

INSIDE: Harmony University • District champions • Society President Shannon Elswick

November/December 2012

# THE HARMONIZER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY



**Marty Monson**  
Executive Director,  
Barbershop Harmony  
Society

**Dr. Tim Sharp**  
Executive Director,  
American Choral  
Directors Association

## TWO MISSIONS MEET

The Society and American Choral Directors Association  
team up to battle the singing crisis together





*Ringmasters*  
2012 Quartet Champions from Sweden

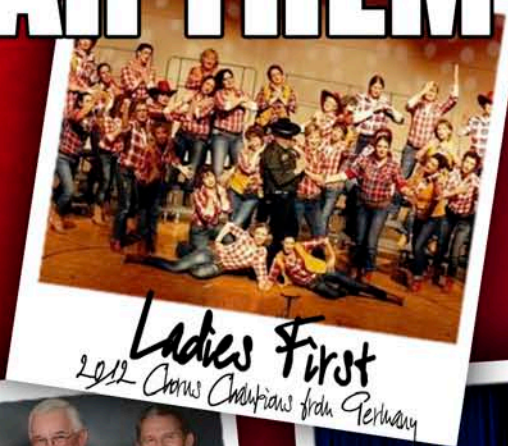


*Musical Island Boys*  
2012 Silver Medalists from New Zealand



*Lemon Squeezy*  
2012 Categorie Quartet Champions

# HEAR THEM HERE FIRST!



*Ladies First*  
2012 Chorus Champions from Germany



*Klantheuse*  
2012 3rd Place World Mixed Quartet from Germany



*Border Patrol*  
2013 International Seniors Quartet Champions



*Vocal Evolution*  
International Chorus Representatives from Australia



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November/  
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6



PHOTOS BY MIKE DEPUTY



**COMING TO HARMONY U?** The best week in barbershop harmony is an especially smart move in 2013. If you've been in the last five years and bring someone who hasn't, we'll knock \$100 off your full room and board tuition. Others (bars included) will go for free. Get the full scoop.

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## Two years back Through the Looking Glass

*"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things:  
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax—  
Of cabbages—and kings—  
And why the sea is boiling hot—  
And whether pigs have wings."  
(Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass, 1872)*

As with everything in life, there is a time and a place to move on. ("The time has come ...") During the past two years, we have "talked of many things"—continuing the focus on membership, hiring a new Society Chief Executive Officer, finding solutions to our convention finance issues, starting a renewed relationship with all of our affiliate organizations, formalizing opportunities for mixed harmony quartets, and oh, so much more. Many of these were high profile issues ("ships" and "kings") and several took a back seat (publicity-wise) to other issues ("shoes" and "cabbages"). But the issues were addressed. At times, the seas were boiling hot as we questioned our purposes and decisions and on more than one occasion I was told "... that will happen when pigs have wings."



Because few of us get the opportunity to fill this role (and there are probably many of you that would question why you would even want to), I have tried to share this presidency with each of you that I have met.

whom I have met. I have had great conversations with you about what the Barbershop Harmony Society should be and where it should be going. I have shared with you our (yours and mine) dreams and hopes for the Society. And it is each and every one of these conversations that made this the most remarkable two years of my life. I literally have hundreds of new friends across the Society and the world. I have had experiences that I could only have thought about before, never realizing that I

But, here we are exploring even newer ways to address membership issues, at the edge of new opportunities for districts to reorganize their conventions, with ongoing conversations at all levels with our 10 affiliate organizations on issues of how we can do more to help each other succeed, and more.

It has been an exciting and eventful two years while I served as your Society president. Because few of us get the opportunity to fill this role (and there are probably many of you that would question why you would even want to), I have tried to share this presidency with each of you

would ever have the chance to live them.

My conviction that every member of this Society only wants to see the Society succeed and set direction that will ensure its existence for decades to come is firmly secure based on what I have seen and lived these two years. Our Society leaders, our professional staff in Nashville, our judges, our coaches, our district and chapter leaders are making sacrifices of time and resources every day, day in and day out, to make this organization, at whatever level, the best that they can.

Members at the local level only question decisions made by leaders to be sure that their hopes and dreams are also attained as we move forward. Everyone wants there to be barbershop harmony next year, next decade and next century. And we want to have every opportunity to experience the joy of song and singing while we have the ability to enjoy and appreciate it and each other.

I am sure that many of you have just completed your "term" as chapter president, as vice-president for music and performance, as show chairman, as project chairman or manager, or some other elected or appointed position in your chapter or district. So you understand the satisfaction of looking back at what was accomplished while you were working. It is a moment to take pride in and, at the same time to be humbly thankful for having had the opportunity to make a difference in the Barbershop Harmony Society and for your fellow singers.

I take this last paragraph to thank each of you for everything you have done and will be doing. I take this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve you as Society President the past two years. Both Jan and I are appreciative of the warmth and friendship extended to us as we traveled across the Society and of the support and outpouring of real and honest offers of help and assistance. I won't be going far—there is still much to do. But I will be doing it in support of our new Society President, Shannon Elswick—a talented man who will lead us to new endeavors and new successes. I ask that you share of yourselves as much in the next few years in these efforts as you have in the past.



[janlam314@cox.net](mailto:janlam314@cox.net)



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# “Talk doesn’t cook rice”—here’s to the doers!

**M**arty said I get to write the column this time, and I feel like the worst possible messenger for what I’m about to deliver. (“*Interesting headline,*” you say. “*Remind us how long it’s been since we last saw an issue of The Harmonizer?*”) But what the heck, while delivering a message I’m unqualified to deliver, I might as well say it to the busiest group of doers I know.

Barbershoppers are always doing something: learning new music, preparing for a show, helping a school. And many Barbershoppers want to do even more. Guys are always talking to me about getting into the community more, *talking* about stepping up their Youth in Harmony programs, etc. And for every one of those conversations, I’m discovering other guys who aren’t talking but *doing*. Or more precisely, they do, then they talk about the *actions* they’ve already done.

I’m the king of good intentions. I have something like a 100-to-1 ratio of potentially good ideas to the number I actually implement. Maybe that says something about how many ideas I get, but I’m more worried that it says something about how infrequently I act upon them.



The box to the right is based on a blog post that I printed and taped to the wall next to my desk a few years ago. It’s probably a good thing I have it there, because we folks in Nashville work for a guy who is always trying to turn our talking into action. He isn’t necessarily asking us how we can do our jobs better; instead he’s asking us to take a hard look at what *really* needs doing—and to find a way to do that instead of what we’ve always done. (“*You mean like publishing The Harmonizer with a cover date that’s in sync with reality?*”)

Is there something you or your chapter have “talked” about doing because it seems like a great idea? It’s possible that you have talked enough and need to start doing that thing. Maybe you’ll only find the space to do it if you let what you usually do take a back seat for a while. (Or several weeks, at any rate—like everyone else at headquarters, I have a lot of important new stuff on my plate. The ACDA article in this issue hints at only one of the new fronts your staff is working on.) At any rate, I hope the list to the right starts some conversations. Wait, scratch that—I hope it inspires some *action* on the conversations you’ve already had.

—Lorin May, Editor, *The Harmonizer*  
Society Marketing Team Lead  
LMay@barbershop.org

## Little Rules of Action

Adapted from a post by Leo Babauta at [zenhabits.net](http://zenhabits.net)  
Comments in italics by Lorin May

- 1. Don’t overthink.** It’s good to have a clear picture of where you’re going or why you’re doing this—but don’t get stuck thinking. Just do. *Dittos from me, a charter member of Overthinkers Anonymous.*
- 2. Just start.** You need to take that first step, no matter how small or how shaky. The rest takes care of itself. *The hardest part of any task is to start doing it. If you just dive in, the hardest part will be behind you.*
- 3. Forget perfection.** Perfectionism is the enemy of action. Kill it, immediately. You can turn a bad draft into a good one, but you can’t turn no draft into a good draft.
- 4. Don’t mistake motion for action.** When you find yourself moving too quickly, doing too many things at once, this is a good reminder to stop. Slow down. Focus.
- 5. Focus on the important actions.** Clear the distractions. Pick the one most important thing you must do today, and focus on that.
- 6. Move slowly, consciously.** Be deliberate. Action doesn’t need to be done fast.
- 7. Take small steps.** Each little, tiny step is a victory that will compel you to further victories.
- 8. Negative thinking gets you nowhere.** What we tell ourselves has a funny habit of turning into reality. *Re-read the story on the Cape Breton chapter in the Jan. 2010 issue. They went from 12 men and considering folding to 40 men in a few months. It was all due to a change in action and to some infectious positive thinking. [www.barbershop.org/harmonizer](http://www.barbershop.org/harmonizer).*
- 9. Meetings aren’t action.** Meetings, unfortunately, almost always get in the way of actual doing. *Meetings should be primarily a place to make decisions about actions that are about to be undertaken; any follow-up or administration that could be handled outside of a meeting (via phone or e-mail) probably should be. It takes a darn good meeting to be better than no meeting.*
- 10. Talking (usually) isn’t action.** Communication is necessary, but don’t mistake it for actual action.
- 11. Planning isn’t action.** Be clear about what you’re doing; just get to the actual action as quickly as you can.
- 12. Reading about it isn’t action.** (Including this column.)
- 13. Sometimes, inaction is better.** If you find yourself spinning your wheels, rethink whether the action is even necessary. *Learn to savor the times when something you’ve cherished falls away because you started to do something that matters more.*

“Talk doesn’t cook rice.” — Chinese proverb



# Border Patrol, The Recruits shine in Florida

Despite the frequent raised eyebrows and repeated trunk searches at the border, the American/Canadian members of **Border Patrol** have persevered in their regular rehearsals since its formation in May, 2011. Their resolve paid off when they won the 2013 Seniors Quartet Championship at the Midwinter Convention in Orlando on Jan. 12.

Border Patrol won silver in the 2012 Tucson seniors competition, but after their win in Orlando, "This year, instead of going out there to 'win,' our goal was just to provide the audience with an emotional experience," said bass Al Baker. "We felt that if we did that, the contest would take care of itself." They definitely achieved both goals with a score of 73.1%, while all other takers topped out at 71.7%.

This year marked the 29th international appearance for bari Ron Mason (11 times in the Top 20), including an International Senior Quartet bronze medal. He directs the **Vocal Agenda** chorus in Batavia, N.Y. Lead Bob Fuest is a frequent international quartet competitor and director of the **Chordbusters Chorus** in Warsaw, N.Y. Baker has won five District championships in three different districts, is a Judge Emeritus and an active singing coach who served for 25 years at Harmony University.

Tenor Bobby Gibson is the most recent arrival to the group, a repeat district champ, and tenor section leader of Toronto's **Northern Lights Chorus**.

This year, there were six medalists. **Faces for Radio** (MAD) won the silver; third and fourth place went to **DOUBLETAKE** (FWD) and **TMI**



Border Patrol: Ron Mason (Br), Bob Fuest (L), Al Baker (Bs), Bobby Gibson (T)

MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

(JAD), and **Stacked Deck** (DIX) and **Trade Secret** (NED) tied for 5th.

**Youth Festival a barrel of fun for all.** Many of the nearly 500 singers said they had so much fun that they expect to double their numbers for Long Beach in 2014.

"Barbershop is one of the most amazing things that someone can get into," said Jacob Mahler of the **Foothills Sound Chorus** (Knoxville, Tenn.). "It is a wonderful chance to sing with people that you know and even better, people that you don't know. It just shows the appreciation that everyone has for barbershop. It was a great experience and I plan on attending for many years. I love barbershop!"

Border Patrol echoed this sentiment. They, along with many other seniors, enjoyed tagging with some of the young guys into the late hours throughout the weekend.



With nearly 500 young guys on the risers in 19 choruses, this year's Youth Festival was better than ever. Shown here is the Audience Favorite: The Recruits (CSD), directed by Jonny Moroni

MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

## Former Society CEO Don Harris dies; last weekend was spent at a VM concert



passionate, and controversial, Harris was both an agent of change and a

Don Harris, CEO of the Society from 2004-2005, passed away unexpectedly Dec. 23, 2012 from complications of a stroke. Colorful,

lightning rod for the pain and criticism that accompanies it. Both his successes and his failings stemmed from a willingness to question constantly whether "our way" was the best way. During his tenure, changes already afoot came to fruition, most notably the change of primary branding to "Barbershop Harmony Soci-

ety" and adoption of a new logo.

After his departure from the Barbershop Harmony Society, Don returned to his native Texas and worked as a consultant. He maintained close ties with the **Vocal Majority Chorus**, which he had come to love. In fact, he spent his last Saturday attending the VM Christmas show.



# 11 tips for selecting a great repertoire

**M**uch of your group's overall success begins when you select the right repertoire. Learning how to pick the right pieces can take time and experience, but following these simple steps can help you find the music that best fits your group. Whenever considering a new piece, consider the following tips.

**1. Does the audience know/like the song?** Who is your target audience? Are they familiar with the song you're singing? If not, is the song accessible to first-time listeners? Audience buy-in is of utmost importance. If they don't like a song, it hardly matters how well you sing it.

**2. Does the song fit your style?** Find music that suits *your* ensemble's personality and style. Think of how specific repertoire defines any group. Imagine **OC Times** singing **Main Street's** repertoire or **'Round Midnight** swapping tunes with **Old School**. What's great for another group may not be the right fit for yours. Experiment by singing a lot of music to see what fits your style.

**3. Are the lyrics appropriate to your group?** Could any part of the lyric offend any part of your audience? Sometimes a lyric needs to be adapted or a passage tweaked to suit today's standards. Age appropriateness is also important. It is just as awkward for a high school quartet to sing "Among My Souvenirs" as it is to hear a senior quartet sing "You're Sixteen, You're Beautiful, and You're Mine."

**4. Is the song within your vocal range?** Analyze the highest and lowest notes of the song. Also, look at the tessitura, or which part of the range is most used. Is it consistently low/high? A repertoire full of songs that are on the warning track might spell disaster for a lead who gets a cold on contest day. Each voice part must be well within your ensemble's range even on your worst days ... and stress or performance jitters can make *any* contest or chapter show your worst day!

**5. Is the song within your difficulty level?** A good rule of thumb: if your section leaders can sing through the song and get 80% of the notes correctly on the first run, odds are it will suit your chorus. Be careful in selecting "songs of the champs." Many were custom-arranged for the individual members, and few other groups may be able to sing them well. You will sound far more impressive when you sing a less difficult song masterfully than you would when performing a difficult song only adequately.

**6. Does the song drive the quartet/chorus to get better?** Balance tip #5 with the fact that you'll

have more fun if you stretch a bit sometimes. Having a quality arrangement that pushes the group to perform better and grow as individual musicians will keep guys coming back on Tuesday nights. A delicate balance on this is crucial, since too many hard songs can be discouraging; but the occasional song that the guys work hard to master can be richly rewarding.

**7. Is it different enough from other songs in your repertoire?** Take great care to mix up the tempo, mood and flavor of your repertoire—ballads and uptunes are not the only two options within the barbershop realm. Wonderful barbershop arrangements can be found in virtually every style, from pop to jazz, patriotic to religious, swing songs, as well as uptunes and ballads from every decade. With our library of more than 6,000 songs from which to choose, you'll never need to get into a rut.

**8. Is there a published version of the song?** The songs in the published library have many benefits over either the unpublished library or music found using other sources. Published music costs less (generally about a dollar less per copy), affordable learning media has often already been made, and our publications team has already screened and selected them for quality. When in doubt, order the published arrangement to ensure a quality piece.

**9. Do you select music at the right time?** One ensemble I worked with had its repertoire set for seven years in the future! While many groups aren't near that level of organization, working at least one calendar year out will help immensely in ordering music, obtaining (if necessary) learning media, and planning the repertoire around shows and other events.

**10. Does your audience need to "cleanse the palate"?** Your barbershop repertoire may sound even better when contrasted with one or two repertoire songs that have no connection to the barbershop world. For example, if your second-to-last song is a classical piece, the contrast could help the barbershop hallmarks of your final song have far more impact. The occasional non-barbershop song will also add needed variety at rehearsals, and the lessons learned while singing other musical forms will help you be a better barbershop ensemble.

**11. Is the song fun to sing?** Above all else, make it fun. In the end, it's all about the music. If you're having fun singing something, your audience will have fun watching you perform it. Get the charts you love and make some great music! ■



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# 2012 District Quartet CHAMPS



## Replay (CAR)

Kelly Andrews (L), Steen Bogaerts (T), Adam Winans (Bs), Bob Kendall (Br)  
Contact Kelly: 574-514-4119, [info@replayquartet.com](mailto:info@replayquartet.com)



## Dominant Prep (CSD)

Matt Suellentrop (T), Bryan Ziegler (Bs), Aaron Pollard (L), Nathan Johnston (Br)  
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## The Real McCoy (DIX)

Daniel Rushing (T), Howard McAdory (L), Jimmy Barr (Bs), James Estes (Br)  
Contact James: 615-962-5279, [jestes@barbershop.org](mailto:jestes@barbershop.org)



## Momentum (EVG)

Gary Steinkamp (T), Tim Reynolds (L), Kevin Stinson (Bs), Tim McCormick (Br)  
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[www.facebook.com/MomentumQuartet](http://www.facebook.com/MomentumQuartet)



## 95 North (FWD)

Jim Halvorson (T), Larry Halvorson (L), Michael Stewart (Bs), Nick Pizzo (Br)  
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ACDA Executive Director Tim Sharp met with staff leadership and educators at Society headquarters in Nashville on Dec. 12, 2012. Read more about their visit on pages 14-15.



PHOTOS: LORIN MAY

# A meeting of two missions

## Barbershop Harmony Society and American Choral Directors Association

It is an honor to address the members of the Barbershop Harmony Society from my perspective as Executive Director of the American Choral Directors Association. I live and work in ongoing appreciation and admiration of the work and mission of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and in this article I would like to specifically outline three areas of overlapping interest between ACDA and the Society that merit our attention and ongoing collaboration.

### Tim Sharp, barbershop singer

First, allow me a moment of personal barbershop nostalgia. It may be of interest to some that I come first to my work as a singer (tenor) and as a choral director myself. But more central to this article, I was an informal barbershop singer throughout my college years, being in a quartet every year of my undergraduate experience. In addition, for an exciting moment during my college teaching time in New York City, I was offered the director's position with New York's **Big Apple Chorus**.

I say "informal" regarding my barbershop singing in college, because my friends and I were not members of any chapter or society. We just sang, and we gravitated toward the male chorus literature that we loved. That naturally led us to a hefty repertoire of barbershop. Thanks to patient college faculty advisers, we found material to sing, and we were even sponsored on various

occasions by our school's admissions department to represent the school on recruitment trips. We practiced in hallways, dorm shower rooms, elevators, and occasionally, officially-sanctioned college practice facilities. We loved every minute of our singing in rehearsal and performance. We spent wonderful hours naming our groups. Of the various names we had, my favorite was **The Presidents**. My three colleagues were each president of a college club or fraternity or class. I wasn't president of anything, so they made me president of our quartet. The picture accompanying this article is my freshmen year quartet, complete with 1973 vintage hair (The Presidents quartet's "president" is the second from the left, pictured along with the book I have held on to from those years from which we took some of our repertoire.)

During the late 1980s, my wife and I lived in New York City. We both taught in Westchester County,



**Dr. Tim Sharp**  
Executive Director, ACDA



Tim Sharp (second from left) with The Presidents

and enjoyed the musical and artistic life of the City. I never dreamed of moving to New York to graduate to a larger stage, but I actually had my opportunity to do so, and from all places, it came via New York's Big Apple Chorus. I had not graduated through the ranks of barbershop work as many directors do, but rather, I had been noticed through my collegiate choral work at The King's College located in Briarcliff Manor. The college choir I directed would sing in New York City from time to time as well as at West Point, and we regularly performed throughout Westchester County. Through word of mouth and recommendations, I had been vetted and issued an invitation to direct the Big Apple Chorus. I was thrilled at the invitation, and the interview process was stimulating. As I contemplated the future rehearsals in Manhattan, with performances regularly at Carnegie Hall, I saw myself living the dream. However, at about the same time, I was feeling a move into publishing and recording work that took me to Nashville, Tenn., instead. Saying "no" to the Big Apple Chorus was one of the very, very few regrets I have in my career, but it was what was meant to be.

### Overlapping missions

And now, I find myself wanting to collaborate with the Barbershop Harmony Society as the director of the American Choral Directors Association in ways in which both of our organizations' missions overlap. The administrators of the Barbershop Harmony Society share my desires, and at this point in time, we are talking. Conversation, and a mutual interest, is where collaboration begins. Here are my thoughts of intersection between our two organizations.

**Mission to choral music.** The American Choral Directors Association was founded in 1959 simply to do what our mission statement says: to inspire excellence in choral music through education, performance, composition, and advocacy. Our mission is to choral music. Barbershop is one style within many styles of choral music, and as such, barbershop singing is a part of the mission of ACDA. We already have members of ACDA who are members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and there are Society directors who are members of ACDA. We both exist to inspire excellence in performance, education, composition and advocacy. Barbershop's focus is more narrowly defined within its unique style. ACDA would like to have more members join us who are members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and Barbershop Harmony Society would like to have more ACDA members join Barbershop. Both of us are open and ready to welcome this activity, and there is nothing stopping anyone from doing so other than awareness and the focus of individual

### ACDA membership: a smart move for directors of barbershop chapters

I invite you to join ACDA. You can do so online by going to [www.acda.org](http://www.acda.org), or by calling our membership coordinator at our national office in Oklahoma City at 405-232-8161. Please tell them that "Tim Sharp" sent you to them. You will start receiving our award-winning monthly magazine *Choral Journal*, you will be able to access our *International Journal for Research in Choral Singing*, and you will be able to read our online magazine *ChorTeach*. Each of these publications has regular articles on healthy singing, choral technique, repertoire, choral artistry, choral programming, musicianship, music theory, choral technology, composition, and all topics related to choral education and performance of all styles. Additionally, our online search engines allow you to search through 50 years of articles, forums, and discussions on all of these areas and more. You will also have access to the unlimited information available through our website ([www.ACDA.org](http://www.ACDA.org)), and our professional and social networking site, ChoralNet ([www.choralnet.org](http://www.choralnet.org)). Our ACDA online streaming radio and First Listen feature allow you to hear non-stop new choral releases and choral music streaming recordings. All of this is available to you as a benefit of membership in ACDA.

Further, you will be a member of our state and division ACDA chapters automatically, and as such you will be invited to state and division conferences as well as our signature biennial National Conference. Every one of these conferences feature performances and educational sessions on all the topics we regularly feature in our publications listed above.

Our next National ACDA Conference is in Dallas, Texas, March 13-16, 2013, and will feature non-stop performances of every choral style from choirs across the United States and around the world. The Barbershop Harmony Society will be exhibiting in Dallas, and you will definitely feel that presence there.

Through your membership, you will read of ACDA's work as we continue to advocate music education in the United States and the world. We do this work through our support of the Music Education Roundtable (NAfME), Americans for the Arts, and the International Federation of Choral Music. Further, as a member of ACDA, you have a voice in ACDA. You will be a part of the process that elects officers and sets our choral agenda. If you want Barbershop to have a larger voice within ACDA, then the more Barbershop singers who are members of ACDA, the more voice you will have. Democracy and ACDA both work that way. You will learn about our "Real Men Sing" initiatives that are taking place across the United States, and you will see how ACDA works administratively, which may be of benefit to your own Barbershop Harmony Society Chapter. You can immediately start contributing to our "Male Chorus" Repertoire and Standards area within our ACDA structure. This is how we do business, and you will be a part of that business through your membership.

resources of time and money.

**A viable musical entity.** The American Choral Directors Association recognizes the Barbershop Harmony Society as a viable musical entity. In fact, one of the first great moments of my work as ACDA Executive Director was hearing our National Conference crowd go wild as the **Vocal Majority** of Dallas, Texas, brought ACDA members to their feet in our 2009 50th Anniversary Conference in Oklahoma City. I was very proud of this group that, like all of the ensembles that perform at our National Conference, had gone through our blind audition process and earned a spot on our concert stage. Such performances are all that the Barbershop Harmony Society need to know that barbershop singing is alive and well within ACDA, and has a home on our concert stage. While most of the choruses represented by our 20,000 choral directors are not barbershop choruses, many of these choruses do sing barbershop literature. Within the ACDA structure, these choruses are more likely to be the male choruses related to our high school, college, and community male chorus repertoire areas. Because we cover all areas of choral singing in our mis-

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Harmony University, July 28-August 4, 2013

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**"That was awesomely sick monkey!"**  
Actual quote (we're told it's a compliment)

**Translation:**  
A young singer's best day of the year

**Thousands of students are crazy about Youth Harmony Workshops**  
We provide the only one-of-a-kind barbershop instruction for young men. The program is fun, educational, and award-winning. Barbershop is the perfect combination of fun and education.

**They'll be singing these songs weeks later whether you like it or not**  
We work with you to make sure you're ready to sing. Our directors will give you the tools you need to be successful. We'll be there to help you through every step of the way. You'll be singing these songs for weeks to come.

Learn more at [www.barbershop.org/YHW](http://www.barbershop.org/YHW)

The Society has begun pitching its youth and education programs in every issue of the ACDA's national publication.

sion, there are many directors who do not work in this style. Perhaps there are more who don't than do, but this should never be perceived as any sort of preference. It is simply related to the fact that ACDA covers all choral singing, and every style is represented. If you go to ACDA's website and YouTube site, you will proudly hear barbershop singing along with other styles such as jazz, Broadway, pop, *avant garde*, all varieties of classical ... it is all there, and ACDA exists to inspire excellence in every form and style.

**Shared devotion to life-long singing**  
However, the point of overlap that I feel strongest about is our shared devotion

to life-long singing, and with it, life long healthy singing. I believe this is a point of overlap between the mission of the Barbershop Harmony Society and the American Choral Directors Association that holds the most potential for us both as we work together collaboratively in the days ahead. We both know that the growing population of baby boomers who will have more discretionary time and discretionary income, and who will enjoy longer good healthy singing, is a sociological tsunami that we should prepare for.

**Crisis of young men.** In addition to this great population of older singers, we have a national crisis with our

## What kind of partnership? First meeting excerpts

*ACDA Executive Director Tim Sharp visited Society headquarters on Dec. 12, 2012 to meet with staff leadership, including staff educators. The below are transcribed excerpts from a wide-ranging discussion. See more at [harmonizer.tv](http://harmonizer.tv).*

### Inviting experienced directors to direct chapters

**Tim Sharp:** [Both organizations] are working to keep folks singing throughout their lives. You all have done a great job of that. I mean, we know demographically that we're facing a really big wall of our [ACDA] membership now that's moving into retirement. These folks want to keep working, they want to keep conducting. I think their ability to pull together a community-based ensemble is going to be a vital skill. We are launching a mentoring program because we've got this perfect storm coming up of this demographic that's moving into retirement.

**Lorin May:** One of our challenges is we have many chapters that are looking for better directors. I see in your problem and our problem a confluence where we can solve each other's problems. What do you think of that?

**TS:** There are directors out there in high schools who have done barbershop work; they may not consider themselves Barbershoppers, but they may know just enough to be dangerous. There are [directors] who would love to get full training from you all. They probably need a non-embarrassing, very invitational, relational way for you to say, "Come in."

[Barbershoppers] have unique terminology. We all have our "codes." Breaking down the codes to making it welcoming, would be an area I'm guessing you all could work on; we probably have a big supply of folks that will love to walk into that situation. There's so much overlap; the difficult part for an outside director would be a culture and literature that are very specific.

**Marty Monson:** For a trained music educator to be coming in and be welcomed, sometimes that can be very short-lived. The short leash they are given while they learn [barbershop] can sometimes be overbearing. We have to be more welcoming. We have to be of encouragement and help along the way. As a chapter and a Society, we also have to be willing to sing other music, too. [Singing] other styles of male choral music makes us more relevant within the broader choral society. We can be more welcoming to music educators who are trained in a variety of styles.

### Selling barbershop to experienced directors

**TS:** Retro is in everywhere—you'd think there would be a marketing opportunity there. [Barbershop] is a fun



LORIN MAY

young men in our country that we can both work to address right now. While I do not have any hard evidence (yet) to back me up, I would be shocked to learn that the troubled young men who have created such tragedies through their misguided and evil acts of violence in the last year, were ever in a barbershop harmony chorus, a children's choir, or one of our church or community choirs. The values we share in group singing, the community that we create, and the mentoring that takes place through barbershop singing and choral singing, are life-enhancing models. I know this first-hand as a singer, as a director, and now as an administrator who observes your work and the work of our membership every day of my life. I know we have an activity that contributes to beauty and a better life for our participants. I believe we can come together for the benefit of both of these populations,

young and young-who-are-aging. I want to see this happen for our organizations.

There are ways we can start doing this, right now. I will speak from my perspective as the director of the American Choral Directors Association, and in a separate article, I will address my ACDA members to speak to this from the perspective of the Barbershop Harmony Society leadership.

### Where to start

While I would very much like your membership in ACDA, the real reason I want our collaboration is that I believe we are working for the same thing, and that is to involve men in the beauty of what we do for their sake, and for what I truly believe leads to a better society. I continue to appreciate barbershop music for doing that for me during my college years and throughout my career. ■

style, it's unique, it's identifiable, it's American. People are looking for authentic ways to broaden their repertoire. But nobody wants to be a phony. Nobody wants to be caught proving they couldn't do it right. I think that's the welcoming piece that you all could supply. You can say, "Come to one of our events and you'll leave feeling authentic." I went to Big Apple Chorus, and at the end of the day just didn't feel like I could do what they wanted to do authentically. I was a hot shot choral director, and I didn't want to be seen as phony. Guys in that room had more experience than me in what they were asking me to do, and I shied away from it.

**James Estes:** How do you see us breaking down barriers so that [educators] know that there is real value in what we do offer?

**TS:** Show that you're serious about vocal hygiene, good vocal health, and say that we're on common ground there—especially lifelong singing. I think those would be a selling feature to ACDA directors.

There's always going to be the stereotype of the cane and the straw hat, but that's the retro piece—I think we all would love that. What you guys got going for you is that you are perceived as fun. The currency I would use would be "vocal health" and "life-long singing." Beginning with my organization, promote getting boys to sing. I think partnering in our Real Men Sing movement, you can say, "Come right in. Let's partner with you. We heard you're doing Real Men Sing. Can we bring a barbershop component to that?"

### Addressing the singing crisis together

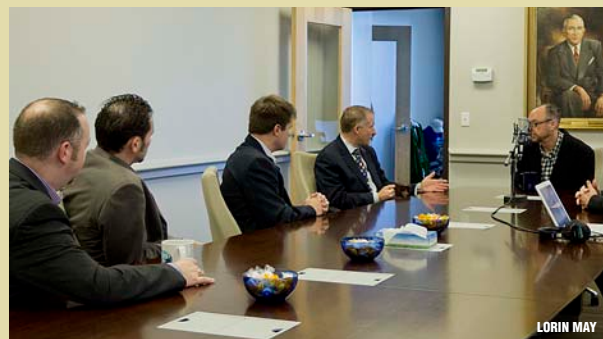
**TS:** I think we have reached a crisis. The reality of young men not singing was already there, and now you compound it. We've got boys at risk because of the activity

of video games and just what's going on in society—perhaps guys not feeling the value of singing in some areas. We're all struggling with where is it coming from. Colleges are suffering from it. They're looking at a ratio of 60/40 ratio of females to males in college. It's not only singing—it's guys being engaged.

So, we feel like we've got the perfect solution. We know that singing transformed our lives, we know it gave us purpose, we know it gave us community. So we know we've got the answer; it's just getting that answer into deliverable forms. I think with Barbershop Harmony Society and American Choral Directors Association, we have deliverable forms . . . There are some very wholesome models for them. We have groups that people just admire. . . . Our challenge is—while supporting schools fully and totally—to move it into community-based choirs.

One of the things ACDA is working on is to have our adult community-based choirs adopt community-based children's choirs and boy's choirs, to help them in recruitment, with visibility, perhaps help them with financial structures or with office space if they need it. If they don't have an executive director, perhaps they share some administrative tasks. The idea is to let these established community choirs that have a footing work side-by-side with children's choirs and boy's choirs to help them get legs and get a footing.

The underserved tend to be in urban areas. Seven-



year-olds can't drive cars. A place to do this is an issue. Faith-based places are not always the answer because some people maybe shy away from those places.

We're trying to make the delivery systems work for today's culture, today's realities. Don't forsake the schools. I mean we want to support the schools and advocate, advocate, advocate, but we have to be real. If they're not getting what we do in schools, how can we get it to them in a community? We're trying to build delivery systems that we know could engage these at-risk people. *I defy you to show me the kids who are getting in trouble and show me that they were in a youth choir or children's choir. They are too busy, too engaged. They're working with great models.*

The boys are in danger. I've think we've got an answer in what we do. Create workbooks, a 1-2-3 of how you went into a community and did it—create that kind of educational material. Anytime we can co-stamp it American Choral Directors/Barbershop Harmony Society, I'm there.

**MM:** And we will. Our commitment, to ACDA and to you, is this ongoing partnership and collaborative effort.

# Shannon Elswick

Our new Society president always has time for what matters: 'Shop 'Till You Drop



I knew I was in trouble when Shannon's parents related things they did to direct his energy as a child—standing him on a table as a *toddler* to teach him states and capitals from a huge wall map. I should have had a clue as the first summer we dated, he set a Guinness World Record for riding a tricycle, a gimmick to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy. Early on, I should have learned that the quickest way to get him to do something was to tell him he couldn't do it! We ended up walking more than a mile home one Sunday after church because I told him he couldn't drive our van on a sand road he thought was a shortcut through an orange grove down the road from our subdivision ...

Shannon and I have had a wonderfully collaborative marriage, but I can't say that he consulted me before he started barbershop-ping—he impulsively responded to a billboard that he spotted on the way to work. And fortunately for us, when he made the first call of inquiry, Craig Johnston's resonant

bass voice hooked Shannon like you can imagine you'd be hooked if you heard the voice of God. Shannon began his barbershop experience with the **Big Orange Chorus** in Jacksonville, Fla. He was a hospital corpsman stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville and I quickly realized that the barbershop harmony activity was a much better outlet for his energies than the tavern across from the base entrance!

## Master juggler

My greatest criticism of Shannon has always been that he doesn't do anything in moderation, and yet some would say that is his greatest asset; he definitely manages to accomplish a lot. With excess comes great need to be proficient at juggling—and Shannon is a

**Shannon and two sons competed with T.H.X. in Portland.**



# TORONT-Oh!

## 2013 International Convention

June 30 - July 7, 2013



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Ringmasters, historical displays, Casa Loma, Old School, Storm Front, Vocal Spectrum, Ambassadors of Harmony, Niagara Falls, OC Times, N

# T O R O N T O ...

## CONVENTION EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

**All week long:** Enjoy displays of historical costumes and artifacts from Society and district archives, plus special presentations, all in celebration of our 75th Anniversary!

**Tuesday:** The **Harmony Foundation Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest** gets the festivities rolling early at 5 p.m. Come see the champs of the future and cheer them on. Then enjoy the perennial favorite, the **Larry Ajer Party!** It's a blast!

**Wednesday:** Start picking your quartet winners during the **Quartet Quarterfinals**, from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. or so. The rest of the evening is for tagging, hanging out and listening to the ever-popular **Dixieland Band**.

**Thursday:** As the quartet field gets narrower in the **Quartet Semi-Finals**, the suspense gets higher, starting at 11 a.m. Afterward, you're sure to enjoy the **World Harmony Jamboree** at 4:15 p.m.; then we'll cap the day off with the champions at the **AIC Show** and the **Chorditorium** from 10 p.m. to midnight.

**Friday:** Chorus performances can go from the ridiculous to the sublime with just a tear-off costume or two, so don't miss a minute of the Chorus Contest starting at 10 a.m. or you might just miss the ONE thing everyone will be talking about for weeks. Afterward, get loose and live it up at your district and chapter parties—tomorrow morning you can sleep late!

**Saturday day:** This will be your day to take it easy. Morning brunch, **Sing with the Champs**, shopping, sightseeing! Just be sure to get up in time to join in the **Mega Sing** and share the joy of singing with the folks of Toronto.

**Saturday night:** Like the crême brûlée at the end of a gourmet meal, the convention high point is the **Quartet Finals** at 7 p.m., when the top ten quartets pull out their top stuff to compete for the top honors. This evening starts with performances from the new Chorus and Collegiate champs at 5:45. Then by 9:30 or so, it's a free-for-all party time, with tagging in every corner of every hallway and lobby.



## TOP TEN REASONS TO VISIT TORONTO

- You'll learn how to use hockey terms in romantic settings ... handy, eh?
- Experience poutine (a.k.a. "heart attack on a plate")—French (of course) fries with gravy—yum!
- The host chapter can show you 25 ways to cook moose, including stroganoff.
- Canadian chefs often substitute beer where recipes call for water.
- Enjoy a helping of beaver tail—it tastes like chicken!
- It's a lot like London, only with better teeth.
- Learn a whole new language quickly. You only need to learn one word: "Eh" (but you'll need 200 different inflections for the proper meaning).
- Possible sightings of Dudley Do-Right and sweet Nell sharing a grande latte at Starbucks?
- Drink beer in a country that thinks anything under 6% is just for kids.
- HHHHHHHHHHHHHH's name might temporarily change to EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH EH, and maybe we'll finally know what it means!

## PASSPORT INFO:

Don't forget, and don't del  
Everything you need to kn

Register 24 hours a day at [www.barbershop.org/toronto](http://www.barbershop.org/toronto) or call 800-595-4849



North Metro Sweet Adelines (Toronto), Max Q, Chiefs of Staff, Lemon Squeazy, Royal Ontario Museum of Art, Hockey Hall of Fame, Crossroads

# Beaucoup d'fun!

## TORONTO SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

**Niagara Falls:** You'll never find a more perfect time to experience this beautiful North American natural wonder, just a quick trip away. Millions of gallons of water rocket over the falls every minute, and you can take a boat ride through the thundering mist, or dine at the Top of the Falls Restaurant. And not too far away is Old Fort Niagara, nearly 300 years old and a National Historic Landmark.

**CN Tower & Edgewalk:** Before you chicken out, get on over to the CN Tower, one of the Modern Wonders of the World, and check out Edgewalk, a hands-free circular walk 116 stories high. Great photo op—a one-of-a-kind snapshot you can brag about!

**Paramount Canada's Wonderland:** Get your thrills here, with the most diverse collection of roller coasters in North America! The Leviathan is one of the tallest and fastest in the world. A kid's section and Splash Works Waterpark make it fun for everyone.

**Casa Loma:** Step back in time to a period of European elegance at Canada's foremost castle—100 years old and complete with secret passages, an 800-foot tunnel, towers, stables and gardens.

**Hockey Hall of Fame:** This is the home base of the authentic Stanley Cup, and hockey fans will enjoy that, plus 15 exhibit areas full of other trophies and memorabilia displays.

**Dining:** Finding plenty of eats is no problem—with 5,700 various eating establishments within walking distance of the arena; the only problem will be deciding where to eat next.



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Youth Pricing (25 & Under): \$119

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youth from same household): \$589  
Enter promo code "familypack2013"  
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youth from same household: \$30



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5. Fairmont Royal York
6. InterContinental Toronto Centre
- \* Air Canada Centre
7. Westin Harbour Castle

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ow is at <http://travel.state.gov/passport>.

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AIR CANADA CENTRE, THURSDAY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> 2013, 7:30PM  
THE ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS PRESENTS



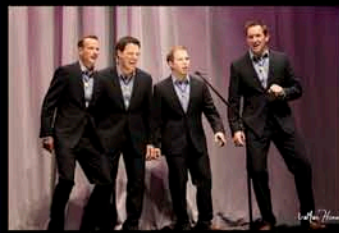
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**As president of Orlando Regional Medical Center as well as Senior Vice President of Adult Hospitals, Shannon is responsible for more than 1,300 skilled care beds, ancillaries to support them, and about 10,000 employees.**

times but revivals have happened frequently so it must not have been too bad. In 2002, Shannon formed **Rare Blend**, a mixed a cappella quartet that often performs in the community and that entertains employees and/or patients in his hospitals. And more recently, he helped to found and continues to direct **Sisters of Sound**, a local Harmony, Inc. chapter.

Our boys have grown up with the barbershop community and our twins, Aaron and Scott, are members of **HD Chorus** and **THX**. Shannon hasn't quite yet

pulled the family quartet together, but he keeps nudging us all that way every chance he gets, as he believes barbershop is more than just a hobby. Recognizing his role as an ambassador for a wonderful art form, he believes in participating at whatever level of accomplishment he is capable of, and has a list of quartets over the years to prove it. Most of all though, Shannon *loves* staying up late with our boys and anyone else willing to share a tag. Shannon says "I think we have to begin to frame barbershop as a verb and

just do it. That is where 'shop 'til you drop comes from."

People love Shannon because he is relationship-oriented; he believes that his own success is based on the success of those around him, and he works hard to nurture and support everyone he has the opportunity to share life with. He looks for the talents of each person he encounters and actively works to encourage them to develop those talents and motivates them to be productive. While we'd like to think that he is a talented baritone, Shannon's gift of encouragement is the talent that he brings to the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Barbershop has been a source of intellectual stimulus (learning the intricacies of harmony), a creative outlet (he's such a ham!), and a brotherhood for Shannon.

I should have learned that the quickest way to get Shannon to do something was to tell him he couldn't do it!

Shannon values the way that barbershop activities bring people together, expanding their relationship potential and their opportunity to nurture each other. Shannon says "If more of our members could enjoy this wonderful art form half as much as I do, we would have to hire more people to process the membership applications."

For us, Shannon's barbershop experience has reflected the rhythm of our life—there was the thirst for knowledge and mastery of the art (learning tapes in the car—ugh—weekly practices), the excitement of participation (choruses and quartets—shows, competitions and Singing Valentines), the sharing of experience (judging, coaching, directing, leadership roles). Though Shannon is very busy in his role as a business executive, at heart he still is that little boy who needs an outlet for his energy and creativity. I can't think of a better way to fill that need than by sharing his love of the barbershop harmony art form and his gift of encouragement with the Barbershop Harmony Society in the role of president.

We have a friend who, at her husband's retirement party, was offering to pay people to take him to lunch just to give her some time away from him! While many of my friends worry about what their husbands will do with their time in retirement, I have no fear. Shannon has a challenging craft, a beloved hobby, and cherished barbershop buddies who will keep him occupied and entertained well into retirement.

'Shop 'til you drop! ■

### Shannon speaks

- "Job one was to hire the right CEO. Those who were close to the process know how much went into it. We are very pleased with Marty Monson's energy and dedication to the position and believe he will do an outstanding job."
- "There is much more to do than the staff can possibly take on, especially as they are in transition with their new CEO. 'Montana Jack' Fitzpatrick challenged us in his 2012 Midwinter keynote address to recognize and embrace the army of incredible volunteers our 23,000 members represent. I will be working with Jack, Marty and others to establish a framework to mobilize that army to supplement the assets and talents of our staff."
- "I believe barbershop is more than just a hobby. We, the members of the Society, are the ambassadors for a wonderful art form and we need to be active in our barbershop lives. As you know, I believe in participating even if I can't do so at the highest levels of accomplishment (all those quartets through the years ... so many that I would have to do some research to get the exact number). I think we have to begin to frame barbershop as a verb and just do it. That is where "'shop til you drop" comes from. Anyone who knows me understands how much I love to stay up late with my boys tagging and singing."

# HARMONY FOUNDATION YOUTH CHORUS FESTIVAL

If you missed Orlando, you didn't see and hear the 19 youth choruses. What a thrill it was to see the enthusiasm they created! Those who were there will remember that it was palpable. Again, we want to thank the following people for their leadership and generosity as sponsors of this festival.

Central States District	Rocky Mountain District	Steve & Mary Louise Hagerdon	Burt Szabo
Far Western District	Mary Jane Bobier	Skipp & Nancy Kropp	In Memoriam, Bud Thompson
Johnny Appleseed District	Jim & Barb DeBusman	John & Sharon Miller	Doug & Lynn Weaver
Land O' Lakes District	Darryl & Meredith Flinn	Dave & Barbara Riches	Woody & Darlene Woods
Pioneer District	Don Gray & Cindy Weygandt		

We continue to hear from people about the phenomenal impact that the youth are having on the Society with their vim, vigor, love and involvement in Barbershop. Not much wonder that the largest demographic of new members in the Barbershop Harmony Society over the past 4 years has been under the age of 20. The results are clear, but the work is not done. There are thousands of young people who want to sing, but they don't know where to find the resources or opportunity.



The 2014 Youth Chorus Festival, in Long Beach, already has more groups signing up earlier than ever before. Harmony Foundation is already recruiting sponsors for 2014. In fact, at a special dinner we shared the results of these festivals, showed a video of the kids, heard a chorus sing, and asked Marty Monson to share his vision going forward.

During this dinner, Warren Capenos offered to match anyone who made their commitment that night to sponsor next year. By the end of the evening, the following people accepted that challenge and became 2014 sponsors to lead off the Sponsor campaign for next year.

Johnny Appleseed District	Jim & Barb DeBusman	Steve & Mary Louise Hagerdon	John & Sharon Miller
Land O' Lakes District	Gayle & Patricia Edmondson	Skipp & Nancy Kropp	Joe & Jackie Palmquist
Mary Jane Bobier	Shannon & Becky Elswick	Don & Lynn Lambert	Dave & Barbara Riches
Warren Capenos	Don Gray & Cindy Weygandt	Chuck & Betty McCollum	Doug & Lynn Weaver

*We know many others will join you!*

Again, on behalf of hundreds of young people, thank you! I hope you understand the example you set and the encouragement you are to others to do the same.

*Thank You!*



# The best week in barbershop gets even better

Scholarships, big discounts for choruses and for bringing first-timers (and baritones)

What's the best thing about Harmony University? Ask anyone who's been there and you'll get an earful. Fifty accomplished instructors at the top of the craft spend a whole week helping you learn to sing, direct, interpret and write music like the best of them. After an intense week of instruction, socializing and tagging, you'll leave with the inside scoop!

**\$100 off if you bring a first-timer.** If you've been to Harmony University in the last five years and bring either a first-timer or someone who hasn't been in at least five years, you get \$100 off your tuition! (Note: the "brought" person identifies the "bringer.") Valid through June 30. Go to [www.barbershop.org/hu](http://www.barbershop.org/hu) for details.



