Summertime is for loafing, right? Well, not for the Big Chief Chorus! We had a good turnout July 26 as Freddie led 34 men thru “Cabaret.” He used the 4x4x4x4 method that is spreading thru the region. (Four times listening to the music without singing. Four times singing the musical notes with just a “loo” or other vowel sound. Four times just mouthing the words without worrying about the music. And then four times singing words and music with the aid of the paper.) By the end of the evening, we sang thru the whole song with minimal use of paper. This is a method to isolate the various regions of the brain – words, music – and then putting it all together. After that, one may be ready to sing without the paper to the learning tracks – available at www.bigchiefchorus.org. It also seemed to help singers to practice the song at 80% of tempo, using Audacity software to change the tempo without changing the pitch. (But it did make Tim Waurick’s posts awfully long!) The evening ended with our new habit of assistant directors Mike Frye and Bill Holmes leading us thru the “Irish Parting prayer” and “Keep the Whole World Singing.”

Freddie intends to continue with this method next week on “It’s a Good Day.” (Tom Blue continues at Blue Lake camp thru August 2.)

From Director Tom:
Men and Friends of the BCC, Thank you for your nice work on our performance at Lockwood. Thanks to 36+ of you for taking the time to come and sing. It does my heart good. I thought we sang well for a very appreciative audience. It was good to have several quartets. Can we have even more than five quartets and maybe some new faces? Thank you also for the nice time at our favorite watering hole. It was nice to be able to eat with you and not have to worry about teaching the next a.m. Let’s keep up the good work!

From Prez Jack:
Our August 21 performance at Bowers’ School Farm was a result of the “Bob Wallace Four” serenading two ladies during the ride in the parking bus from Log Cabin Days. It amazes me how and where the invitations come to sing at the various events that we do. The power of music is amazing. I continue to be impressed by the relaxed manner that the Big Chief Chorus presents itself. You are quite a likeable bunch. Remember that you are a disciplined chorus with all eyes on the director, but being humble enough to mingle with your audience following the performance.

AROUND THE PATCH
The Big Chief Chorus forewent its practice on Tuesday night, July 12, for an enjoyable performance for forty residents and staff at Lockwood of Waterford. (Voted “Best non-fed event of the Year” by the Lockwood residents) Tom Blue led the chorus thru a 15-song set that was interspersed by the songs of five (count them, five!) quartets. MILLER’S WHEEL (Stephenson et al), 4GVN, SUNNYSIDE, LIMITED EDITION, and NATURAL E all sang.

Of the 38 men present at Lockwood, 34 gathered for an afterglow at Heroes. Given our earlier arrival that evening, there were many patrons present (40?), who enjoyed some more chorus singing, and a couple of heartily-received songs by LIMITED EDITION. The table behind us gave a standing ovation for the chorus’s rendition of “God Bless America.” The drinks and snacks were reward enough.

Our upcoming performance July 30, at Pine Grove – is at the Summer Ice Cream Social (noon – 5:00) in fund-raising support of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, on the estate of former Michigan governor, Moses Wisner. This whole year is a sesquicentennial year for Pontiac, which was incorporated as a city on March 15, 1861. The chorus will sing two 30-minute sets, at 3:00 and at 4:00. Let’s have a lot of wandering quartets to sing at 3:30 and at 4:30. (Yellow polos, black pants; location 405
Chavez/Dixie/Oakland Ave., adjacent to Wisner Stadium.) Ice cream is available! Freddie will be directing.

Sunday, **August 21**, 5 pm, (the event runs from 4 to 7pm) the chorus will perform a fundraiser for **Preservation Bloomfield** at Bowers’ School Farm, 1219 East Square Lake Rd, Bloomfield Township (North side, between Adams and Squirrel Rds). This is their 3rd Annual Corn Roast at the 56-acre working farm. The Farm link is [http://farm.bloomfield.org/](http://farm.bloomfield.org/)

**Jack Teuber’s brother Ralph** passed away July 6 in Flint. He was 84.


**Ray Sturdy** is on his way to his 2nd Harmony University, Jul 31-Aug 6, in St Joseph, MO.

**Walt Bachmann** (6500 Nadette, Clarkston) will host the **BCC Picnic** on Friday, **August 26** at 6:00 p.m. Walt DeNio will assist him as needed.

**Duane Roy** has agreed to be the **Valentine Contact** for 2012.

**Fall Show Guest Quartets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forefront</th>
<th>Overture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>are <strong>FOREFRONT and OVERTURE.</strong></td>
<td><strong>OVERTURE is the current Sweet Adelines International Regional Champion,</strong> placing first in this competition for the second straight year. They have also competed at the International level two times, placing in the Top 20 in Seattle, Washington in October 2010. They will compete on the International stage again in Houston, Texas in October 2011.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOREFRONT is the 2010 Cardinal District Quartet Champs and they placed 6th at Kansas City. You can check out FOREFRONT at <a href="http://forefrontquartet.weebly.com/">http://forefrontquartet.weebly.com/</a></strong></td>
<td><strong>They list our November 5 show on their Calendar page.</strong></td>
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</table>

**Quartet News**

“**NATURAL E** had a gig Friday night, July 15. “We sang for a lady’s 90th birthday party at Warwick Hills (Grand Blanc). It was a small party - nine or ten - including a small child and an infant. We had a good time with some really nice folks! We sang “Zip-a-dee-doo-dah,” “Ain't Misbehavin,” “Can You Feel,” “Irish Blessing,” “Heart Of My Heart,” and, by request from the birthday gal, “Goodbye, My Coney Island Baby!”

“Martha, the birthday gal, lives at Canterbury, and always enjoys our performances there! We’ll be sure to watch for her the next time we perform at Canterbury. Thanks for arranging this one, Doug Metzger!”

Roger Holm

**PS from Dick Johnson:** “One neat thing, Martha asked if we would sing "Coney Island Babe"...plus she mouthed the words of some of the six songs we sang. She truly enjoys BBS music.”

**LIMITED EDITION’s Cable TV appearance should be available after August 2 at [http://blip.tv/oakland-connection](http://blip.tv/oakland-connection)**

Photos from 4GVN’s Brightmoor Church gig, in Novi, June 26

![Quartet photos](Furnished)

**BCC 2011 Performance Total**: thru July 29: 68 gigs to 4558 people.

**MEMBERSHIP (at 64)**

- **Renewals**: Doc Mann (12), Neil Braun (22)
- **Overdue**: Ross Ensign, Bob Greenwood, Jeffrey Kafer, Jim Macdonald, Charlie Perry, Joe Poole, Paul Smith
- **August Birthdays**: Mike Keith (5th), Bill Auquier (24th), Jeff Doig (29th), Terry Jamison (30th)
- **Medical**: Zaven Melkonian had a harsh bout of diverticulitis that left him weakened and ready for a bowel resection on July 27. John Northey had successful angioplasty on July 25. Howard Lynn is undergoing radiation treatment for a growth on his arm. Terry Jamison spent two days in the hospital to deal with high blood pressure.
AROUND THE DISTRICT

Phil Haines (On the Pionet from Phil’s Son-in-law, Don Slamka)

The Hillsdale Chapter, Pioneer District, and Barbershop Harmony Society lost a friend and hero Wednesday afternoon. Phil Haines sang bass in a number of quartets over the past 23 years. Phil’s resonating bass voice was often heard closing chapter shows with the “Auctioneer” song. His most notable quartets include district finalist HIGH BID, 2001 Pioneer District Champion PHILATOGA TOWNSHIP and 2009 Pioneer District Champion and 2010 International Seniors Champion RESISTING-A-REST.

Phil was more than a quartet champion. He was a member of the MSU livestock judging team that won the National Championship in 1967. He was a champion in his business as a professional auctioneer for over 40 years. He was a champion as a friend to us all. And most of all, he was a champion as a family man.

D.O.C Picnic (from Mike Frye)

A good time was had by the ones that attended the DOC Picnic on Monday July 25. Total of seven or so members were in attendance representing our chapter and DOC because of dual memberships. Grosse Point Chapter had a good amount of members there as well.

We sang (not as a group) and we ate. Enough food was there for an army of people and free beer and soda and water.

I am guessing approximately 80 people were in attendance. Ray Sturdy was MC. Many thanks to DOC for hosting and inviting us. I am thinking that we should extend an invitation to them for our annual picnic wherever ever it is held.

Quartet Boot Camp

Thirteen quartets availed themselves of the inaugural Quartet Boot Camp in Okemos, MI, July 23.

Bob Fox (PARTS UNLIMITED) wrote: Last Saturday was "seventh heaven." As one of the attendees, my quartet was really impressed with the quality and quantity of coaching! We were able to spend quality time with three different coaches who all "knew their stuff." We were impressed with positive attitude and helpfulness of the staff. Lunch was even good!

Many thanks to the Pioneer Quartet Champions Association and the Pioneer District Board for sponsoring this event. Roger Lewis, Paul Ellinger, Mike O’Donnell, and maybe others, were the management team who put this project together and carried it out.”

Jim McKay (OLDE THYME HARMONY QUARTET) wrote: “We have been extremely impressed in the past by the TON of EFFORT CHORDIOLOGY is general and you (Paul) in particular have put into making this hobby BETTER for ALL of us, whatever our level, whether Chorus or Quartet. You all certainly EXEMPLIFY the Encouragement in our Society name. On the way home we talked about the GREAT TIME we had at Boot Camp and how talented the staff was. We have lots of GREAT COACHES right here in Pioneer and really don’t need to bring in the Big Name guys from the Society.”

Paul Keiser (CODA HONOR) wrote: “Ditto that from CODA HONOR. Some of us were a bit skeptical going in, but WOW! What an amazing time and absolutely STELLAR coaching! We got a bunch of great tips from not only OUR critique, but watching other quartets as well! I was especially proud to have 1/4 of my entire chorus in attendance! We’ll be going next time, AND SO SHOULD YOU!”

Other quartets included: 4 AM, Knockin’ On Heaven’s Door, SINGULAR IMPULSE!, CORP, CORPORATE AFFAIR, COUNTY CONNECTION, BREAKTIME, 2X2, and JESTERS.

Bush League – Aug 19-20

Check out details at http://harmoniemeisters.org/

OlogyCat songs

CHORDIOLOGY announces two new OlogyCat songs, for use by those who would like to sing with CHORDIOLOGY on the Fall Convention stage, “That Railroad Rag” and “I Believe in Music.”

AROUND THE WORLD

Report on the 2011 Kansas City International Convention

The 2011 Barbershop Harmony Society convention in Kansas City is over. Attendance was down; one estimate was 5600, just about twice what the mid-winter convention was.

Winners were:
Quartet: OLD SCHOOL (89.9)
Chorus: MASTERS OF HARMONY (from Santa Fe Spring, CA) (94.3)
Collegiate Quartet: PRESTIGE (81.4)

In the Quartet contest, OLD SCHOOL finally won Gold, and it was a welcome relief for those who prefer resonant locking and ringing to comedy and dance. Six of us - Doig, Johnson, Mann, Frye, DeNio, and Cowlishaw - gathered at Jeff’s home to watch. (Thanks, Jeff, for stepping up and hosting
“Old’s Cool,” as Scott Zumbrum nicknamed them, sang traditional songs and arrangements. In his victory talk, Lead Joe Connelly pointed out that all six of their songs were arrangements that had been sung by historic barbershop quartets.

Here is a link to the scores:

Our fall guest quartet, FOREFRONT, did very well, scoring 85.2% and placing 6th.

