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THE ReCHORDeR August 2004

The RECHORDER
JUDGED the best bulletin in the
barbershop SOCIETY

LINCOLN CONTINENTALS
JUDGED THE BEST CHORUS IN
THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

CSD Groups/Members
Shine at Louisville
International Convention!

By Ron Morden, CSD President

It was definitely CSD's year in Louisville! On Friday, the first CSD champion to be crowned was in the College Quartet competition, where *VOCAL SPECTRUM* were literally runaway winners, achieving a score higher than any other college quartet's had previously accomplished! Our other two college quartet competitors, *DELUGE* and *SMORGASCHORDS* also made fine showings, coming in 12th and 19th respectively. College quarteting in CSD is definitely the benchmark other districts seek to emulate...and with good reason!

Saturday's chorus competition brought our second CSD winners, the *AMBASSADORS OF HARMONY* chorus, earning their (and CSD's) first International Chorus championship, scoring an impressive 92.7% score! The *HEART OF AMERICA* chorus also sang at the "A" level, achieving 13th place in an extremely tough contest.

The quartet finals saw *12TH STREET RAG* mic testing, having achieved the 11th place spot. *3 MEN & A MELODY* earned a 10th place ranking, their first time as International Finalists.

Other awards earned by CSD members and groups included the St. Joseph, Mo. chapter, who recruited more new members in 2003 (26) than any other chapter in the Society. **AOH director Jim Henry** was presented with the MENC's National Music Educator of the Year award.

CSD members also received several **PROBE** awards as well.

- **Dick DeLorm** (Lincoln, NE) won first place award in the 2003 IBC (Hard Copy category) competition.
- Top honors in the Online category went to **David Haase** (Iowa City, IA)
- The 2003 P.R. Officer of the year (single event) honors went to **Fred Teller** (Hastings, NE).
- P.R. Officer of the year (year long program) was earned by **Hal Maples** (St Charles, MO).

CSD couldn't be prouder of all our competitors. To all, we say "**congratulations on your achievements**"!

Subject: new/old/future judges

The deadline for the latest *SERENADE* was such that we could not get this timely news in it, but you should know that the Central States District has three newly minted members of the Society's Contest and Judging Program. Certified at the once-every-three-year school, in St. Joseph, Missouri, were

PRESENTATION -- **Dennis Sorge**, Omaha

MUSIC -- **Adam Reimnitz**, Lincoln

CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.-- **Carter Combs**, Kansas City

and **recertifying** were these old (in some cases, really old) judges:

SINGING -- **Dale Comer**, Lincoln, and **Rik Johnson**, St. Louis

MUSIC -- **Kevin Keller**, St. Charles; **David Wright**, St. Louis; **Jayson Ryner**, Mason City; **Raymond Schwartzkopf**, Overland Park

PRESENTATION--**David Krause** and **Jim Bagby**, Kansas City

CONTEST ADMINISTRATION -- **Bob Swenson**, Manhattan; **Kent McClean**, Kansas City

And, **retiring** from the program, after almost 25 years of service as Interpretation and Presentation Judge, was **Lance Heilmann**, of El Dorado, Kansas

Application for the **2007 Category School** is now open. **Byron Myers, Sr.** of St. Joseph and **Bruce Wenner** of Kansas City already have begun the process. It is challenging, demanding, somewhat costly, but eventually rewarding -- and a way to give something back to the hobby. If you are interested, or want more information, contact me.

Meanwhile, warmest congratulations to Adam, Denny and Carter!

Jim Bagby, CSD VP C&J, 8-7-04

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE FALL DISTRICT CONVENTION

Secretary Mark Fuerness

At the fall CSD Convention, to be held October 8 - 10 in Omaha this year, competitions for choruses from the larger chapters of the district is held. Chapters with membership between 40 and 75 as of December 31, 2003 are designated Plateau AA chapters; chapters with membership greater than 75 compete in the Plateau AAA division. (Choruses from chapters with fewer than 40 members compete in the Plateau A level in the spring.)

