

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. 4

May/June 2009



Spring Prelim Time In Point

It was truly a wonderful barbershop experience on that first weekend in May 2009. The Northern Gateway Chorus hosted the Packerland Division contest as well as the Spring International Prelims. It was a chance to show the rest of our barbershopping world that we were up to the task as hosts and when it all shook out; the accolades indicated that we did indeed run a very well orchestrated convention.

Here is one of those items overheard during the entire hubbub. As the Stevens Point chorus exited the stage, they had to pass the Fox Valleyaires as they awaited their turn. A Point member, in an attempt at levity, spoke with some Appleton members in passing and said, "OK, no fooling around guys, let's go out there and beat the pants off of us!" Little did that member know, but that is exactly what would take place. While we may have skinned our nose a bit, that doesn't diminish the fact that Stevens Point qualified for stage time at the Fall Convention in Rochester, MN. Let's keep up the hard work and make a comeback in October.

Here are some scenes from the event:



More Convention Pics



For those of you who don't recognize the back of Clay Hine's head, that's him on the left.

"How sweet the
moonlight sleeps
upon this bank!
Here we will sit,
and let the sounds
of music
Creep into our
ears: soft
stillness and the
night
Become the touches
of sweet harmony."

-William Shakespeare



2009 LO'L Spring Convention LO'L Int'l Quartet Prelims & District Senior Quartet Contest Packerland Chorus & Quartet Contests (whew!)

The title of this article is "quite a mouth full". But then, that first weekend of May was that ... and more!

The event was a rousing success (A few minor glitches ... maybe). A great time was had by one and all. As a chapter, we showed LO'L that we can do a pretty decent job. I'm proud of ALL of you. Thanks for your cooperation and your efforts!

Like any other event, there are a number of people who should be singled out for doing "above and beyond". Just about everyone worked (including many of the wives) ... but these guys were "over and above"! There is no particular order ... just as I think of them.

Convention Co-chair, John White was literally "non-stop" and well organized. His "greeters", "runners" and "ushers" were a well-oiled machine. Thanks to the "well-oiled machine"! The Afterglow at the Tilted Kilt was a roaring success. Thanks, John.

Pete Leahy, Bill Goerman and John Johnson did yeoman work picking up and depositing judges at the airport. Pete made three separate trips to CWA. Bill & John went all the way to Appleton and back. Thanks a bunch, guys!

Bill & Chris Rudahl did a great job with the Contest Registrations and Competitor Passes. They spent a lot of time both Friday and Saturday. George and Judy Pesenka handled the tickets very well. Many thanks to them and to all of their helpers. I know that Gene & Carolyn Sickels came down from Tomahawk and put in a lot of valuable time.

Jim Kruziki and Pete Leahy did a great job with the program booklet.

John White, Dale Thompson and Dan

handled the publicity.

Norm & Lynette Barnard literally "babysat" the judges at the Ramada including a Friday night dinner. The chow and goodies must have been something else. I heard some great comments. Thanks Barnards.

Pat Rydberg "babysat" the judges at Pacelli in their "Green Room". He provided beverages, snacks, sandwiches (for Saturday lunch) and more ... Paper and pens for the judges scoring efforts. Pete Leahy printed all of the score sheets at the Gazette. Thanks guys!

David Quick is the Convention Treasurer. He's got all of the money deposited and is working on getting the expenses paid. We should have this all wrapped up soon with David's Financial report for the Convention. It appears that this will be a financial success ... more than what we budgeted.

This was a "job well done". I truly thank you all!

Jack Edgerton
Convention Chairman

Exciting Times At Harmony House

The Northern Gateway Chorus had a terrific opportunity presented to them on May 11, 2009. Aside from the regular

camaraderie and the chance to experience the wonderment of four part a capella harmony in the barbershop style, members had the privilege of meeting and coaching with Dr. Axel Theimer.



Dr. Theimer has been Director of Choral Activities at [St. John's University and The College of St. Benedict](#) in Collegeville, MN since 1969. At Saint John's and Saint Ben's he directs the CSB/SJU Chamber Choir and the SJU Men's Chorus and teaches choral conducting, applied voice, vocal pedagogy and other related courses.

The chorus started right out by getting onto the risers and never really left them except for a short break at about 9 p.m. Many weathered the time well, probably due to the fact that they were focused on what Dr. Theimer had to share with us.

The night was filled with both simple as well as profound thoughts on singing as Dr. Theimer shared many gems with the chorus. Thoughts like, "The choice to sing is individual. Nobody can make you do it." Not to mention a real thought provoking "If we try to control our singing, then we are trying to control our emotions." Mull that one over for a while!

Many things, the group has probably heard before, but the reinforcement by and expert such as Dr. Theimer only brought it all home once again.

Our director, Kevin Morrissey, took copious notes during the session and due to the volume of material covered, those notes will be addressed in future issues as a refresher to all of us.

The evening ended with a little socializing in the afterglow room lying in the bowels of Harmony House. And yes, the singing just never seems to stop.



Dr. Theimer in action.



.....and more action!

Afterglow With Dr. Axel Theimer



Pete's Thoughts

I wish to thank all who helped in any way with the LOL Spring Preliminary Contest hosted by the Stevens Point Chapter recently. We received many compliments from those attending. It was through the efforts of everyone that we had the success we had. The district events people want us to do it again. The board decided at our May meeting to explore the 2012 event. We have tentative reservations with the Ramada and Pacelli High School. It has been a number of years since we have hosted this event and the board feels that we can refine what we learned this year. The

event was a financial success for the chapter and the district.

We have qualified to sing in the Fall Contest in Rochester in October. So far 20 members have returned registration sheets for the contest. We must send in our registrations shortly with a check to insure preferred seating for the contest. Please make every effort to get me the information ASAP so that I can complete the registration process. I have requested that we stay in the Doubletree (formerly Radisson) since it the closest to the convention site and is convenient to the downtown shopping areas. Our treasurer would be very appreciative if you would get your \$40.00 a head registration paid before he has to write a check.

The Spencer show was well received by the audience and it sounds like they would like to do it again in the future. Many thanks to Dale Thompson and his assistants for all the hard work in putting this together. It sure is a lot of fun singing to an appreciative audience.

Thanks to Kevin father-in-law for a wonderful coaching session recently.

Looking to the future we have Riverfront Rendezvous coming up

over the 4th of July. I'm sure Jack Edgerton will appreciate all the help he can get. Joe Larson is planning a picnic in August and a Waupaca outing is in the works. September will be busy with all the preparations for our October show. Of course the Fall Contest in Rochester is a big event.

Thanks to all of our members for their contributions to the good of the chapter.

Pete Leahy – President



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

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.

Notes from the Board

Items that may be of interest to the general membership.

Upcoming events include the nursing home and Clearwater Harbor outing in July.

Chapter Picnic in August.

Dale Thompson reported on customer feedback from our Spencer show. Possibilities for a future show next year.

Christmas engagements are also possibilities in the Marshfield area.

Discussion of matters of the House Chairman concerned ridding our abode of recently noted vermin.

The uniform chairman brought up the possibility of replacing our current casual polo style chorus shirts.

Please be sure to check out our Plan For Future Events section on the back page.



Afterglow at Spencer



PLAN FOR FUTURE EVENTS

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

July 3-4-5 Riverfront Rendezvous – Pizza Sales

**July 20, Nursing Home and Clearwater Harbor
Waupaca, WI**

August 2 Chapter Picnic

**October 3, 2009 Harvest of Harmony
Sentry Theater**

**October 23-25, Fall District Contest/Convention
Rochester, MN**



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

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED