Dead Creek Picnic, Frankenmuth (Photos on last page)

The weather was ideal for the hundred or so ‘shoppers, spouses, and guests gathered at the Heritage Park pavilion on the Cass River for the Flint Arrowhead Chorus’s Dead Creek picnic and evening of singing.

The Big Chief Chorus was well-represented with about 25 members singing “Saints Go Marching” and “Breaking Up is Hard to Do” under Tom Blue’s direction, and four BCC quartets adding their music. Enough district guests joined the chapter to make the renting of a bus feasible.

The Flint chorus sang their welcoming song, “Only a Batch of Sauerkraut,” which includes the five-second rule – spilled sauerkraut is safe to eat if scooped up within five seconds. No sauerkraut, beans, or bratwurst was actually seen breaking that rule.

Other choruses singing were Grosse Pointe, Saginaw Bay, and Huron Valley. Members were also present from Rochester-Macomb, D.O.C., Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, and Lansing.

Many quartets sang, including Amazing Greys, Bidin’ Our Time, Bucket List, G-Fours, Limited Edition, Old Rules, Old Tyme Harmony Quartet, On That Note, and What Four, plus a few that might have been missed.

Dave Flattley emceed the evening, and John Voss directed the concluding “Keep the Whole World Singing.”

John Cowlishaw’s photos are available at: http://tinyurl.com/mtcdf5w
Herb Judd’s photos are available at: http://tinyurl.com/lxbnynh also.

From Prez Jack

MEN,
Thank you again from Ebb N’ Flo and myself for your generous donation. Their time spent with us was stimulating, energizing and a good night for the youth. The Board is looking into the possibility of another High School Harmony night in the fall as there may be fewer conflicts.

The BCC Board has authorized two SCHOLARSHIPS for Milford Men to attend the Harmony Explosion camp at Central Michigan. There may be a need for a third scholarship. Maryanne Lambrecht will provide matching funds as well.

Thanks to Doc Mann for representing the BCC in Windsor.
Thanks to Tom Blackstone, John Cowlishaw, Chuck Murray, Charley Perry and Ray Sturdy for participating in the Great Lakes harmony Brigade and performing at two High Schools.
Thanks to BIDIN OUR TIME and Mike Frye for demonstrating the Barbershop Style to several schools this past week with great feed-back from the students and teachers. They have more demonstrations scheduled this week.

Bill Auquier is at home enjoying the view of green grass and trees in full leaf. A change from when he left on March 21st. His ramp is outstanding and blends in totally with his porch. He will have access to his deck at the back of the house.

He is in good spirits and happy to be back home.
D.O.C.’s PICNIC, July 22. They have decided to move their PICNIC closer to Waterford. It will be held at the new SYLVAN LAKE CENTER. Everyone invited.

THE BCC PICNIC will be on TUESDAY, August 13th. Watch for details to follow.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCE: SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH @ Hatchery Park for LOG CABIN DAYS. The Chorus and Quartets will be prepared. Plan on warming up @ 2:00 p.m. Meet at PIERCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, 5145 Hatchery Rd., Waterford. Our UNIFORM will be YELLOW short sleeved polo shirts and BLACK pants.

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION.
Jack

From Music VP Roger Holm

GENTLEMEN: Bidin’ Our Time will be going to Tom’s schools (Adams High on Tuesday, and Van Hoosen Middle School on Wednesday) to present a
little Barbershop to his vocal music students! Last week we did the same thing at West Bloomfield High (twice), Waterford Kettering, and Rochester High, and it was one great experience! The kids in every choral group at each school were VERY attentive to what we tried to tell them and demonstrate about barbershop harmony, and boy can THEY sing! It was very gratifying and a pleasure (as well as fun!) for us to do this! Many, many thanks to Mike Frye for initiating this effort! We hope to be doing more of this come September!

Two weeks from next Saturday (June 29th) we'll be singing out at Waterford's Log Cabin Days, as we have done the last 3 or 4 years now. So we all need to sign-up for that too! It'd be especially nice to have "all hands on deck" for this sing-out!

