

BARBERSHOP POINTERS

Stevens Point, Wisconsin chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.

Meeting every Monday 7:30 P.M.

Harmony House – 3500 Harmony Lane

P.O. Box 482 – 715-344-9052

Packerland Division – Land O Lakes District

Volume 53 No. 3

March 2009



Whatever Happened To Heart O Harmony?



It's been a year now since we parted company with our brothers in harmony from 'down south' and maybe some of you are wondering what's been happening with the West Allis Chapter.

In 2008, Heart O Harmony attempted to implement a plan whereby they would meet one Saturday a month under the direction of Joe Liles. Several of the Point members managed to make these rehearsals, but alas, it was not to be. The chorus started to falter and that coupled with Joe experiencing a heart attack, it was decided to return to the regularly scheduled Tuesday night rehearsal. With no director at hand, Heart O Harmony pursued our former director, Gary Thiel, and persuaded him to become their director.

That has been their lot since early this year and those Point members who wished to participate have been attending as many rehearsals with Heart O Harmony as they can fit in. It is anticipated that Heart O Harmony will put about 25 men on the risers for this springs Division One contest in Greendale on April 4.

They have been working hard and for such a small group, they are really producing a great sound. So good in fact, that your editor video recorded their entire version of "Under The Boardwalk". It was well done and in control of the voices present that night. There were only 13 men producing that sound and they produced an excellent ensemble sound.

Your editor is trying to send it back to them or to any of you Point members that might be interested, but haven't yet due to the size of the file. Even after zipping the file, it still exceeded the size limit of my email provider. Oh well, that can be overcome in the near future.

We'll track the progress of West Allis at that Division contest. They could easily win their plateau level.

American Harmony - the Movie That Will Sweep the Nation

Many of our older members got their first whiff of Barbershop harmony watching the Buffalo Bills sing in Meredith Willson's "The Music Man." Now, a new generation of singers will get to see Barbershop music in the theater once again, as the documentary known as "American Harmony" enters distribution across the USA and Canada this spring. *You want to show your friends, neighbors, acquaintances, barbershoppers, non-barbershoppers, and everyone this film.* This is a documentary film about our quartet contest that features OC Times, Max Q, Reveille, and Vocal Spectrum among many, many other Barbershoppers, and displays the wholesomeness of singing in a Barbershop competition. It is a film

you want to see, and you want others to see as well.

Your chapter should be aware of this opportunity. If they aren't, please go to <http://www.americanharmonythemovie.com/> view the trailer, find out the details, and MAKE them aware. You could be a local hero, and do wonders for Barbershop at the same time. Additional information can be found at www.barbershop.org/americanharmony - including the availability to download the trailer and burn to a CD to show your chapter!

Editors note: I viewed the trailer when it was first offered and was pleasantly surprised to see our old friend George Gipp working with a quartet.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 5	Kevin Morrissey
March 7	Liz Peplinski
March 9	Fred Krause
March 10	Andrew Ruplinger
March 11	George Pesanka
March 12	Bob Prosch
March 14	Jim Kruziki
March 15	Jack Edgerton
March 31	Teri Jenkins

A Blast From The Past

As it was printed in the Waushara Argus, Wednesday, April 25, 1979

Barbershoppers shine in WR cabaret show

-By Ina Stewart – Wild Rose correspondent

Lovers of barbershop singing turned out in full force April 20 at a cabaret show sponsored by the Wildcat Booster Club.

The program's first act was the 36 – voice men's chorus from Stevens Point. They sang a selection of good oldies, even including some of the well know radio commercials such as, "Have you tried Wheaties", "Use Wildroot Cream Oil, Charlie", and "Use Ajax, the Foaming Cleanser".

An act of 15 Tri-County girls was a delight. The group meets at 8 a.m. every morning at school to rehearse. The Tri-County Girls Barbershoppers sang a selection which included, "Ma, He's Making Eyes at Me". They were conducted by Don Warschauer, a men's chorus member.

The Tri-County Fare Quartet, who also performed, includes Phil Hagedorn, Iola; Pat Cassidy, Gene Moss and from Wautoma, Jim Kruziki. The Ragtime Quartet, who are the bay area divisional winners, consists of Jack Edgerton, Bob Dillon, David Peplinski and Mike Porrey, Waupaca.



The audience was then entertained by Jory Jorgensen (for those who don't know, it is pronounced Yory Yourgensen) alias Bill Goetz. He had everyone laughing both with his jokes and song parodies. The evenings entertainment came to a close with the Stevens Point chorus singing, "Hernando's Hideaway", while two members danced the tango. Eric Konkol was the seniorietta and Dick Manthe was "her" partner.