The highest scoring chorus in each plateau is named Chorus Champions in their respective plateau for 2004. Simultaneously, the International Preliminary Chorus Contest is conducted in which the first-place chorus will automatically qualify to represent the district in the Summer International Contest to be held in Salt Lake City next year. Choruses with high scores may qualify as "wild cards."

Chapters in Plateau AA are Lincoln with 71 members, St. Joseph, Missouri (70); Mason City, Iowa (67); Manhattan, Kansas, (66); Springfield, Missouri (61); Kearney (60); Beatrice (58); Cedar Rapids, Iowa (57); Davenport, Iowa (56); St. Louis Suburban (50); St. Louis #1 (49); and Algona, Iowa (46).

There are four chapters in Plateau AAA: St. Charles, Missouri (186), Kansas City (138), Fremont (86) and Des Moines (80).

The Central States District Quartet Contest is conducted during the fall convention. All registered CSD quartets who are not past district champions are eligible to compete to become district champions.

And the International Preliminary Senior Quartet Contest is held during at the fall convention. To be eligible to compete as a senior quartet, all members of the quartet must be at least 55 years of age and their aggregate age must be at least 240 years as of the date of the international senior quartet contest in January, 2005. Past district champions meeting the age requirements may compete in CSD Senior Quartet Contests. District senior quartet champions qualify for the International Senior Quartet contest to be held in the International Midwinter Convention held in Jacksonville, Florida in January, 2005.

In addition to chorus and quartet competitions there are special events and many opportunities to sing informally with scheduled tag singing and wood shedding events, a mass sing, and concluding with a church service Sunday morning.

A highlight of the convention is always the Association of Central States Champs (past champs) show held on Friday evening. This year there is talk of having a special event, possibly on Saturday evening, honoring our quartets and choruses which competed in Louisville earlier this month. **St. Charles** won the International Chorus competition!

Tickets are sold separately for these non-competitive events. Harmony market place will be open during non-competition events and there is always an excellent history room where you can learn about our district. If you're inclined to stay up past 11 o'clock there are numerous hospitality rooms

where here you can hear quartets up close and in person. Details of the district convention can be found in the district's *SERENADE* magazine.

SECOND QUARTER RENEWALS

Here is a list of members who have renewed their membership at the end of the second quarter:

Anderson, Bruce
Anderson, Kim
Beek, Terry
DeLorm, Dick
Evans, Chuck
Fuerniss, Mark
Gesch, Heman
Hammer, Dwight
Jones, John
Jordan, Gerry
McGahan, Chris
Neff, Ken
Peterson, Jon
Roberts, Dick

There are a few who haven't renewed yet and this may be a nice reminder.

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS SENT TO ALL MEMBERS FROM TODD WILSON, SOCIETY MARKETING DIRECTOR

We are all aware of the trends that threaten the future of this organization. For your leadership to continue "business as usual" would have been irresponsible.

- I don't know about you, but the fact that we have shrunk from 38,000 in the 80's to a bit over 30,000 in 2004 should concern ALL OF US a great deal.

- The fact that 40% of our members do not participate in chapter activities should concern ALL OF US a great deal.

- The fact that in 15 years, 40% of our members will no longer be able to participate in this hobby should concern ALL OF US a great deal.

- The fact that 50% of our members do not attend our conventions should concern ALL OF US a great deal.

- The fact that people outside our organization view us as old, stodgy and resistant to change should concern ALL OF US a great deal.

In the past, our leadership has been very conservative in its approach to problem solving and in projections, when discussing growth trends or trying to balance the budget and continue vital services and programs to our members.

You know.... phrases like "grow by 1%" per year or "hold steady".

Shouldn't we all aspire for more than just "survival"?

Aren't we clearly capable of MORE?

Can you tell me of any group of volunteers more dedicated and passionate than barbershoppers?

Our organization is undergoing many changes.

These changes are not being implemented just to survive. These changes, if implemented to the greatest potential, can put us in a position to THRIVE.

For example...

- A new Governance and Management Structure has been implemented to create greater alignment, communication and accountability.

- Harmony Hall has been sold and we are seeking a new home that offers greater opportunities and advantages.

- We have our Society staff working under one roof for the first time in years.

- More attention and resources have been focused on finding out what attracts and retains our members than ever before.

- More attention and resources have been focused on finding out what prospects/potential members think of our organization than ever before.

- More attention and resources have been focused on marketing our organization and building awareness than ever before.

- We all know that for any of our programs to produce positive RESULTS, they must experience success at the CHAPTER LEVEL. With only 30% of our chapters currently operating with someone dedicated to marketing on the management team, implementing this Marketing Plan with 70% of our chapters lacking focus in this area would have diminished our potential for success. As such, your Society Board approved a change in chapter by-laws that requires a Marketing VP in all chapters over 25 members and strongly encourages a marketing person in all others, effective January 1, 2005.

- We have received tremendous contributions from the Marketing Task Force and professional organizations like Clarke and Company, Harris Interactive and others.

- Chuck Greene and his Envisioning Task Force (with participation from the Society Board and other Society leaders) has done an excellent job of helping guide us through the important process of revisiting/re-defining our Core Values, our Mission(s) and our Vision.

- A new highly skilled, experienced and visionary CEO has been hired to lead us to new heights. Anyone who has had the opportunity to spend five minutes with Don Harris knows how lucky we are to have him LEADING our team.

I am aware that change does not impact everyone the same way. Some are offended. Some are invigorated by the opportunities. Others seem ambivalent. There is room for everyone.

However, I would love to think that one day “the price of criticism would be a better idea”.

When Rob Hopkins announced the Society Board would be receiving recommendations in Louisville about a new “official” name for our organization, I was stunned at how many people expressed outrage,

began name calling and threatened litigation without even knowing what “new” name they were objecting to.

The name Barbershop Harmony Society was selected, as a great deal of research work and data gathered indicated that name resonated with a vast majority of our members.

I hope that our members and other do not think we would ever make a decision of this magnitude based on a hunch or personal preferences.

I assume the duties of Director of Marketing on August 9. I am honored to serve and extremely committed to helping achieve the objectives of membership growth (40,000 by 2010) and greater awareness (5% to 10%). However, hiring a staff member focused on marketing ALONE is not going to add members to our rosters.

Each of our members needs to take PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY for inviting someone to a chapter meeting. Our chapters must be responsible for presenting an inviting experience that will make a guest want to come back for more.

I see it as my responsibility to work within the leadership team to help implement these important plans, but more importantly to INSPIRE our members to assume PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY for sharing the benefits of this wonderful hobby with anyone and everyone they encounter.

The key to implementing these changes smoothly and productively and increasing “buy in” from our membership starts with carefully crafted Communications Plan that Don Harris and yours truly have already begun crafting. We will not let you down.

Even as we experience and implement change, to quote our new CEO...

“We will not sacrifice those traditions which mean the most to this Society - the importance of our music, the importance of our special fellowship, the joy of ringing a chord, the joy of standing on a riser with men you enjoy and admire.”

These are exciting times! I am glad, and our organization is blessed to have each of you on our team.

Todd Wilson, (Incoming) Director of Marketing

WE GET LETTERS

A THANK YOU from Eastmont Community.

Dear Gentlemen.

Thank You So much for your willingness to share your MANY musical talents with us here at Eastmont! We always look forward to your performance and are never disappointed. Your voices blend together to make a joyful, beautiful, heart-warming sound. What a marvelous evening. Thanks again!

Julie LeFeber and the Eastmont Community

A THANK YOU from Don & Donna Gill.

Thank you for being an important part of our 50th wedding anniversary. We're still getting compliments on your performance. Folks really loved it – some hadn't heard you before. Again, our most sincere thanks!

Don and Donna Gill

Dick,

Belated congratulations on taking first place in the International Bulletin Contest! You really deserved it.

With the Ambassadors of Harmony, the College Quartet from St. Louis, and your bulletin, the Central States District really cleaned up this year.

Let's try to keep the bulletin champs in the Central States for a while.

John Conrad, Editor of the **St. Louis Suburban By-Lines** bulletin and last year's winner of the International Bulletin Editors Contest.

Hi Dick,

CONGRATULATIONS! Indeed you are Number 1. Thanks for keeping me on your mailing list. I always enjoy reading about the Continentals. You are a great bunch. Keep up the good hobby!

In Harmony, **Fred Teller**

A Message from Ron Morden, CSD President

Dick,

Congratulations on your selection in winning the PROBE award for the outstanding chapter bulletin for 2003. Until someone actually assumes the duties of putting out a publication such as the **ReChorder**, they can't truly appreciate all the time and effort it takes to put out a consistently quality product such as yours.

Great job and thank you for all you do for your chapter! Your award added to the list of CSD members who won awards this year in Louisville...I think everyone knows that barbershopping is alive and well in CSD!

See you in Omaha in October..special plans in the works!

NEW MEMBERS



Aaron Smith hails from Culbertson. He graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a degree in Biopsychology. He currently works at the Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department.

Aaron Smith

Aaron sort of grew up around barbershopping. His mother was a Sweet Adeline. He says he sang a few barbershop arrangements in high school and college. He sang in a high school Swing Choir and a Men's Glee Club in college. He was also a percussionist in high school and has dabbled with drums over the past 5 years.

His hobbies include racquetball, **singing tenor**, sand volleyball and basketball.

WELCOME AARON, everyone loves a tenor!

Adam Vander Tuig hails from Aurora, Nebraska. He has a BA in Music and a BA in English from Nebraska Wesleyan University. He claims to have NO experience as a singer (“I am a percussionist”)

Adam VanderTuig

Jon Peterson invited Adam to come sing with the Continentals last Fall. He attended and has been ‘hooked’ ever since.

Adam claims reading, writing, music, friends and family as focal points of his life. He sings lead.

WELCOME ADAM, You make us better!



Kenneth ‘Ken’ Kokes is the newest addition to the baritone (the chosen people) section. Ken hails from Burwell, Nebraska. He and Etta, she is from Burchard, have two children Kevin and Kathryn.

Ken Kokes

Ken earned a BS in Business Administration from the University of Nebraska and worked at the Social Security Administration. He is retired and is living in Lincoln, where he enjoys gardening, barbershop singing and attending athletic events.

He started out singing in high school choir and small groups, then came church choir, and then 32 years of barbershop singing, including several quartets. He transferred to the Lincoln Chapter from Salina, KS

WELCOME KEN, Glad you chose to join us!



A NOTE FROM JON PETERSON

Back from Harmony College ---and how many things may I share with my fellow Continentals.

1. Excitement about our hobby. We are the best at what we do, but we never seem to want to share this great hobby. I am proud to be singing with you and I hope that you have the same feelings. **Dale Comer, Adam Reimnitz** and **Denny Sorge** are outstanding

coaches, judges and members of our group--- we really need to listen to them. Harmony College doesn’t have any better teachers than we have in our own chapter.

2. Different ways to help you with techniques to become better singers.
3. Willing to tell you how many kinds of ice cream is served at HC.
4. Way too many tags to remember---this is my problem.
5. Three really great roommates for the past 2 years.
6. Great new friendships and some renewed.
7. If you have never been to Harmony College, just go for yourself---just ask **Dick Roberts**.

We have had a great summer because we had things to do, 2 shows, cutting a couple of tracks for our CD, and now getting ready for contest. I hope you are planning to go to Omaha---we should put 60 guys on stage. In 2 years we have gained 19 new members, plus 3 transfers---that is 22. **WOW!!**

Start thinking of a new person to introduce to BARBERSHOPPING. Remember, someone has to take your place when you are GONE, GONE, GONE. Guest night in October, after contest, and the CONTINENTALS GO WAFFLING, November 4th.

JULY WAS A BUSY MONTH

July activity began with a Friday evening performance in Henderson, Nebraska. Forty plus Continentals made the long trek to Henderson on July 9th at about 5:30 pm.

When we got to town we were met by a local sheriff, who was directing traffic into town. Seems we got there in time to see the end of a town parade. We joined the end of the parade, and dropped off at the local high school, site of our performance.

We found an open door and were ushered to a locker room. When we had changed to our tuxes we moved to the gym. We started warming up at 7 pm and, following a set by a local jazz band, took over the stage to present our show set. **Roger Pearson** was the MC for this event and he is to be commended for a great job. We received a standing ovation for our efforts. Thanks to all who took the

time to join us and thanks to **Jon Peterson** for setting up this performance.

