain delay, the Big O got the

game going by performing the National Anthem.

The *Jacksonville Suns* are a AA Minor League team affiliated with the *Florida Marlins* MLB team. The Suns had a terrific season and went on to win the pennant at the Southern League Championship series.

Singing the National Anthem at these two baseball games was a terrific opportunity for the Big O Chorus, but they were also a family fun days. The Suns management saw to it that complimentary tickets were made available to all chorus members as well as family members and friends. Over 70 Big O members, family and friends enjoyed each of the games.



Big O Sings at the Suns Game

After completion of the National Anthem, Big O members joined the rest of the Big O gang and the many Suns fans to enjoy some great baseball. We would like to think that we had something to do with the Suns winning both of these games, but with a regular season record of 82-58, the Suns did it will lots of talent.

The chorus is looking to repeat their performances during the 2010 Suns season and is also looking into performing the National Anthem at a Jacksonville Jaguars home game during their 2010 season.

Continued on page 22

Are You Getting Recognition?

Ron Hesketh
Coordinator



The time has come for recognizing those bulletin Editors and Marketing VP's in your chapter. To that end we have two separate contests that should have a significant impact on the quality of your work. It is through judging in these contests that your product can be improved and, after all, that is the name of the game. It is my goal to have Sunshine at the top of the international level scoring summary in each of the two contests. (there is a third contest in the works, but more about that later)

First & Foremost

All entrants must be a member of PROBE for both 2009, the year being judged, and 2010, the year of judging. This is a very inexpensive membership, only \$10 per year, and is a legitimate chapter expense. Only ONE (two-year) membership is required for each person entering.

Bulletin Editor of The Year contest.

Purpose

The purpose of the Bulletin Editor of the Year (BETY) contest is to promote better communication through chapter bulletins. Each judge is enjoined to provide a written critique to each editor judged.

Eligibility

In order to qualify for the IBC, editors must have published at least six issues of a monthly bulletin during the contest year, or six months of bulletins on a weekly or biweekly schedule. The editor must also be a member for both the publishing year and the year judged, i.e. bulletins for 2008 being judged in 2009 would need membership in both years.

Submission of bulletins

Editors of bulletins shall submit for judging

- Monthly:** Three copies each of two consecutive months
- Biweekly:** Three copies each of four Consecutive issues
- Weekly:** Three copies each of eight consecutive issues

published during the year. If the ELECTRONIC issues are on a Members Only page, Logins and Passwords must be supplied. **No hard-copy print-outs will be accepted for ELECTRONIC judging.** Two copies of each HARDCOPY issue must be an off-the-press copy (for the L&R judges); the others may be photocopies. For weeklies, submit four consecutive issues. For bi-weeklies, submit two consecutive issues.

Submission of ONLINE bulletins

The editor will email a copy of the entry form (available via the PROBE website) with the two URL's of his two consecu-

tive monthly issues or four consecutive bi-weekly issues or eight consecutive weekly issues (they may be HTML or PDF files). Entries must be accessible via the Internet and any passwords needed must be provided. Hard copies or copies on CDs will NOT be accepted. **Deadline is January 9, 2010.**

Ranking contestants

I, as your District contest chairmen, will tabulate scores from the judges' score sheets and determine the final rankings, sending copies to the VP-BE and each judge. In case of ties, the tie will be broken by the Content score. If a tie still exists, the Grammar & Style score will be used as the tie breaker.

Public Relations Officer of The Year (PROTY)

Every chapter needs to recognize the hard work performed by their M&PR person. They work hard to promote your chapter events in the media and deserve the recognition that is definitely needed. For this reason, I am actively promoting entries into the 2009 PROTY contest.

If you are actively promoting your chapter, no matter what your title is, please prepare and submit an entry for the Public Relations Officer of The Year judging. Note that the effort is evaluated independent of whether it was successful. PROBE membership is required for review and awards. International first place winners shall not again be eligible to participate at the international level for two years.

Supporting Documentation

Bulletin editors can readily submit samples of their work that can be quantified and judged according to specific criteria. PR men must not only originate a submission, but provide supporting documentation with comments and/or explanation. As a rule, men doing PR are not shrinking violets, and will have files and records of all recent events, so compiling the year's activities is at least an excellent review exercise. PR ideas and projects reported through PROTY entry will provide input to a central entity, and the evaluation and comments by experts will undoubtedly give better insight and knowledge to all participants. I will take on the responsibility of reviewing your entry and forwarding them for judging.

OPTIONS (Two Separate Contests)

1. One-time marketing or public relations activity for a special project. (show, guest night, etc.)

Recognition (continued)

Continued from page 12

2. Year-long marketing or public relations activity.
(to include multiple events or projects)

COVER SHEET

You can generate your own cover sheet with the following information:

1. Note which option you are entering
2. Biographical information for the person entering.
(who, what, when, where)
3. Chronological outline of the activities for the option entered.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Make a separate page for each activity shown on the Cover Sheet, with brief commentary about the planning, execution, documentation and follow-up.
2. Include copies of pertinent documents (news releases, newspaper clippings, correspondence, printed programs, thank-you letters. etc.)

DEADLINE-April 15, 2010

It is not too soon to start compiling your information and putting it in a form that is presentable to the judges. This can be in a 3-ring configuration placed in a cardboard type binder, or similar. (try to keep away from loose leaf, as sheets may have a tendency of disappearing. Send your completed documents to me at 6998 W. Bedfordshire Loop, Homosassa, FL 34446.

Complete instructions are posted on the PROBE web site at:

<http://www.harmonize.com/probe/Contests/index.html>

WHO: THE FIESTA BARBERSHOP CHORUS
WHAT: Our CHRISTMAS Gift to Pensacola
A Christmas Concert in Barbershop Style!

WHEN: Saturday December 12th 7 p.m.

WHERE: Gateway Church of Christ
245 Brent Lane across from Pensacola Christian College.

For more information Contact Dale Bragan:
55dale@bellsouth.net

Society News

Shannon Elswick
Society Representative



Hello and Happy Thanksgiving! Can you believe 2009 is almost over? I remember years ago adding up to see how old I would be in the year 2000 and thinking how impossibly far away that seemed. Now we are almost to 2010, a date which has always sounded like something out of a science fiction novel to me. If nothing else, it makes me want to hold my grandson, hugs my kids, kiss my wife and spend time with my parents as often as possible.

The society board held its fall meeting in Nashville on October 31st. It was a very aggressive agenda and there were several significant things which came out of that meeting. In the order in which they appeared on the agenda, here are the highlights of that meeting.

Board Changes

Based on recent changes to the Society's bylaws relative to the size and composition of the Society Board, the designation of "Paired District Board Member" (PDBM) does not formally exist any longer. As you may remember, I was originally elected to the board as the PDBM for Sunshine and Dixie. Now that we are all either officers or members at large, board members have been assigned as official liaisons to the various districts. The good news, at least from my perspective, is that I have been assigned to serve the Dixie and Sunshine districts in this new organizational structure. So, other than what the board will call me, there really isn't much of a change in our case.

Financials

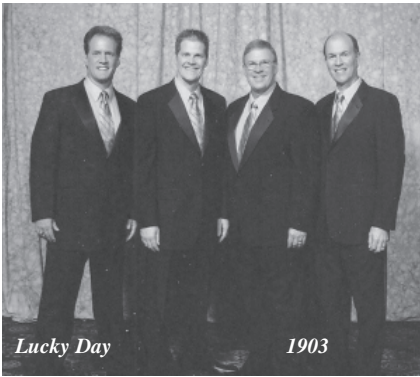
Most of you probably remember that **Frank Santarelli** retired recently. Society Treasurer, **Jim Lee**, and our new CFO, **Heather Verble**, reported to the board that they estimate the society will finish 2009 with a loss of approximately \$160,000. This is primarily due to registrations for Anaheim being significantly below budget. The proposed operating budget for 2010 was presented and approved. That budget projects a positive bottom line for next year of \$35,000. The board also received the completed financial audit for 2008. In a separate action, in an effort to ensure that the society board does its part to help control costs, the expense policy was revised to reduce the level of reimbursements authorized for society board members attending society conventions.