In their next number, "Lida Rose", they were joined by the young ladies from Tri-County. They then sang "America the Beautiful", along with the audience. They finished the program with the Barbershoppers anthem, "Keep America Singing".

The chorus was conducted by Carmen Lane and songs were introduced by David Peplinski. After their most enjoyable program, they invited all present to join them at Pineland Park Lodge where they staged an afterglow program.

The evenings proceeds will be used by the Wildcat Boosters to help build a utility building on the athletic field.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 20 Bill and Pat Metter
March 23 Bill and Teri Jenkins



Mystery Quartet???

Back in the February Issue in 2008, a picture was posted asking for a group to be identified.
No one came forward and as your editor thought back on it, perhaps the picture was too small.
So here it is again in a little larger format.

Does anyone recognize these faces?



CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT

The Stevens Point Chapter shall dedicate itself to striving for performance excellence, by continually improving the vocal and visual quality of its musical presentations.

The chapter shall strive to attract the kind of new members who will contribute their energy, talent, and a strong desire for excellence.

The chapter leadership, reflecting the interests of the membership, shall commit itself to maintaining an effective organization that ensures opportunities for improved singing, for quartet participation, and for promoting the Barbershop music style.

CHAPTER VISION

To continue to be a highly respected male choral organization, dedicated to:

- Maintaining the Barbershop tradition.
- Pursuing vocal improvement.
- Seeking opportunities for community involvement.
- Recruiting new members and retaining current members.
- Promoting personal development.
- Entertaining our audiences.
- Preserving the joy of Barbershop singing.

A 20 year member Soliloquy

"Having just received my 20 year membership card, I offer a soliloquy after 20 years:

As is often the case, I joined the Society after having established a family and a career in my mid thirties. I had spent many years devoted to musical endeavors but had not found a good outlet for some time. I wanted to be around people I liked, that liked to have fun, that valued families, that loved music, and loved to learn about music. A criteria for me was also a group that avoided all things political and religious. I was so thrilled to discover a SPEBSQSA chapter at this time in my life. After 20 years, where singing Barbershop Quartet music has been a weekly event, and often much more, in my life, I would like to make some observations.

Although, as with any group of people whether a PTA, a church, a soccer club, a boy scout troop, a community organization, your office, etc., there is arrogance, some in-fighting, some clicks, and some difficulties; overall I have never met a better collection of people in my life. The combination of good will, hope, fellowship, genuine love for their fellow man, and efforts to make life better for each other is unsurpassed.

I am primarily a quartet man. Singing in a quartet is why I joined the Society and still my greatest pleasure. However, the Chapter is a great way to meet other quartet people and work on improving your skills. As [local leader name removed] often says, find what you want to do, what brings you great joy in this hobby and do that but remember the more you put into it, the more you will get back. As a quartet singer I have competed in over 10 District contests (placing 6th once), over 10 International Prelim contests, and about 10 Division level contests.

As a Chorus singer I have placed last at District, first at District and sang on the International Stage multiple times. I have headlined shows with a quartet, done stand up comedy, acted in shows, taught Physics courses, stayed up all night singing tags with people I just met, sung with Alzheimer's patients that can no longer speak, sung amazing Valentines, sung at quartet member's funerals, sung at Veteran's ceremonies, sung before baseball games, done live sound, recorded CD's, and generally had a wonderful time. I hope it continues for at least another 20 years.

Every organization is cyclical and we may be in a low ebb, but you will not find a better place to spend your time and efforts while enjoying yourself and making the world a little bit better place to be than singing in a SPEBSQSA chapter."

Editors Note: Thanks to Jack Edgerton for finding this article. It was originally received by Charlie Davenport our Society Director of Membership.

Northern Gateway Chapter Officers 2009

President

Pete Leahy

Secretary

George Pesenka

Treasurer

Bill Jenkins

VP Membership

Jack Edgerton

VP Program

Joe Larson

VP Music

Nate Peplinski

VP House

Boleslaw Kochanowski

VP Marketing and PR

Dale Thompson

At Large

Marshall Lysne

David Peplinski

Past President

David Quick

Director

Kevin Morrissey



PLAN FOR FUTURE EVENTS

April 4, 2009 Division One Contest – Menomonee Falls High School Auditorium

May 1-3, 2009 LOL Spring Convention and International Prelims, Packerland Division Contest @ Stevens Point

May 9, 2009 (Saturday) Package Show – Tack Center in Spencer, WI

May 11, 2009 Chorus Coaching Session – Let's all be there!

**June 28 – July 5, 2009 International Convention
Anaheim, CA**

July 3-4-5 Riverfront Rendezvous – Pizza Sales

Stevens Point Barbershoppers
Norm Barnard, Editor
627 Cardinal Drive
Westfield, WI 53964
normnnet@verizon.net

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