Some of the other top ten quartets were surprises. One commentator on Harmonet, echoing our thoughts, wrote: “No wonder the young leads had trouble last night with the posts on the tags. Our singing parts are now, tenor, lead, bari and bari. Guys, someone is going to get hurt!! And unfortunately, some of the charts that are being sung, frankly, are boring. No destination, no forward motion that is understandable, no climaxes or semi-climaxes except screaming tags that explode hearing aids. Look behind the lyric lines and what really is the message? What was the composer’s intention and thought process?”

DE CAPO won the Dealer’s Choice award, which I think is for best first performance.

For those with memory-challenged minds, OLD SCHOOL joins these recent BHS Quartet champions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Quartet</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>STORM FRONT</td>
<td>91.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>CROSSROADS</td>
<td>93.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>OC TIMES</td>
<td>89.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>MAX Q</td>
<td>92.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>VOCAL SPECTRUM</td>
<td>91.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It’s a tough world out there. Pioneer’s FOUR MAN FISHIN’ TACKLE CHOIR scored a respectable 74.8%, but that still placed them in last place out of 50. It took a score above 84.6% to make the Final Ten.

PRESTIGE won the Gold in the College contest! They’re the quartet from Ohio that has performed often in our area. “The 2011 Kansas City International got off to a fantastic start Tuesday evening with the crowning of the new Collegiate Champs, PRESTIGE (JAD) from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH! Gordie Howe (T), Drew Ochoa (L), Nick Gordon (Br) and Dave Parrett (Bs) pleased both the audience and the judges with “Swanee” and “Deed I Do.” In case you haven’t heard them, here was their Silver performance last year:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le7oKkg7wYw&feature=related

Our Pioneer District reps, EBB N’ FLOW sang “After You’ve Gone” and “Love Me” to receive a fine score of 68.7 and 19th place out of 21.

In the chorus competition, MASTERS OF HARMONY put 121 men on stage. MOUNTAIN TOWN SINGERS scored a fine 77.4, with 29 men on stage, and placed 25th out of 30.

From The Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony: Medalist Trivia

Joe Connelly now joins Jim Gentil as the only two singers to have received 11 medals. Joe is the only one to have 4 gold medals. He did it singing Lead in:

INTERSTATE RIVALS (1987)
KEEPSAKE (1992)
PLATINUM (2000)
OLD SCHOOL (2011)

MASTERS OF HARMONY have now won 8 Gold medals.

The chorus Gold medal list is led by
VOCAL MAJORITY (11)

And followed by
THOROUGHBREDS (7), and
ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS (4)

Some observers have already begun to speculate that next year’s quartet competition may come down to two non-continental quartets, i.e., affiliates, vying for Gold - RINGMASTERS from Sweden vs. MUSICAL ISLAND BOYS from New Zealand. They were #3 and #4 last year (27 point difference) behind STORM FRONT and OLD SCHOOL.
Dusty Schleier is the Manager of Meetings & Conventions for BHS and thus he was in charge of the whole convention. “He landed in Kansas City on Thurs night before convention and was responsible for every breath anyone took until Sunday... And, competed in the #11 Chorus and is Baritone in the #8 quartet – TNS. After working 18 straight hours, Dusty had a hypoglycemic episode and passed out in the wings of the stage. Just a few minutes later, his quartet was given the ultimatum to either sing or scratch. Dusty got to his feet, gathered himself together and delivered a masterful performance with his quartet. He has some remarkable inner strength. We are blessed to have Dusty on our staff.”

Repeating medalists
Paul Girard and Bob Sutton have looked at how fast the turnover of medalists is in the International Quartet contest. The first year, 1939, the five medalist quartets were obviously all new. It turns out that that has never happened again - no years with five new Medalists.