Aims & Goals

The Board approved a 5-year rolling plan of aims (goals), metrics, and minimum performance levels. The three aims are

Continued on page 19

2009 Fall Convention Quartet Results



Lucky Day 1903



Fortissimo 1858



The Pursuit 1783



Pepper Jack Rabbit 1760



Frequency 813 1712



Crosstown Express 1649



So Much More 1619



Southern Comfort



Hogtown harmony Project



Baywalk



Tonal Eclipse



Salty Rascals

2009 Fall Convention Chorus Results



Dick Dreger Memorial
Mic Tester Chorus

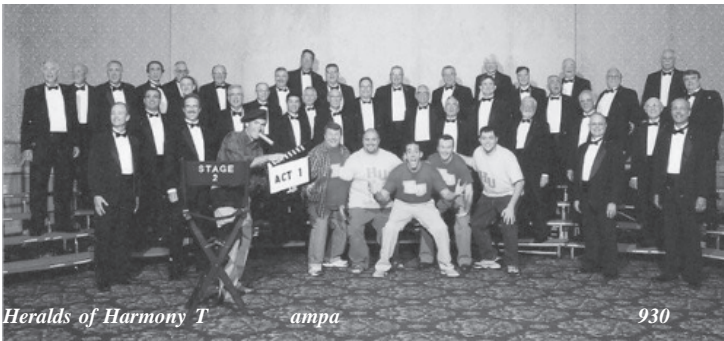


Overall Chorus Champion, Plateau AAAA Champion & Most Improved
Big O Jacksonville 968



One Voice Sarasota 952

Quartet & chorus
photos by
Quick Click
Imaging



Heralds of Harmony T ampa 930



Plateau AAA Champion
Barbergators Gainesville 751



Plateau AA Champion
Capital Chordsmen Tallahassee 7695



Harbor City Harmonizers Melbourne 658

Don't Lose Out On Your Chance To Promote Your Show
or Quartet To A Vast Sunshine & National Audience

ADVERTISE in the Sunburst

2009 Fall Convention Scene & Heard



Edward Williamson (L) receives Service award for 20 years as Judge From Dave Kannberg



*The New Quartet Trophy
A Big Thanks To Mark Schlinkert For All His Hard Work On This Beautiful Masterpiece*



HOF Inducts Three

The following are the presentation speeches given by the inductees sponsor.

Randy Loos

This man has a long, distinguished history and record in barbershop, having joined the Society in 1977. He wasted no time in winning a District Quartet Championship with **Gatortown Goodtime Harmony 4** in 1978. Having established himself as a top-level performer, he replaced **John Miller** as bass of **Grandma's Boys**, the 1979 International Quartet Champion, and sang with the quartet 7 years. He has over the years made significant contributions as an associate member of the Association of International Champions



Randy Loos accepts HOF Award

His talents and abilities as a performer have brought many rewarding moments and awards including a Bronze Medal with **The Sidekicks** in 1989 (1986-1990) and another bronze in 1995 with **Backbeat** (1992-1996). He is a regular coach, clinician and faculty member at HEP schools and has produced many shows including Harmony Foundation Presents for six years.

His directing experience includes engagements with the **Tallahassee Capital Chordsmen**, **Atlanta Peachtree Chorus**, and **Carolina Chord Company** of Charlotte, NC, as well as assistant directorships with **Arlington Heights, Illinois** and **Northbrook, Illinois**. He is a long time member, coach, advisor and former director of the **Heralds of Harmony**.

He was also founding director of **Toast of Tampa** Sweet Adelines chapter and served as its musical leader from 1986-1997. In 1993 he guided the TOT to a gold medal as International Champion, six years to the week after they received their charter.

This man's involvement and commitment to barbershop goes far beyond chorus and quarteting. He has served on the Investment Advisory Committee of our Society for something like 12 years, and chaired it for two years. He served for five as Chairman of the Board for Harmony Foundation guiding them through a period of transition when a new Executive Director has taken over to greatly expand the fund raising potential of

the Foundation. He has also served on the Society Events Committee.

This man has maintained a high profile of service to barbershop while serving and representing the Sunshine District. We are all richer for his contributions.

Lee Frayer

From the time our next inductee came to the Sunshine District over 40 years ago he began to contribute to the success of our district and Barbershopping in general.

He had already held many chapter offices in his home state of Michigan and once here in Sunshine he became an area counselor for the SouthWest region, again held chapter offices, worked for the District Board and convention chairmen and other district offices.