The following Thursday, July 15th, found a large contingent of Continentals and their significant others at the *Great Family Steak-Out* at the Around-the-Bend Steak House near South Bend, Nebraska. Forty or fifty people attended this social get together set up by **Erv Stohlmann**. Great food, great fellowship and there was even some singing.

Three days later, on a Sunday afternoon, another very large contingent of Continentals were present at Antelope Park, in Lincoln. The occasion was the 50th wedding anniversary of **Don & Donna Gill**. Don has been a large part of our annual show since the late 70's. Don's daughters had hired Auld Recreational Center for the event and had filled it with Don and Donna's favorite people, including the barbershoppers.

The chorus met at the outside band shell for warm-ups on a lovely afternoon. We were soon on stage at the Auld Center. **Dick DeLorm** was the MC for this event. The Continentals sang a number of appropriate songs including one we sang at Don & Donna's daughter's wedding 20 years ago and a favorite song of Don & Donna's from 50 years ago. *Happy Days Are Here Again* was a great song to end the performance. We accepted standing ovation. (see letter).

The next evening, Monday, July 19, the Continentals gathered at the Evangelical Free Church for a special rehearsal, where we recorded two songs for the long awaited Lincoln Continentals CD.

The next Monday, July 26, the Lincoln Continentals gathered at the Eastmont Community Center to prepare for a performance for the residents. At 6:30 pm the chorus walked into a room filled with folks who were very receptive to 'their' kind of music. We sang the whole score of our recent show, and then some. We were shown a standing ovation from the residents (see Letter). **Roger Pearson** again acted as our MC. He is getting more comfortable with each performance.

The Continentals proceeded to Warren Church for our last regular rehearsal of the Month.

Thanks to all for their efforts and thanks to our directors for being there with us.

CONTINENTALS GO WAFFLING

The Lincoln Continentals and the Waffle Man (**Doug McCallum**) have signed an agreement to hold a Waffle Feed on Thursday evening, November 4, 2004. The Location will be the First Evangelical Free Church at 3300 South 84th Street, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Serving times are from 5 to 8:30 pm.

The menu consists of 9 inch Belgian Waffles, sausage links, 7 kinds of syrup, butter blend, non-dairy whipped cream, coffee and juice. Ticket price is \$5.00/person with children under 4 free.

It has been suggested that each barbershopper takes 10 tickets and pays \$50. He is free to sell these 10 tickets to recoup his \$50, or he may give the tickets to friends or people who bought an ad in our show program.

Tom Tipton is working on this event and he presented a proposal to the Board to use this event as a means to:

1. Raise money for the Continentals
2. Promote the chorus
3. Recruit new members
4. Sing and have fun

Costumes:

Long sleeve 'barbershop' shirts with arm garters, black pants and shoes. Waiters add a towel to the arm.

Roles:

Ticket takers & 8 to 10 food servers on a 30 minute rotation.

All arrive 3:30 to 5:15 for set-up

Singing waiters-one at each table- Keep table clean, seat customers, pamper them, Joke with them, Hand out promotional stuff and SING.

Program:

Serve Waffles 5:30 to 8:00 pm

'Spontaneous' singing-lead starts a song. Quartet or VLQ comes together to sing. Then go back to your table.

Recruit customers to sing

Give them each a *'I Sang Barbershop Harmony With The Lincoln Continentals'* T-shirt

KITCHEN "VOLUNTEERS" SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

ED SHAW

- F. JOHN JONES
- R. KEN SCHUETTE
- O. MILT HAVEKOST
- G. WALLY WHITEHURST

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER

- 9-3 Roy Christensen
- 9-8 Jamey Nygren
- 9-9 Dick DeLorm
Bob Swan
- 9-10 Jim Peterson
- 9-11 Terry Beek
- 9-14 Dick Roberts
- 9-29 Charlie Clauss

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER

- 9-5 Herman Jr. & Cynthia Gesch
Marv & Vickie Ehly
- 9-21 Dale & Shirley Heiliger
Don & Phyliss Wunderlich
- 9-30 Tim & Kris Olson

THE LINCOLN CONTINENTALS 2004 – CONTEST PROCEDURES

The Fall Central States District is in Omaha, Nebraska on October 8-10, 2004. Extra contest rehearsals, on Thursday nights will begin on Thursday, September 9 (7:30 to 9 :00 pm) We will not meet on Labor day September 6th. We also hope to schedule some extra coaching sessions with various folks.