## Attend Harmony U as a chorus and take \$45 off per man

Bring 12 or more men from one chapter and spend an entire coaching College catered to the chorus's needs and wants. Either receive all-day coaching (like quartets do), or adjust the schedule so you attend some classes and some coaching each day.

In 2012, **Sound of the Rockies** chose to sit out in Portland and instead attended Harmony University as an entire chorus. Here are some of their experiences:

### What's Harmony University like?

- "It's like drinking barbershop experience out of a fire hose!" — *Carlos Aguayo*
- "The superstars of our hobby are there to teach you everything they know. It's much like Michael Jordan teaching you how to play basketball and then later on getting to play in a pickup game with him." — *Kevin Keller*
- "You'll make friends and connections that will last a lifetime." — *Anita Marie Norman*
- "I literally learn(ed) more in one week at HU about barbershop than I do in the entire year! It's sort of like the Rosetta Stone for Barbershop through immersion. And Vocal Spectrum wouldn't have formed without it." — *Eric Dalbey (lead, Vocal Spectrum)*
- "It's the people you socialize and make friends with that you probably would never have met otherwise. And there's unlimited ice cream, too!" — *Vernon Simkins*
- "Anyone who is already a leader at some level ... should participate in HU." — *J.R. "Digger" MacDougall*
- "You think conventions are fun? Amazing harmony, the best friends, late night tags ... now times that by seven days and you have HU." — *Jay Dougherty*
- "Best education ever! Oh, and the singing! You'll smile so hard that your cheeks hurt!" — *Melany Schmitt-Huston*
- "The best investment of time and money for myself, my chapter and for the future of barbershop harmony." — *Paul Carey Olguin*

## Dozens of Harmony University scholarships available for 2013

The following scholarships are available to attend the PREMIER Educational Event of the Barbershop Harmony Society. All scholarships include full tuition and board; none include travel costs. To those interested, please read the full rules for each scholarship at <http://tinyurl.com/HUScholars> before applying.

### Sponsored by Harmony Foundation

**Director's College.** Front-line directors, assistant directors or aspiring directors who have not received a Society/Harmony Foundation Scholarship within the last five years are eligible. Recipients must commit to enroll and pursue Director Certification. Download applications at [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org) and send to Education Department, Attn. Director's College Scholarship, 110 7th N, Nashville, TN 37203. For more information, contact Mike O'Neill at [moneill@barbershop.org](mailto:moneill@barbershop.org) or 615-673-4126.

**Bring Your Baritone Free.** If you sign up for the quartet track (Quartet College) at Harmony University, it's four for the price of three, courtesy of Harmony Foundation and the Larry Ajer Endowment. Scholarships are limited. Contact [slewis@barbershop.org](mailto:slewis@barbershop.org) or 615-673-4122.

**Music Educators.** If you are a professional music educator interested in barbershop-style singing or

struggling to find more males for your program, contact James Estes at 615-673-4124 or [jestes@barbershop.org](mailto:jestes@barbershop.org).

### Other sponsors

**Larry Ajer.** For a successful, active, competing quartet wanting to reach the next level. Details at [tinyurl.com/HUScholars](http://tinyurl.com/HUScholars). Mail completed applications to the Education Department, Attn. Larry Ajer Scholarship, 110 7th N, Nashville, TN 37203. Contact Adam Scott at 615-673-4125, or [ascott@barbershop.org](mailto:ascott@barbershop.org).

**Earl Moon.** Sponsored by the Whittier, Calif., chapter this pays tuition for first-time Barbershopper attendees who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend. Download application at [www.choralaires.org](http://www.choralaires.org) and submit to Paul Feinzimer, Whittier Choralaires, P.O. Box 482 / La Mirada, CA 90637 by May 1. Reach Paul at [paul.feinzimer@gmail.com](mailto:paul.feinzimer@gmail.com)

**Lou Perry.** Awarded to the creator of the best original arrangement as evaluated by eminent arrangers. Songs

from any era qualify, as long as they are arranged in the barbershop style and are "something that might be heard on a chapter show." Young arranging talent is especially encouraged. Deadline: Send Finale or PDF files to [RobCampbell@aya.yale.edu](mailto:RobCampbell@aya.yale.edu) or to PO Box 9335, San Diego, CA 92169.

**Association of International Senior Quartet Champions.** Two scholarships to talented directors or potential directors of youth choruses. Contact John Fynmore at [jfynmore@sunrisemortgage.com](mailto:jfynmore@sunrisemortgage.com) by March 31.

**Jim Miller.** This scholarship is provided for educational advancement in directing barbershop music. A strong candidate for the Jim Miller Directors' College scholarship must exhibit a strongly rooted conviction for improving the people under his or her tutelage in the areas of technique, musicality, and stage presence. He must also demonstrate actions that affect the preservation of the barbershop style. Send all applications to: *Jay Hawkins@insightbb.com* by June 15.

- “Taking our chorus to Harmony University was one of the greatest educational, camaraderie-building and purely fun events we have done in my 13 years with the chorus ... a definite highlight of my barbershop career!” – *Darin Drown (director)*
- “I have been to Harmony College seven times by myself and found it to be a very enlightening experience. But this summer, as a member of a chorus, I found it to be not only enlightening but also extremely bonding with my brothers in Sound of the Rockies. The show Saturday evening in the Missouri Theater, an amazingly restored venue, was one of the high points of my experience with the Sound of the Rockies. Coaching, learning, and singing together at Harmony University has been one of the greatest experiences in my 25-year barbershop career, and the quality of our recent performances prove that.” – *John Manion*
- “Words cannot adequately express the joy of spending a week with your own chorus. In 2012, 90 members of Sound of the Rockies (Denver Mile High Chapter) attended Harmony Univer-

sity in St Joseph. 24/7 togetherness! Two-a-day rehearsals, with amazing coaches from the faculty. It was transformational. And we still had time to attend other great classes. Oh, and did I mention late night tags and ice cream! What fun! We came home a much better chorus!” – *George Davidson*

Also, in 2009, the **Western Hospitality Singers** from Calgary, Alb., attended HU as an entire chorus and had such a great time, they are “seriously considering coming back in 2014.” They attribute a lot of their growth and improvement to the week long, intensive coaching and guidance they received from their time at HU. In Fall of 2009 they had 40 guys on their roster, and scored a 68% with 28 guys on stage. Over the last three years, the chorus has grown to over 50 guys on their roster and, put 39 guys on the contest stage and their score improved to 73%! They’ve recently requested information on what it would take for them to attend again in 2014! A true testament to the experience they received. ■

[www.barbershop.org/hu](http://www.barbershop.org/hu)



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WORLD HARMONY

# JAMBOREE<sup>2013</sup>

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[www.barbershop.org/toronto-international-jamboree.html](http://www.barbershop.org/toronto-international-jamboree.html)

**The line-up – so far**

Ringmasters, BHS Intl 2012 Q'tet Champ  
Ambassadors of Harmony, BHS 2012 Chorus Intl Champ  
North Metro chorus, SAI 2013 Chorus Intl Champs  
Musical Island Boys, NZABS, 2012 Intl quartet silver medallists  
Vocal Evolution, chorus champs AHS  
Grand Central, 2012 chorus champs BABS  
Crossfire/Steel, q'tets BABS  
Lemon Squeazy, BHS 2012 Intl College Champ  
Ladies First, BinG! 2012 chorus champs  
...and more to come!

The event MC'd by John Newell, lead of Realtime, 2005 Intl q'tet champs!



# Welcome new members! Thank you recruiters!

New members who joined between May 1, 2012 and December 15, 2012. Each recruiter's name follows in italics.

## Cardinal

Cole Aldridge  
*Marc Hagn*  
 John Anderson  
*Charles Rose*  
 Paul Antisdell, Jr.  
*Kerry Foley*  
 Robbie Brown  
*Donald Brown*  
 Tom Campbell  
*Charles*  
*Schladand*  
 Nathan Colglazier  
*Justin Bilby*  
 Brandon Crecelius  
*David Schroeder*  
 Ray Danford  
*Scott Wiederoder*  
 Jamie Duvall  
*Frank Repper*  
 Eric Ewald  
*John Sutton*  
 Jay Fortner  
*Steve Brodersen*  
 Jomy Francis  
*David Haines*  
 John Geyer  
*Harry Stack*  
 Chuck Gromer  
*Keith Hoover*  
 Luc Hartwell  
*David Meneely*  
 John Hight  
*Walter Anderson*

Richard Humke  
*John Sutton*  
 Hugh Jones  
*Rod McMillin*  
 Bradley Kieper  
*Garry Teixeira*  
 Keith Lindley  
*Colin Craig*  
 Dave Lobeck  
*Mike Ehringer*  
 Marvin Mattingly  
*Warren Donaldson*  
 Paul Minning  
*David Meneely*  
 Fritz Minning  
*David Meneely*  
 Tim O'Reilly  
*Matthew Huffman*  
 Mike Payne  
*Walter Anderson*  
 Corey Reynolds  
*David Meneely*  
 Joel Robinson  
*John Robinson*  
 Don Whitehouse  
*Walter Anderson*  
 Bob Wigginton  
*Charles Luecke*  
 David Young, Jr.  
*Jon Nicholas*