He has always been an active Quartet Man. His most notable quartet was the **Jokers Wild**, a popular comedy and show quartet who traveled all across the eastern US. Then, more recently with All 4 Fun quartet. In addition to chapter offices he has directed choruses, started chapters, published bulletins, constructed sets for shows, planned events, and in general has always been the "GO TO" guy when help was needed. He was the BOTY in two district chapters and has a resume just too long to list so here is just a sample:



Lee Frayer accepts HOF Award

Frequent show committee chair; Charter and longtime member of our Sunshine Convention Committee; Frontline chorus director in several chapters; Sunshine convention stage production manager for many years; Sunshine District Area Counselor; Chairman of two International Midwinter Conventions and co-chair of a 3rd.

For some years now he has been UNSEEN at our convention events, however, he WAS always there behind the curtains, coordinating every item that makes our competitions run briskly and smoothly. He is truly an All-Around Barbershopper who pitches in whenever asked. If you can think of a Barbershopping job that needs doing — Well, he has most likely done it.

Continued on page 19

Another Panhandle Success

By Jim Brown

Editor, *Harmonotes*; Fort Walton Beach, FL

Here's another success story for the **Fort Walton Beach Chapter**, The **Emerald Coast Chorus!** One hundred and thirty men, young and all other ages, and two ladies participated in the Festival. For the first time ever, the **Niceville High School Male Chorus, Camerata**, attended our festival.

This year, the 21st annual festival was held on the 18th and 19th of September at the **Timpooshee 4 H Camp**, located 1 mile east of **Niceville**, on the north shore of beautiful **Choctawhatchee Bay**. The camp has air-conditioned cabins, a large cafeteria, and an auditorium. All the areas are within a very short walking distance of each other. Seventy-one barbershoppers from **Mobile, Fort Walton Beach, Panama City, and Tallahassee** attended, including four directors (**Jan Proudly, Paul Whittlesey, Jeff Beuhler, and Mike McGee**). The staff consisted of **Jeff Lathom** (Dean of Music and coach), and additional coaches, **Debbie Lathom** and **Reed Sampson**.



Jeff Lathom Coaching Camerata

Objectives

Our weekend festival has many objectives: the opportunity to sing in a large chorus, to provide quality coaching (for choruses, directors, and quartets), to put on a great show, but most of all to have FUN and to enjoy the camaraderie of barbershoppers getting together.

The **Capital Chordsmen** from Tallahassee and the **Emerald Coast Chorus** from Fort Walton Beach received individual chorus coaching. Then all barbershoppers were combined as the Panhandle Chorus and each of the four directors directed them in a song. In each case the directors and the chorus received coaching appropriate to the song and the director's style.

An Experiment

However, this year was very different. As an experiment,

and as part of our YIH program (and with financial assistance from the Sunshine District), the **Niceville High School** male chorus, **Camerata**, was invited to be part of our retreat. One of our directors, **Jeff Beuhler**, coached Camerata at the high school on the barbershop style of singing prior to the festival, to help them prepare for the festival. Saturday, sixty boys, their choral director, **Mike Dye**, an assistant and a school photographer attended the festival.

The boys joined the Panhandle Chorus, and received coaching along with the barbershoppers as they sang four songs directed by our four different directors. The boys learned a lot about barbershop vocal techniques and expressive presentation from our coaches which should serve them well in their overall choral program – and they

seemed to have a blast! Last school year, this particular group performed on the Ft. Walton Beach spring show singing – you guessed it – 2 barbershop arrangements!

Techniques Emphasized

During one of the coaching sessions, **Mike Dye** emphasized to the boys that all the techniques (proper breathing, vowel pronunciation, forward

sound, dynamics, etc.) are used in all types of singing NOT just barbershop singing. He also suggested if they like this type of music, they should go to one of our meetings to see what barbershop singing is about. (We understand the boys received extra merit points for Saturday. In fact, Mr. Dye encourages students to participate in extracurricular singing in vocal groups, such as ours, and does give them extra merit points.)

Saturday Show

The Saturday evening Contest and Show is, and has always been, a part of the festival. This weekend, we sang to a sold-out, standing room only, audience of more than 300 people. Five quartets completed; **Southern Comfort** took home the quartet trophy.