In light of our continued successes at contest over the past several years, the Chapter board and the

Music Team have decided to use the qualification procedures again this year for our contest chorus.

Every member of the Continentals who wishes to compete in Omaha MUST establish that he knows all the correct notes to the contest songs by the end of rehearsal on Monday, August 30, 2004. After that rehearsal, only those members who have completed the contest qualification process will be asked to sing on the risers during that portion of our weekly rehearsal when we prepare for contest. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

A member of the chorus can establish that he knows all the correct notes in one of three ways;

1. He can prepare a tape while standing in the chorus. Turn over the tape to a reviewer.
2. He can sing his part with the learning tape during a one-on-one session with a tape reviewer.
3. He can sing his part in a quartet with three other qualified members, before a reviewer

Schedule;

August 30- Final Date to complete qualification process.

September 13- Begin contest chorus rehearsals from 9:00 to 10:00 pm, after regular chapter meeting

Choreography proficiency for the contest songs will also be made by the Choreography team. If necessary, members may be asked to work one-on-one or in small groups to perfect choreography.

EACH MEMBER WHO WISHES TO GO TO CONTEST IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING HIS OWN QUALIFICATION PROCESS BY AUGUST 30!

Here's one from Don Gill

To celebrate their 50th anniversary, a husband booked a round of Golf for his wife and himself on a trip to famous old St. Andrews' Golf Course in Scotland.

On the third tee, the husband hesitated in teeing off and turned slowly to his wife and said contritely, "Darling, I have to confess something. Twenty years ago I had a brief affair. It meant nothing. I hope you can Forgive me."

His wife was hurt but said, "Dearest, those days are long gone. What we have now is far more valuable. I forgive you."

They embraced and kissed.

On the seventeenth tee, the husband was starting his back swing when the wife blurted out, "I'm sorry, darling, I've been so conscience-stricken since you told me, but since we're being honest with each other, I have something to tell you also. Fifty-two years ago I had a sex change operation; I was a man before I met you. I hope you can forgive me."

The husband, froze at the top of his back swing, then threw a fit! He slammed the driver into the ground, kicked the ball into the sea, stormed off the tee, pushed the golf cart over on its side, broke the rest of his clubs one by one, then started on his wife's clubs.

He screamed and ranted, "You liar...you cheat ... you despicable deceiver! How could you? I trusted you with all my heart and soul...and all these years you've been playing off the ladies' tees?!"

MAKEUP!

We know, most of you guys hate it 'cause it makes you look like a "sissy", etc., but here's the skinny on why it's necessary. Under the mega-watt, ultra bright stage lights, even the ruddiest complexion gets "washed out," and if you're as pale as most of us are, after being inside all winter, without it you look like a corpse (before the mortician makes you look "natural")!

In other words makeup adds life and expression to your face, even when you are not as involved as you should be. Our intention is to brighten and liven your face by giving it color, and we try to do that while still making you look "natural". The base or pancake adds color, warmth, uniformity, smoothes-out some wrinkles and hides some blemishes, and the rouge and lip gloss adds the color your face would have after being outside in the cold, or after exercising or after a brisk shower. You've probably all heard or used the expression, "looks like a fresh faced kid". You will notice that little time is spent on the younger member's makeup. They are almost perfect as is. The highlites are there to catch the lights and make you appear to be leaning forward.

The makeup committee can use some additional help. **Dick DeLorm** will teach you all you need to know, before the day of the contest.

Thanks to **Dale Heiliger** and **Gerry Wirth** for their help before the show and **Darby Vannier** at contest. If I missed anyone, my fault, let me know.

The previous article was mostly lifted from the Kansas City HARMONOTES, edited by Todd Anderson