AROUND THE PATCH

Thanks to Walt DeNio, Bob Greenwood, Dar Johnson, Greg Moss and Lance Shew for the construction and installation of a Wheel Chair Ramp for Bill Auquier’s home.

Maryann Lambrecht, Milford High School Vocal program director, has three singers that plan on going to Harmony Explosion. Two of them will be given scholarships by the Big Chief Chorus, Connor Keliikuli and Zach Dahlman. Maryann is also supplying funds personally.

Mike Frye spent great effort to promote our High School night to fifteen regional high schools. Although it didn’t garner any student attendees that night, it DID garner requests for Bidin’ Our Time’s visit to the schools to demonstrate barbershop to the high school singers.

Our old parody of “Let’s Get Away From It All” will be re-used in the Fall show. It’s the 3/27/2003 edition.

The George C. Cohan Medley is one of our 2013 songs. Ross Ensign has supplied learning tracks from Sean Milligan, that have been mailed out and are also available on the Big Chief WebSite www.bigchiefchorus.org

Quartets expecting to sing in the Fall show should notify Jeff and Pete by July 21, try out by Sep 3, and be selected by Oct 1.

Tom Blue leaves for Blue Lake, July 22.

John Cowlishaw will be on vacation from June 25 thru July 10, a Viking River cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. Therefore, he will miss three rehearsals, starting June 25, and also the gig at Log Cabin Days. Give it up for Eric Domke, Associate Director of Physical Warm-ups.

Chris Miller Honorary Quartets

Who’s on Tenor? Who’s on Lead? (Versatile twosome, June 4)
Congrats to Bob Greenwood who is transferring from Lead to Tenor. Difficult at first, but he is learning the ropes.

Fred Pioch has attended the Rochester Guardians of Harmony rehearsal a couple of times and has sung "Sweet Adeline" in a pickup quartet!

Jan DeNio’s mother passed away. She had been a resident at Lourdes for the last several years. Antoinette "Tooney" was 96 years of age.

Quartets

"Bidin’ Our Time presented Barbershop Harmony to two music classes today, one at West Bloomfield High and the second at Waterford Kettering. The WB class was their "elite" vocal jazz group of - I think it was 14 kids (10 seniors had graduated from the group). They were excellent singers, and so polite and attentive! A thoroughly delightful time for us! The class at Kettering was their Chamber Chorus of 20 some, + some band members, including their band director, who sang along with the kids, and who Mike promptly recruited for our chorus!! Same comment - excellent singers, polite and attentive! A very good day! Tomorrow we go back to West Bloomfield (at 7:00 AM!), and then to Rochester High. Next week we go to Adams on Tuesday, and to Tom's middle school on Wednesday."

Roger Holm

LIMITED EDITION did a return engagement for Eastern Star ladies and their guests (~100) at the Birmingham Masonic Temple, Wednesday night, June 19.
The twenty-minute performance highlighted the many traditions from which a cappella barbershop songs are derived.

- Vocal jazz, ala Peggy Lee - “It’s a Good Day”
- Broadway barbershop - “Lida Rose”
- American Gospel, New Orleans jazz - “Saints Go Marching In”
- Religious hymns - “It is Well With My Soul”
- Pop doo-wop - “Breaking Up Is Hard To Do”
- Tags - “Ebb-Tide”
- Country Western - “Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)”

**BCC 2013 Performance thru June 20**: 88 gigs to 5432 people.

**MEMBERSHIP (at 52)**
- Renewals: Jim McMain (2), Fred Pioch (6), John Northey (24)
- Due by July 31: Charlie Perry, Neil Braun, Tom Jackson, Bill Dabbs, Doc Mann, Bob Greenwood
- Overdue: Tyrel Alastair Hunter, Al Monroe
- July Birthdays: Tom Jackson (1), Chuck Murray (1), Doug Metzger (14), Bill Maxfield (29), Dar Johnson (31)

**AROUND THE DISTRICT**

**Pioneer Boot Camp**
The annual Pioneer District “Boot Camp” is one day, Saturday, July 20 in the usual place in Okemos.