Three choruses completed; the Emerald Coast Chorus (FWB) took home the traveling chorus trophy. However,

Continued on page 19

Panhandle (cont'd)

Continued from page 18

the best part of the show was the singing performed by the Panhandle Chorus (The Camerata and the all barbershoppers combined). The total number of men of all ages on stage, singing four songs under the direction of four different directors, was one hundred and twenty-eight! The chorus received a standing ovation at the conclusion of their performance! Some of our audience said it was the best show ever!

Mr. Dye and the Camerata were invited to next year's festival and they accepted. We hope to make this an ongoing event.

H O F (cont'd)

Continued from page 17

Dave Labar

By Roger Ross

This great man was a life member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He began his barbershop career as a teenager and ultimately became one of the greatest Society staff field men of all time.

He relocated to the Sunshine District in the mid 1980's and over the next 20 years would serve as Sunshine District Music V. P. As a district chorus champion director, a district quartet champion, a judge, a tremendous coach, teacher and mentor, and a terrific friend to all.

He was the premier master of ceremonies and graced the podium at numerous International Conventions & Barbershop shows as well as many Sunshine District events. There is now an annual society award named in his honor, that recognizes the best master of ceremonies in the barbershop world.

You no doubt will recognize a couple of his very popular quartets, *Shenanigans*,

Sunburst

or the "*No water at the Hyatt*" quartet, & Sidekicks, our 4th place bronze medalists in Kansas City in 1989.

This HOF inductee lives in the hearts of all who knew him or was touched by him, and they number in the tens of thousands throughout the world. He always had a joke or a funny line...but most of all, he enjoyed teaching and singing a tag with everyone.

If he were here with us on stage today, he would probably say "*Can everybody see me?*" Yes, we can still see you and we know you are with us today.

Ladies and Gentlemen, your 2009 Sunshine District Hall of Fame inductee is...
Mr. Dave Labar.

Accepting this award on behalf of Dave Labar's family are two member of our 1989 4th place bronze medalist quartet "Sidekicks", **Randy Loos & Bill Billings.**

Society (cont'd)

Continued from page 13

overall number of chapters, total annual membership, and numbers of chapters reporting community service. Since my crystal ball is very fuzzy these days, I tend to focus on the immediate horizon, and, in keeping with that philosophy, here are the approved aims and metrics for 2010 and 2011.

Increase in total number of chapters to 5 & 10.

Total annual membership change from (2%) then (1%)

Increase in the # of chapters reporting community service to 5% for both years.

Notice that the aim for membership is a **2% loss** for next year and a **1% loss** for the following year. While this doesn't sound like a very aggressive goal, our projection for 2009 is that we will experience about a **3.3% loss** so the target for next year is to slow the rate of

attrition and begin to reverse the negative trend.

The board received a report from Noah Funderburg, Chair of the Membership Growth Task Force. In addition to chairman Funderburg, the task force consists of Gary Parker, Drew Ellis, Steve Morris, Tom Metzger, John Donehower, and Brooks Harkey. Although there are multiple elements to the report, the central theme is to adopt an overall strategic plan for increasing membership in the Barbershop Harmony Society which is based on helping chapters become successful, in whatever way they choose to enjoy barbershop harmony, by providing a consistent, high-quality experience each and every week.

The board received a report on the American Harmony project. We were reminded that the society is merely an investor in the project and, as such, we do not have any control over the methods of distribution. It is anticipated that the documentary will come out on DVD sometime next year.

Members of the Carolinas Association of Barbershop Singers made a presentation in support of their second formal petition to the society board to form a Carolinas District comprised of chapters in North Carolina and South Carolina. Following their presentation, representatives of the Dixie District made a presentation as to why the society board should not approve the request for a new district charter. After full discussion and consideration of all the issues, the board approved the creation of the new district. This action was not taken lightly by the members of the board but, in the end, the operational plan for the new district will focus heavily on chapter support and development and, as such, is wholly consistent with the preliminary recommendations of the Membership Growth Task Force. To facilitate the transition, Society President Bill Biffle has appointed a task force of leaders from

Continued on page 22

Oct/Nov/Dec 2009



THE MELBOURNE CHAPTER BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Presents