## Central States

Zach Anderson

*Ron Flock*  
 Kameron Barker  
*Eric Boyd*  
 Kyle Batchelder  
*Mark Fortino*  
 Cal Baumgartner  
*Jim Sweers*  
 Philip Brownrigg  
*Alan Pommier*  
 Cutty Castillo  
*Ray Brown*  
 Jerry Clemmens  
*Gary Lindsay*  
 Justin Collins  
*Ralph Sill*  
 Gardner Davis  
*Ethan Walsh*  
 Butters Davis  
*Jayson Ryner*  
 Mike Dressman  
*Terry Smith*  
 Andrew Duff  
*Caleb Duff*  
 Ed DuPree  
*Buster Baxter*  
 Aaron Ely  
*Nathan Green*  
 Esben Enriquez  
*Mike Scott*  
 Alex Fullerton  
*Ronald Johnson*  
 Barrie Gnagy  
*Rick Kready*  
 George Graham

*John Robb*  
 Geoffrey Hargrave  
*Brian Hargrave*  
 David Hippen  
*John Downs*  
 Eli Hoefler  
*Nathan Spilker*  
 Gregory Hosmer  
*J D Massa*  
 Warren Hull  
*Matt Seivert*  
 Carl Johnson  
*Larry Sills*  
 Logan Johnson  
*Ronald Johnson*  
 Kaleb Jorgensen  
*P.D. Stibor*  
 Aidan Jurotich  
*Adam Jurotich Sr.*  
 Edward Kammer  
*Dean Carlisle*  
 Steve Keisker  
*Jim Bagby*  
 Charlie Kemp  
*Thomas Wishart*  
 Steve Kohlbry  
*Roger Nelson*  
 Mike Koster  
*Larry Shay*  
 Donald Kracke  
*Randy Fischer*  
 Jeffry Larson  
*David McVey*  
 Mike McCormick

*Kenneth Munch*  
 Josh McCrickard  
*Robert McClellan*  
 Dylan McKeage  
*Ronald Johnson*  
 Joseph McQueen  
*Jim Griffith*  
 Kevin Moler  
*Jeff Moler*  
 Heath Mueller  
*Nick Groves*  
 Andrew Myers  
*Tim Myers*  
 Tom Neill  
*Harvey Kiser*  
 Joel Nettles  
*Vince Bower*  
 Josh Nienhueser  
*Larry Edgar*  
 Oran Obering  
*Darryl Baker*  
 Tony O'Brien  
*Don Fuson*  
 Paul Pancoast  
*Jazz Rucker*  
 Dave Parker  
*Steven Fisher*  
 Darrell Parks  
*Don Thomson*  
 Taylor Petersen  
*Ryan Ask*  
 Christopher Pingel  
*Jason Martin*  
 Brian Poppe

*Graeme Allen*  
 Bob Pratt  
*Harold Nentrup*  
 Charles Reimer  
*Robert Griffith*  
 Alex Ritter  
*Fred Ritter*  
 Kevin Selle  
*George Vits*  
 Donald Shafer  
*Marty Nelson*  
 Bradley Sheeley  
*Sandy Gumm*  
 Will Sheldon  
*Ethan Walsh*  
 Joe Simpson  
*Adam Jurotich Sr.*  
 Zach Simpson  
*Dillon Thornton*  
 Gage Snyder  
*Adam Busby*  
 Mike Snyder  
*Jayson Ryner*  
 Jeff Swanson  
*Aaron Powell*  
 Roger Thaden  
*Gene Torrens*  
 Dillon Thornton  
*Zane Sutton*  
 David Troup  
*Kenneth Lyle*  
 Hayden Vaughn  
*Harold Nentrup*  
 Randall Walton  
*Tom Read*  
 Scott Wilcox  
*Robert Kerdus*  
 Christopher Witt  
*Matt Seivert*  
 Bill Wolf  
*Leonard Purvis*  
 AJ Young  
*Mike Nelson*  
 Gary Zhorne  
*Myrvin Samuelson*  
 Steve Zuniga  
*Gary Straatmann*

*Michael Allen*  
 Bently Goodwin  
*Keith Therrell*  
 Gene Griffith  
*Douglas*  
*Longerbone*  
 Camden Hine  
*Clay Hine*  
 Paul Hoover  
*Greg Detty*  
 Neil Hutcheson  
*Lars Grevstad*  
 Ron Jenkins  
*William Boggs*  
 Matthew Johnson  
*Jacob Strong*  
 Doug Johnson  
*Mike Williams*  
 Jim Keels  
*Robert Smith*  
 Kevin Lane  
*Freddie Braswell*  
 Zachary Lee  
*Jason Lee*  
 Christopher Loftin  
*Howard McAdory*  
 Mike Lowry  
*Ignatius Brown*  
 Drew Nelson  
*Dinesh Gurgur*  
 Paul Nelson  
*Jack Hale*  
 Logan Pirkle  
*John Pirkle, Jr.*  
 Jimmy Rainey  
*Gary Mcpherson*  
 Robert Reed  
*Gary Taylor*  
 Benjamin  
 Rentschler  
*Jimmy Matthews*  
 Neal Robinson  
*Marcellus Scott*  
 Sam Sanderson  
*Graham Roden*  
 Troy Slezak  
*Buddy Kell*  
 Steven Smith  
*Ray Taylor*  
 Alex Termulo  
*Forest Cox*  
 Joe Traugher  
*Ryan Modrall*  
 Randal Wilcox  
*Buddy Kell*  
 Daniel Williams  
*Brian Williams*  
 Mike Williams  
*Don Liechty*

*Arlo Bower*  
 Jonathan Burton  
*Del Mottelet*  
 Rich Calvi  
*Stephen Combes*  
 CJ Carlson  
*Franklin Smith*  
 Dillon Carson  
*Brandon Henderson*  
 Ken Carter  
*Joel Jacobson*  
 Neville Cordell  
*John Hubbard*  
 Jim Corey  
*Don Fergie*  
*Ferguson*  
 Nemia Darwell  
*Tim Joveski*  
 Ben Dunbar  
*Fredrick Hodges*  
 Jason Durfee  
*Joseph Livesey*  
 Andrew Durfree  
*Shad Durfee*  
 Scott Fikse  
*Ian Kelly*  
 Michael Fossler  
*Jim MacMillan*  
 Jim Gemmill  
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 Philip Haines  
*Bob King*  
 Michael Halvorson  
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*Dominic Garguile*  
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*Josh Honrud*  
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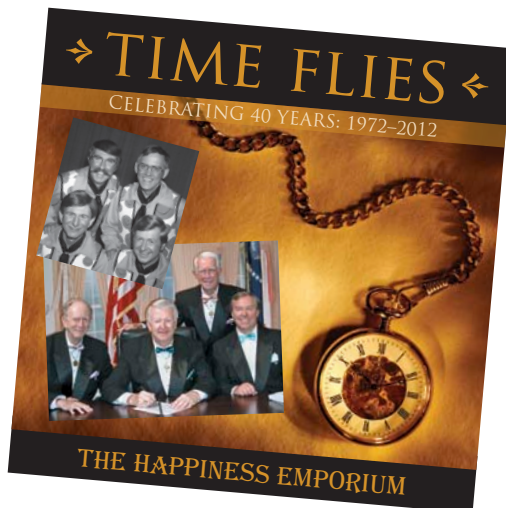
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 Accustomed to this Pace  
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 Old Bones Medley  
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 The Fleeting Mind  
 At Sixty-five  
 It's Hard to be Nimble  
 Old Guys Too-Much Tag  
 Rockin' Chair Song

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*Buddy Kell*  
 Charlie Bright  
*Brandon*  
*Middlebrooks*  
 Paul Butterworth  
*Buddy Kell*  
 Victor Clarke  
*Joe G Giordullo*  
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## Barbershopper does serious clowning around; “Changes fear to cheer”

Rob Divers loves singing lead for the **Vocal Majority** (SWD). And he loves his work as a registered nurse in Dallas. But what he loves even more is bringing joy into the lives of his patients as a Clinical Performance Artist, making rounds from bed to bed in the pediatric hospital as “Magic Nurse Rob.”



**Rob Divers has accompanied his hero, the real Patch Adams, on humanitarian missions.**

Rob has been a medical professional for 18 years, beginning as an emergency trauma nurse. A professionally-trained clown magician, he has infused music and performance magic into his clinical practice, “to bring more **Art** to his patients, softening some of the **Science** of medicine,” as he puts it.

Rob is a regular RN volunteer magician at Camp TLC for the Spina Bifida Association of North Texas, where he holds magic classes and helps the kids to prepare for a magic show for the whole camp. He also performs regularly at the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

Rob’s journey to clowning began in November of 1999, when his 56-year-old mother, from whom he inherited all his artistic ability, was dying of lung cancer. It was her wish to spend her last days in his hospital. During their last afternoon together, she wanted to watch the *Patch Adams* movie with him, and she wanted him to be Patch’s nurse. That last

wish was finally fulfilled when Rob wrote to Patch and shared with him the influence his movie had on his mother and on his nursing practice, and in a handwritten response, Adams shared with Rob his story about how his mother had also influenced him. Adams invited Rob to join him and 15 others on a humanitarian trip to Costa Rica last September to learn how to use the power of clowning to care for people in the harshest of conditions.

Adams led the group, among whom were physicians, nurses and other humanitarian activists, into a Nicaraguan refugee settlement called La Carpio, built on a dump outside San Jose. They clowned for kids and families in extreme poverty for two days. Other visits included the San Jose Children’s Hospital Burn Unit, the state mental institution, and the state prison. Adams makes six humanitarian trips each year to very difficult areas of the world, including war zones.