- There are two parallel events
  - The Quartet Boot Camp for quartets, and
  - Harmony Boot Camp for individuals
- If you’re in a quartet, consider going; it should be a low-pressure affair with six hrs of quartet coaching. **LIMITED EDITION and SOUND IDEAL** (Wayne Oberstadt’s new quartet) are going.
- If you’re not in a quartet, consider going – there are a lot of courses, listed at the web site.
  [http://www.pioneerdistrict.org/District_Events/HarmonyBootCamp/Harmony%20Boot%20Camp.htm](http://www.pioneerdistrict.org/District_Events/HarmonyBootCamp/Harmony%20Boot%20Camp.htm)

**The Mountain Town Harmony Explosion Camp Show**

One of the highlights of the year in Pioneer is witnessing how young people embrace barbershop and sing it with all of the passion we do…and then some. You can join in the fun on July 13th at 6:30 pm. The Mountain Town Harmony Explosion Camp Show tickets are now available to be pre-ordered. All tickets will be distributed the day of the event but pre-ordered tickets come at a discount. Two tickets per camper are earmarked for their family members at $10 each. All other tickets are $12.50 each and general admission seating.

The pre-order deadline is July 8th. After that date all tickets will be $15 and seating could be limited.

- So...order your tickets today!
- Here is the link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cyWOkIplpV5U56dhivuuAbC5mnDc1w9y_Z6ZUgrXMgMK4/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cyWOkIplpV5U56dhivuuAbC5mnDc1w9y_Z6ZUgrXMgMK4/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1)

**Pitch Pipe Classic cancelled**

It is with regret that we announce the cancellation of this years golf outing scheduled for July 13th, at Fenton Farms Golf Club. Personal conflicts and a general lack of interest have made this years event impossible to carry out.

Thanks to all of you who have registered early. Your registration fee's will be returned within the next couple of days.

Dave Lonsbury

**Shirley Lonsbury**

…passed away on Wednesday, June 5, at University of Michigan Medical Center after an extended illness. She was the wife of long time Flint Chapter member Dave Lonsbury.

**Majestyx has withdrawn** from international competition in Toronto this summer. “Recently and unexpectedly, it has become clear that making the trip is not going to possible this year.”

**Lansing show**, March 8, 2014 at the Wharton Center

- **Storm Front**, perhaps the greatest comedy quartet ever, will be the guest quartet.

**Classic Fit**

Jeff Spires has decided to leave the quartet for personal reasons. “We want to thank Jeff for his love and singing efforts to get us the Bush League Championship and a second place in the Pioneer Seniors Competition. He will be replaced by Roy Gurney. Roy was the long-time baritone of Border Crossing.”

**4th Annual Great Lakes Harmony Brigade**

(By John Cowlishaw)

The 4th Annual Great Lakes Harmony Brigade came off successfully at the Okemos Conference Center on May 31 – June 2. Sixty-five men from Michigan and around the country and Canada gathered for the two-day experience. I, personally, was tickled at how many men I remembered from GLHB 1 and 2. The selected songs included: “I Want You, I Need You, I Love You,” “Mona Lisa,” “Sold (Grundy County Auction),” “When I Fall in Love,” “Bye, Bye, Blues,” and six others.
The weekend got off to a wonderful start singing for high school students. Under the direction of William Stutts, Jr, about 20 men convened early Friday to sing at Okemos and Holt High Schools to six different groups of students. Nice to be cheered like rock-stars! William led us thru a program of four of the 2013 Brigade songs, three by the chorus, and one by an impromptu quartet of guys picked out by the students. Each performance included an explanation of what brought us together for the weekend, a promotion of this summer’s Harmony Explosion, the teaching of a couple tags, and Q&A.

By late afternoon, men had arrived from as far away as Los Angeles and Florida. Each man gets a “dance card” with all of the participants listed by voice part. One attempts to sing with as many other voices as possible, while firming up all eleven songs. (This year there were nine “quartet tramps,” i.e., guys who sang with every other member, filling their cards.)

Following dinner, men were grouped randomly into quartets, given one of the eleven songs to present, an hour to practice, and then to perform in the evening contest. Ten of the 20 quartets were chosen to go on to the Saturday night finals by the three judges, Roger Lewis, KJ McAleesejergins, a charismatic promoter from Harmony Foundation, and Matt Snell, a vivacious Michigan high school music teacher with lots of talent but new to barbershop.