Featuring

The Harbor City Harmonizers

Under the Direction of Lewis Law

SPECIAL GUEST ARTISTS

Fantasy Gold Medal Quartet



Tim Waurick

● Vocal Spectrum



Joe Connelly

● Interstate Rivals
● Keepsake
● PLATINUM



Jeff Oxley

● Rapscallions
● Acoustix
● MaxQ



Tony DeRosa

● Keepsake
● PLATINUM
● MaxQ

Saturday, March 13, 2010

Matinee 2:00 PM

Evening 7:00 PM

**Gleason Performing Arts Center, Florida Tech Campus
150 W. University Blvd. Melbourne, FL**

Admission \$20.00

**All seats are reserved. To purchase tickets on line, go to:
HCHarmonizers.harmonize.com or Telephone 321-752-0250
For additional information contact us at hcharmonizers@gmail.com**

In Memorium

Irv Wells

From Alton C. Smith,

Those who knew Irv would understand that he would want this announcement couched in a celebration of his rich, full life; rather than a dirge about his death. His wife, Delores, known better as Dee, is of the same mind.

He is honored as a wonderful husband, father, grand father, great grand father, and a host of friends. He was born Irvin Elwood Wells. He is survived by his devoted wife of 61 years, Dee; their son, Peter Irvin Wells; and their daughter, Ivy Delores Wells, as well as four grand children and five great grand children. He was preceded in death by their daughter, Susan Wells Johnston, a number of years ago.

Irv was born in Pompton Lakes, NJ, on August 10, 1927 and died this past August 10 at the age of 82. He was a WWII navy veteran and long time administrator with State Farm Insurance. He will be remembered by barbershoppers for his rich, deep, bass voice and his numerous contributions to barber-shop harmony for almost a half century. He was bass section leader in Polk County, Florida's Citrus Lakes Chorus, P026 of the SPEBSQSA, Inc. His fellow basses, indeed the whole chorus profited from his energetic leadership.

Irv cherished from his early childhood to the day he shuffled off this mortal coil a tattered old Bible that told its own story about Irv. Irv was baptized on June 11, 1939. He would have been eleven at that time.

Barbershopping was a big part of Irv's life. Irv's first adventure into singing was a solo, "On the Road to Mandalay," when he was about 10. Irv's first venture into barbershopping was with the High Toppers in the late 50s into the early 60s working out of Jacksonville, Florida. In 1965 he was bass with the Slo-Polks headquartered in Polk County, Florida. Cline Cary sang Bari; Bob Barry, Lead; and Frank Brown, Tenor.

Irv sang with the Interstate Four who became the 1967 District Champs. In '67 to '72 they competed at the international level. Dick Bame, Tenor; and Barry Porter, Lead joined with Wells and Cary. In 1975 Irv was singing with the New Edition. By 1977 he was bass in the Vocal Gentry. He toured with the BGA Golf Tour quartet in 1984. This time, Wells and Cary were joined by Steve Culpepper as tenor and Bill Bell as lead.

Irv sang with some outstanding choruses. Irv went with the Pride of Polk Chorus in 1984 to International competition in Kansas City. In 1990 the Pride of Polk Chorus went to the

Sunshine District Prelims and were again in district competition in 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994.

Irv set a husbandly example that barbershoppers everywhere should study. Irv loved Dee. She tells with warm affection of their travels together all over the country, across the 48 states, and many provinces of Canada. Irv kept her at his side all the way. Dee speaks lovingly of listening to his hours of practicing around the dining room table, of their many social activities, and her lively comradery with the other quartet wives. Irv persistently maintained close conjugal ties.

The Polk County Citrus Lakes Chorus has lost a great bass, but they cherish warm memories of a first rate harmonizer and friend.

Bicky Solito

From Martin & Helen Rubin

Many members of the Sunshine District will be saddened to learn of the passing of Bicky Solito on October 2nd 2009, the start of Sunshine District Fall Contest.

Without the many years and contributions of Joe and Bicky Solito there would have been no printed or online Sunburst - and remember the days of stamping hands at contest? They were in the thick of it. Joe and Bicky worked cheerfully and tirelessly for the District while they lived in Florida.

They are well remembered by The Rubin Family for their generosity of spirit. "The key's under the mat" was their quote. Their house was left open for quartet members living across the state to have a central meeting place. I particularly recall their generosity when we first met when 'Penny Arcade' needed a place to practice.

Penny Arcade (Roger Ross (L), Kevin Dean (Br), Jeff Brozovich (B) and Alexander Rubin (T)) was Alex's first opportunity to compete on the District stage. Alex was 17 and had been a member of the Society for 8 years, so it was a privilege to sing with such experienced barbershoppers.

From then on Joe and Bicky cheerfully offered their home for Dan or Alex's quartets to practice whenever they were asked!

Joe and Bicky's combined hard work drove the District forward

Continued on page 22

Remembrance (cont'd)

Continued from page 21

during their years of service.

Joe and Bicky moved to South Carolina several years ago to be closer to their children and grandchildren and Bicky's battle with cancer over the past couple of years has been known to many of us. We send our love to Joe and grateful thanks for allowing Bicky to lovingly enrich our barbershop lives – we know she did the same for her family.

The Rubins: Dan, Alex and Jen, Helen and Martin

Society (cont'd)

Continued from page 15

the present Dixie District and the to-be-formed Carolinas District to ensure that the best interests of both districts will be met as the new district becomes operational. The district will become fully operational no later than January 1, 2011.

The board received a report with motions from staff and also from the Society Contest and Judging Committee (SCJC). A motion to eliminate the language formerly known as the 33% rule for 7ths from the Music Category Description was approved. This proposed change was publicized in the Harmonizer and vetted on the Harmonet for several months now. Respondents have been repeatedly assured the intent is not to overtly or significantly change the style.

There were two significant changes proposed by staff and the SCJC which had to do with minimum qualifying scores for quartets going to the international contests. A motion to raise the qualifying score for quartets from an average of 76 to 78 points per judge per song with a minimum of 40 total qualifiers was withdrawn without discussion. A motion to raise the qualifying score for college quartets from an average of 69 to 70 points per judge per song with a minimum of 20 total qualifiers was passed. The minimum number of qualifiers for the college quartet was not changed by this action.

Again, these are the highlights of the meeting as opposed to a complete blow-by-blow description. I function under the assumption that there is a better chance you will read these articles if they are relatively concise. I appreciate hearing from you when ever there is something on your mind which relates to the policies and/or governance of the barbershop harmony society. I am honored and privileged to be able to continue serving as your designated society board liaison.

I hope to see you (and maybe sing a tag or two) at the Midwinter Convention in Tampa. Until then, keep singing and keep smiling!

Happenings (cont'd)

Continued from page 11

No, **Ronald McDonald** did not sing with our chapter quartet. *The Big Orange Chorus* quartet, "*Shell Game*" provided entertainment on a pro-bono basis at a recent fundraising event for Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Charities here in Jacksonville.

The chapter quartet consists of **Howdy Russell, John Alexander, Barry Flynn** and **Dan Kulik**. Usually Howdy sings Baritone, John handles Bass, Barry provides Lead and Dan takes the Tenor responsibilities. I say "usually," as the quartet will often change voice parts, sometimes several times during a particular song, hence the name of the quartet (now where did that Baritone part go?) Their voice part changes, along with their unique use of comedy and harmonies is always a crowd pleaser. The group at this fundraising event was certainly no exception. The quartet was very well received at this event and they helped to raise thousands of dollars for **Ronald McDonald** charities.



Shell Game sings at Ronald MacDonald House

A big "Thank You" and a "Job Well Done" to these four members, for taking the time out of their busy lives as well as their paid performance schedule, to help their community without pay, and to assist in funding this valuable charitable effort.

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Next Sunburst Deadline
February 15, 2010

Calendar Of Events

2010

Jan. 9-10	LEADAC	Crystal River
Jan. 26-31	Midwinter Convention	Tampa
Apr. 9-10	SUN. Spring Convention	Jacksonville
Jun 28 - Jul 4	Int'l. Convention	Phil, PA

The Tag Corner

Burt Szabo



May The Holidays Be Merry

May the hol - i - days be mer - ry for

you, and may all your

wish - es come true, come true.

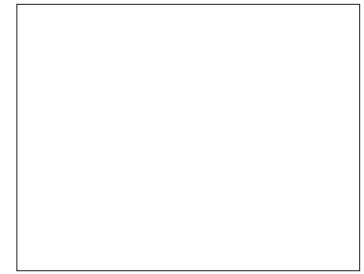
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