Drew Wheaton looked at the recent history of Gold Medal quartets to see if they contained individual members who were already Gold Medalists. (Four of fourteen did)

Since these researches were triggered by a concern over whether the top slots (five quartets are called “medallists”) were clogging the tube and preventing new blood from medaling, it might be more useful to ask how many of the 20 members of the five 2011 Medalist quartets were previous Gold Medalists. I asked that, and the data-boys on the web responded…

“By my count, there were eight previous gold medalists who placed in the medals this year:

Joe Connelly (INTERSTATE RIVALS, KEEPSAKE, PLATINUM),
Kipp Buckner (INTERSTATE RIVALS, GHG),
Brett Littlefield (NIGHTLIFE),
Alan Gordon (GOTCHA!),
Rob Menaker (NIGHTLIFE),
Clay Hine (FRED),
Tony DeRosa (KEEPSAKE, PLATINUM, MAX Q), and
Roger Ross (KEEPSAKE).

In the top 10 there were 2 more:
Gary Teixeira (GOTCHA!) and
Dave Kindinger (JOKER’S WILD).

In the top 20 there were 3 more:
Dennis Malone (SIDE STREET RAMBLERS),
Jay Hawkins (INTERSTATE RIVALS, MARQUIS), and
Paul Gilman (INTERSTATE RIVALS, MARQUIS).
So, 13 out of 80 semifinalist singers had previous Gold Medals.

Gathering a new collection of medalists will quickly vault a quartet into the high 70s or 80s, but to break into new Medal territory takes the same aspects as for any other quartet. As Alan Gordon (GOTCHA!, MASTERPIECE) wrote, “A championship quartet has talented singers, but it is a certain unification of voice and spirit that makes a quartet achieve a championship.”

Will Hamblet’s Fantasy Conundrum:
“Hokay, so a genie appears to each member of a “super” chorus the night before an International contest & offers them the following choice, “You can either score a 99 & come in second…. OR score an 85 & win the contest.” Waddya suppose the final vote would be?”

2012 International Conventions
January 17-22 July 1-8

PROBE (Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors) contest
Smoke Signals placed 6th in the just completed PROBE Bulletin contest with a score of 73.4 %. However, there were only six entries, fewer than in recent years. Furthermore they were from just six districts, eleven districts having no submissions. The decrease in bulletin competition is paralleled by a decrease in PROBE membership, “down to 87 members, when 10 years ago there were 500 and previous to that 1,500.” (From PROBE President John Elving) The rise in e-mailing is the presumed cause.

SABS (from LiveWire)
The BHS has welcomed its newest official affiliate, the Spanish Association of Barbershop Singers (SABS), to the fold. Barbershop harmony was virtually unknown in Spain in the mid-90’s when a Spanish student studying in America sent a barbershop book to his dad, who shared it with friends Jorge and Nicolas de las Peñas Plana in southern Spain. They fell in love with the style immediately, eventually attended a BinG! convention in Germany, and started searching for others in their area who might like to join them. As it happened, they found quite a few barbershop-loving expatriates from the UK, Belgium and other countries who had retired to the area. They currently count over 260 members (men and women), and they’re still growing. More in the next issue of The Harmonizer. Also check out the SABS website!
Barbershop videos available on Comcast’s On Demand:

Comcast customers can now catch barbershop on cable through Comcast’s On Demand service!

Just go to the Music Folder, Music Picks Folder, and choose Barbershop Harmony.

Artists available the first month are:

- Ambassadors of Harmony
- OC Times
- Vocal Spectrum
- Storm Front
- Max Q
- Masters of Harmony
- Old School
- Tag Time #1 with Society Music Specialist Adam Scott

Enjoy, and tell all your friends and fans of barbershop!

Riser Etiquette Rules:

After the Lockwood performance, I just happened to read this statement of chorus performance rules, the first two of which we violated, from the July, 2011 Manhattan, Kansas InCider:

- Don’t applaud your own performance nor the performances of quartets from your own chorus.
- Eyes: when performing, keep your eyes on the director. Don’t pan the audience or any stage activity. However, at the end of a song, look at the audience, smile even more, and acknowledge applause. Then - - eyes back to the director.
- When leaving the stage, do it in reverse order of entering.