In the afternoon, all voices joined to practice the eleven songs as a chorus. The evening show began with that choral presentation, interspersed with interesting historical tidbits from emcee Rob Halsey. The second half featured two “step-out” quartets from the chorus (one being On That Note, the other being a pickup quartet with Tom Blackstone at Tenor), plus special guests Harmony Hounds, and Ebb N’ Flow.

After that, the room was reconfigured for the quartet finals. Top place went to “What the Hell Was That? Chicken?” (Bass: Steve Zorn; Lead: Mike O'Donnell; Bari: William Stutts Jr; Tenor: Paul Keiser)

There has been some decrease in GLHB attendance over the four years, and experienced quartet singers are urged to consider this wonderful opportunity, next year. It is also a shame that more folk don’t take advantage of the Saturday night show, which this year, once again, only drew 57 people to what is a remarkable musical experience. (Where else can one hear a barbershop chorus of this caliber live without going to International?)

Photos of the 2013 GLHB are now online at http://www.harmonybrigade.org/glhb/, thanks to Aaron Wilson.

Ron Arnold, a member of the Big Chiefs in the early oughts attended his first Brigade, and his Tenor voice was much praised. Good to also see past member Dave Shantz, who came to the show.

Tom Blackstone has attended seven Brigades. This is the first time he got to sing on the Saturday night show in a quartet. And this year, he did that four times! He was in both quartets that were selected as step-out quartets (one being On That Note), and two of the ten finalist competitor quartets included Tom as Tenor. (Since there were fewer tenors than other parts, some tenors got to sing in more than one quartet.) Tom’s best quartet finished in 3rd place.

Preparing for Brigade (and learning music in general)

Why do I put myself thru this? I sang in the 1st and 2nd GLHB, but only took photos at the 3rd. This 4th year, since the rest of my quartet, On That Note, was going, I thought that I should, especially since we were a quartet that was defined by our “Brigade-ness.”

The CD and scores of 11 songs arrived around the holidays. At first it’s just mind-play, putting off the real work. Make a spreadsheet of the 11 songs, their order in the book, the order in which I will learn them, neat printed starting dates. (Two I already know, two more I have to learn by Pioneer District Convention in April; and I’ll put off the optional “Bye Bye Blues” til the end.) Now I have a nice neat orderly schedule sheet of titles and keys and starting dates for learning each one.

Horrors! Woe is me, that schedule covers up a million words, flats, sharps, surprising melodic lines, changes of tempo, pickups, pauses, holds,

Ray Sturdy, Charlie Perry, Tom Blackstone, Ron Arnold, Chuck Murray, John Cowlishaw
incidentals, twists of word order. “Oh my; oh me, oh my!” (To quote from “Undecided”, but, then, you caught that.)

Time to get to work. A new song every two weeks. I start by just listening to the song three or four times. I’m trying to get the flavor of the song. Is it a rhythm song? A melody song? A lyrics song? Sometimes I listen to the four-part to catch the melody. Sometimes Bari-dominant to just hear my part.

Then I type out the lyrics, it adds to my muscle memory of the lyrics. Then I just read the lyrics out loud, as if an actor in a drama, trying to get the message across.

Next I just try singing thru the song a few times with score in hand and the Bari-dominant track going. Looking for the problem areas. Key changes. Mood and tempo expressed by the recording artist. I’m sloppy, of course, but that’s ok at this point.

I use Jodix Free WMA to MP3 converter to convert the CD files into mp3s so that I can upload them into Audacity. As the music scrolls by in Audacity, a simple slider allows me to shift the right-left balance. I can see the phrases and breathing points because the volumes are pictorialized. I can highlight the song, or just a section, and then use the tempo slowdown in the fast and tricky parts. And the highlighted area can be repeated and repeated. (and repeated!)

Now it’s time to block and tackle. A phrase at a time. Until I can sing along accurately with Tim, or Sean or Simon. Then without them. Then the next phrase.

At this point I pretty much know the music, but not the words. There are still some tricky spots in the music, and I can annotate my lyrics typescript so that it becomes a pretty complete cheat sheet.