“During the week, Patch lived and shared his life with us, and we became good friends. I hope to take many more trips with him in the future,” says Rob. “It’s all in the same spirit as singing barbershop. You just try to do whatever you can to brighten someone’s day.”



**“Tater” the tramp clown entertains Make-a-Wish kids on a three-hour train ride in Dallas/Ft. Worth in Oct. 2012.**



**A visit from The Magic Nurse brightens a patient’s day in pediatric hospitals.**



**The East Texas Men in Harmony were honored to be a part of the annual “I Love America” Celebration at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas, July 1-2, 2012. The chorus joined a 350-voice choir and 50-piece orchestra for the celebration and sang for more than 10,000 people in three services. This annual event is a moving patriotic tribute not only to the United States but also to the veterans who serve. The chorus honored one of its own, Buster Barlow, a World War II veteran. The chorus opened the performance by singing three traditional barbershop songs. Later they sang “God Bless the USA,” with the melody sung by current Army first lieutenant Adam Renfroe. The church also serves as the rehearsal home for the chorus. The chorus has been asked to return and sing in the celebration in 2013.**

# Happiness Emporium goes to the slammer to share barbershop harmony

Somehow, **Happiness Emporium** (LOL) managed to stay out of the pokey for almost 40 years, but last July, they finally landed in the big house. It all came about because Chaplain Joshua Sendawula of the Stafford Creek Correction Center (SCCC) in Aberdeen, Wash., contacted them in 2011, asking permission for their inmates to hand-copy some of the group's arrangements for their 25-member gospel chorus to sing. They decided to make it easier on the inmates by sending them printed folios and learning CDs they had on hand.

Then, as they were preparing for their Good News! Gospel Sing program for international convention in Portland, it occurred to them that since they would be in the vicinity of the SCCC, wouldn't it be great if they could visit the guys and sing in person? So they called Chaplain Sendawula, who was thrilled about the idea.

So, on July 11, 2012, right after the Portland convention, Bob, Jim, Rick and Rod went through the detailed

check-in at the facility, leaving all their personal items in lockers, except for the all-important pitch pipe. They had lunch inside the facility at The Hard



**Bob Dowma, Jim Foy, Rick Anderson, and Rod Johnson entered through the "not-so-pearly gates" to sing with inmates in prison in Aberdeen, Washington last July.**

Times Cafe, then practiced with the inmate chorus.

The inmates' quartet asked if the group would "lend them a tenor," and Bob Dowma happily supplied that part for them. The inmates were nervous about singing in front of their peers,

since they hadn't had much chance to practice. Extra activities in the facility require a sponsor/volunteer to be with them, and a local barbershopper is only able to help them about once a month. But, the guys did a great job and were happy to have Bob singing with them.

During one of their segments, SCCC staff member Don Salz, a second-generation Barbershopper and staff Psychologist and Mental Health Supervisor, sang with them. Don later said, "You all had a powerful impact on the men. They get few experiences inside prison that allow them to feel as valuable and loved individuals. Thank you for your generosity."

As the Happiness Emporium was leaving the facility, they were told that they were the only outside group scheduled to appear there in the entire year. Jim speaks for the group by saying, "Of all the Gospel Sings, Gospel shows ... this to me was my biggest blessing since joining the Good News! Quartet in 1993." ■

[www.happinessemporium.com](http://www.happinessemporium.com)

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

Society members reported as deceased between Oct. 15 and Dec. 31, 2012. E-mail updates to [membership@barbershop.org](mailto:membership@barbershop.org).

<b>Cardinal</b> Bruce Wellum <i>Terre Haute, IN</i>	<i>St Louis No 1, MO</i>	Donald Hunter <i>Carson City, NV</i>	<i>Fresno, CA</i>	M Pacewicz <i>Cleveland East, OH</i>	<i>Montclair, NJ</i>	<i>Gratiot County, MI</i>	<b>Sunshine</b> Grover Baker <i>Orlando, FL</i>
<b>Dixie</b> Tom Eck <i>Lake Lanier, GA</i>		David Jungroth <i>Frank Thorne</i>	<b>Illinois</b> David Anderson <i>Chicago Metro, IL</i>	Jack Walls <i>Lima Beane, OH</i>	<b>Northeastern</b> Michael Joyce <i>Pittsfield, MA</i>	<i>Alpena, MI</i>	Robert Blackwood <i>Orlando, FL</i>
<b>Central States</b> Sam Focer <i>Greater Atlanta, GA</i>		David Jungroth <i>San Mateo Cnty, CA</i>	Lyle Pauley <i>Northbrook, IL</i>	Richard Plaisted <i>Minneapolis, MN</i>	Joseph Zustin <i>Bridgeport, CT</i>	<i>Saginaw Bay, MI</i>	John Church <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Frank Andreesen <i>Ord, NE</i>		Gene Kessler <i>Canada Del Oro, AZ</i>	David Sanders <i>Carbondale, IL</i>	Alfred Szesny <i>Green Bay, WI</i>	<i>Central, CT</i>	<i>Huron Valley, MI</i>	Peter Theisen <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Vernie Ayres <i>Joplin, MO</i>		Joseph La Barge <i>Prescott, AZ</i>		Lynn Tollefson <i>Faribault, MN</i>	<b>Carolinas</b> Tom VanEiten <i>Beaufort, SC</i>	<i>Robert Westover</i> <i>Gaylord, MI</i>	Douglas Davey <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Robert Bennett <i>Kearney, NE</i>	<b>Evergreen</b> Michael Bolek <i>Coeur D'Alene, ID</i>	Phil Lane <i>South Orange</i> <i>County, CA</i>	<b>Johnny Appleseed</b> Robert Curry <i>Lima Beane, OH</i>				Edward McAvoy <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Carl French <i>Leavenworth, KS</i>	Gerald Erb <i>Juan De Fuca, WA</i>	Terry Lazzari <i>Marin, CA</i>	Vaughn Eggert <i>Gr: Pittsburgh, PA</i>	<b>Mid-Atlantic</b> George Blanton, Jr. <i>Dundalk, MD</i>	<b>Ontario</b> David Adams <i>Barrie, ON</i>	<b>Rocky Mountain</b> William Simons <i>Denver Mountain</i> <i>Aires, CO</i>	Stanley Potokar <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Jim Goldkamp <i>St Louis Sub., MO</i>	John Haley <i>Nanaimo, BC</i>	Chuck Nicoloff <i>Greater Phoenix, AZ</i>	Bill Hamilton <i>Gr: Pittsburgh, PA</i>	William Cook <i>Montclair, NJ</i>	Donald Coghlin <i>Mount Forest, ON</i>	DeVere Walker <i>San Juan Cnty, NM</i>	Robert Price <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Edward Kammer <i>St Louis Sub., MO</i>	David Munroe <i>Great Falls, MT</i>	Chuck Nicoloff <i>Central Arizona</i> <i>(Quartet Chapter)</i>	Stewart Haylock <i>Xenia, OH</i>	Gordon Harrison <i>Princeton, NJ</i>	Paul Millard <i>Newmarket, ON</i>		Robert Rowe <i>Greater Sun City</i> <i>Center, FL</i>
Gordon Manion <i>St Charles, MO</i>	<b>Far Western</b> Randall Conner <i>South Orange</i> <i>County, CA</i>	Ted Petersen <i>Carson City, NV</i>	Joseph Juscak <i>Beaver Valley, PA</i>	John Kelly, Jr. <i>Bucks County, PA</i>	David Wilkie <i>Mount Forest, ON</i>	<b>Seneca Land</b> Milford Brougham <i>Headwaters, PA</i>	William Smith <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Raymond McLean <i>St Louis No 1, MO</i>	Jerry Pike <i>Des Moines, IA</i>	Jim Rathbun <i>Visalia, CA</i>	Gerald Kelly <i>Greater Kanawha</i> <i>Valley, WV</i>	Arthur Pitre <i>Manhattan, NY</i>	Paul Millard <i>Newmarket, ON</i>	<i>Olean, NY</i>	William Stambaugh <i>Orlando, FL</i>
Joplin, MO	Robert Schlueter <i>St Louis Sub., MO</i>	John Staley <i>Bay Area, CA</i>	French City, OH	Gordon Prout <i>Red Bank Area, NJ</i>	David Wilkie <i>Mount Forest, ON</i>	<i>Bradford, PA</i>	Mike Yavits <i>Palm Beach</i> <i>County, FL</i>
Robert Schlueter <i>St Louis Sub., MO</i>	Charles Vickers <i>Frank Thorne</i>	John Staley <i>Bay Area, CA</i>	<i>Athens Co, OH</i>	Bill Verity <i>State College, PA</i>	Albert Beaver <i>Frank Thorne</i>	<i>Saginaw Bay, MI</i>	Boca Raton, FL
John Walsh <i>St Louis Sub., MO</i>	Michael House <i>Inland Empire, CA</i>	Werner Tiede <i>Stockton, CA</i>	Al Knapp <i>Wheeling Metro, WV</i>	Robert Werner <i>Bryn Mawr, PA</i>	Dennis Gore <i>Grosse Pointe, MI</i>	<i>David Jensen</i>	<b>Southwestern</b> James Bauer <i>Arlington, TX</i>
		James Warner <i>Gr: Pittsburgh, PA</i>		Jean Wilson			Wally Walston <i>Abilene, TX</i>



# MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTORY

How can we help you barbershop today? Get answers from your staff



## Society Headquarters

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Office hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Central or any time at [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

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**Douglas Gordon**  
Office Support & Receptionist  
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### Education and Services

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