Chuck Murray added these to the list of Riser Rules:

- Front row (on the floor) should stand about 12-14 inches in front of the front edge of the first step, so that riser rows can stand at the front edge.
- No talking on the risers while the Director is talking.
- Each man should automatically seek his own window
- Follow an orderly entrance and exit to the risers.
- If arriving late, don’t enter the risers until a break between songs.

And Chuck added these additional suggestions, useful anytime.

- No “audiating” the pitch or starting note; just think it.
- Arrive, already warmed up
- Practice your songs at home, in order to be off the paper in several weeks.
- Use your digital voice recorder to learn and practice Tom’s interp and critique your own singing.
- Try to arrive early for early singing and setting up the room.
- Stay “focused” on your job of making it the best performance of your life, EVERY TIME YOU SING!
- Listen to the “quartet” around you.
- Use sectional rehearsals

Big Chief Jeopardy, #43. (BCC Jeopardy returns; try these.)
1. Answer: “TOOT-TOOT!” It was the site of a river gig by the BCC, direct from a recent celebrated engagement on the Cass River at Frankenmuth.
2. Answer: After appearing in six Pioneer District Contests and six International Senior Quartet Contests, winning the Senior Quartet District Championship and two International third place medals, they finally disbanded in 2008.

(Clues to the Questions in Issues # 75 and 85.)

America Sings

There was suddenly a reason to vote for SEP (the old SATURDAY EVENING POST quartet)on “America Sings” -- even if one didn’t get the Gospel Music Channel and even if there were a number of barbershop groups performing this summer that would be worthy of support.

That reason was this:: if the whole Barbershop community got behind this single Barbershop group and SEP won, they would donate the whole $10,000 prize to “Youth in Harmony.”

Go to: www.watchgmctv.com/sing

Editorial – Wives that don’t appreciate Barbershop

Wives seem to come in three flavors: those that love barbershop, those that don’t like it but are supportive of their husband’s hobby, and those who growl. I suspect that the 2nd group is by far the largest.

Last month, I wrote about Montana Jack Fitzpatrick’s survey of barbershoppers who overwhelmingly reported that what they most enjoyed was SINGING. Not one person said that they enjoyed LISTENING most.

Yet when we plead with partners or friends to give barbershop a chance, we’re asking them to enjoy that thin slice of barbershopping that is not what we ourselves prefer.

Trivial Pursuit, Barbershop Style

Reprinted from the PROBEmoter.

“Deac Martin’s long out of print Book of Musical Americana is the source of this month’s Q’s and A’s. Martin was a renowned musicologist who was born
in 1890 in Iowa and grew up in Missouri during barbershop's glory days, especially so in the rural Midwest at the turn of the last century. He joined the Society in 1938, founded the Cleveland, Ohio Chapter in 1940, wrote a column, "The Way I See It" in the Harmonizer for many years and authored Keep America Singing (later the lyrics were changed and it was called Keep the Whole World Singing) in 1948, a history of the Society's first ten years.

Questions

1. In the Book of Musical Americana, Martin notes that barbershop harmony and another type of American music enjoyed a remarkable rebirth starting in the 1930's. Identify this other home-grown musical genre.

2. Martin states that barbershop and that other type of music mentioned in question #1 above share many common characteristics. Name as many as you can.

3. Notwithstanding all they share socially, are there any musical similarities between the two?

4. There is an abundance of references made in books, articles and oral histories as to the powerful relationship between rural barber shops and barbershop harmony during barbershop's golden age (1890-1920). From this can we surmise that seldom (or never) was the ring of locked in barbershop 7th chords heard in urban barber shops?

5. In addition to providing the premier venues for singing barbershop harmony, in what other ways did late 19th/early 20th century barbers contribute toward the development and improvement of barbershop harmony

Answers to BARBERSHOP QUIZ

1 'Folk music.

2 'Both have European ancestry; both are music of, by and for the common people; both rose phoenix'like from the musical ashes; both enjoyed a tremendous surge in popularity during their revivals in the 1930's unmatched in earlier times; and both became musically respectable, entering the concert hall for the first time.

3 'Not according to Martin. That's probably an over'reach, however, as many of the same songs are in the repertoires of both styles. Clearly, however, the manner in which they respectively treated the music, particularly with reference to arrangement, was not at all alike. Certainly the significance of musical instruments in folk music and the absolute prohibition of same in barbershop on one hand, and barbershop's lasting after ringing dominant 7th chords and folk music's nonchalance regarding them on the other hand, represent two huge stylistic differences between the two types of music.

4 'Although I cannot definitively say yea or nay on this point, I can say that there's no logical reason to assume it, and, more importantly, it was not indicated to be the case either in Martin's book or in any other barbershop history source I've ever read.

5 'Being at the epicenter of the barbershop harmony universe as they were, barbers with musical talent naturally gravitated toward becoming skilled quartet coaches; the first such coaches I have ever seen referenced in any source. They also served in an important promotional capacity, as they would invite people to stop by their shops at a particular day and time to hear the latest outstanding new quartet.

Letters

From Chuck Murray

Dear John:

I especially appreciated your sharing your dialogue with Tom Blue on breathing. That is a particularly weak spot in the BCC.

Thanks, again, for a great house organ!

From John Cowlisaw

Can I "sit right down and write myself a letter"? (About the column on breathing last month?)

First, I now discover that I’ve put too much emphasis on the raising the soft palate, forgetting the throat below the mouth. It’s the whole wind instrument, stupid! I’ve discovered that I have been closing down my throat ever so slightly as part of the way that I control airflow, thereby losing resonance and increasing the chance of voice-cracking at the passagio. Secondly, if my throat-mouth IS wide open, then the only remaining way to modulate the airflow is by that dynamic tension in the belly. “Breath control is the active inhibition of expiration!” (But not by the throat!)

All articles and photos are by the Editor unless stated otherwise.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Director: Thomas Blue (248-814-9627)
Assistant Directors: F. McFadyen, D. Johnson, B. Holmes, & M. Frye
President: Jack Teuber (248-334-3686)
Past President: Doc Mann (248-628-0189)
VP: Chapter Dev: Eric Domke
VP: Music and Performance: Roger Holm
VP: Marketing & PR: Open
Secretary: Bill Auquier
Treasurer: Dick Johnson
Members at Large - Walt Bachmann, Terry Jamison, Doug Metzger, Fred Pioch
Chorus Manager: Open
Section Leaders: McFadyen, Stephenson, Cowlishaw, Moss
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Johnson, Doig, Ensign, McFadyen, Murray, Prueter, Moss, Cowlishaw, and Stephenson
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)

CALENDAR  (Times are Performance Times, Warmups 45' earlier,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jul 30, 3 pm</td>
<td>OC Historical Soc. 405 Cesar Chavez Ave, (Oakland Ave)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 30, eve</td>
<td>Barbershop Harmony Explosion Camp Show, CMU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 31-Aug 6</td>
<td>Harmony University, St Joseph, MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 2, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 9, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 19, 20</td>
<td>Bush League, Gaylord, with CHORDIOLOGY</td>
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<td>Aug 21, Su, 5pm</td>
<td>Bowers’ Farm, Bloomfield Twp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 23, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 26, F, 6pm</td>
<td>BCC picnic, Walt Bachmann’s home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 30, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 6, T, 7pm</td>
<td>Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks (Nine more to SHOW)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 24, Sa</td>
<td>(Tentative) 67th Show Preparation and Retreat, Royal Oak</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Church of Christ 115 S. Campbell Royal Oak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 9, Su, 2pm</td>
<td>Orion Twp Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 14-16</td>
<td>Pioneer District Convention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>67th BCC Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 30, 2012</td>
<td>Log Cabin Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>