Then something marvelous happens. Gradually, in bits and snatches, the right word begins to pop into my head. The coming melodic line I can see out there ahead of me. I’m ready, for the pickup, the pause, the funny transition. I don’t sing thru rests, and I nail the pickups. I am singing my feelings and word-sounds and conveying the message.

It begins to be fun!
And I think, “Hey, Brigade is not so bad after all.”
Looking forward to the weekend, and re-meeting all those old friends!

AROUND THE WORLD

Toronto International Convention
June 30 - July 7, 2013, Toronto, ON
Watch the webcast!

EBB N’ FLOW sings 18th and THE PARTY 36th of 50 quartets on July 3. (MAJESTYX had to bow out for personal reasons.) In the chorus contest, MountainTown Singers are 27th of 29, singing on July 5.

Big Chief Webcast party
Stay tuned as to whether Jim Owens and Jeff Doig are able to pull off a webcast of the Barbershop Quartet Finals in Toronto, at Jim’s house, on Saturday, July 6, 7-9:30 p.m.

CRAFT
Circle of Fifths

When did Barbershoppers first discover that they were using the circle of fifths? The Circle of Fifths is a pictorial representation of the sequence in which barbershop music moves thru the keys. I suppose that progression around the circle of fifths has always been a part of barbershop. But when did barbershoppers realize that is what they were doing? When practice met up with music theory? Was the phrase used in the earliest judging criteria?

I posted this question on the Harmonet May 7, and immediately got this response from Brian Lynch.

“John, you are correct in your suspicion that circle of fifths movement has been long understood as a vital component of barbershop harmony. One of the early giants of the Society, Maurice "Molly" Reagan, published his “Clock System” in The Harmonizer back in 1943 -- and you can read it today online at http://barbershop.org/harmonizer/Harmonizer_vol2_no4_may1943.pdf

“(You can also read about Molly Reagan in the Heritage of Harmony History book
http://barbershop.org/history/HeritageofHarmony_50Years.pdf”

Here is part of Molly’s original drawing from 1943:
For example, in the inner circle on the left, starting at 3 o’clock, and moving counterclockwise around the circle, an A7th chord can resolve to a D7th chord, to a G7th chord, back to C. That’s what “Five Foot Two” does. It feels right, harmonically.

Tags

A tag is not just the end of a song.

“A tag, in barbershop music, is a dramatic variation put in the last section of the song. Its rough analog in Classical music is a coda.

“Tags are characterized by heightening the dramatic tension of the song, frequently including a post, or sustained note against which the other singers carry the rhythm. In addition, good tags can be sung as short, stand-alone works. Tags may be soft and tender but are typically characterized by loud, "paint peeling," ringing chords. According to the competition rules of the Barbershop Harmony Society, every song entered for a competition must have a tag.”

(From Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tag_(Barbershop)

Why Teach or Sing Tags?

- Instant Fun, blending your voice with others while locking and ringing chords.
- Learning the Barbershop craft; fine-tuning of chords, vocal production, balance of chords, vowel matching, interpretation, diphthongs, singable consonants, exercises and improves tonal memory, etc.
- Learning to hear and identify chords and chord progressions used and not used in Barbershop singing.
- Getting singers hooked on Barbershop singing.
- Tag teaching/singing improves the Barbershop knowledge and vocal and listening skills of Chorus singers, Quartet singers, Directors, Coaches, and Judges.

http://www.BarbershopTags.com/ – is the best Tag website containing 2159 freely-downloadable Tags. Many Tags come complete with learning tracks, sheet music - even video clips of them being sung.


Why Harry Connick Jr. Couldn't Sit Idle During 'Idol'
by John Stark (from his blog)
(Reprinted from The Voice of Rushmore, of The shrine of Democracy Chorus)

The star couldn't stand hearing young singers mangle the Great American Songbook.

Those of us who grew up in the 1950s and '60s got to constantly hear—on radio, TV and vinyl—the Great American Songbook sung by the likes of Bobby Darin, Tony Bennett, Frank Sinatra, Mel Tormé, Rosemary Clooney, Ella Fitzgerald, Doris Day, Sarah Vaughan. ... The list goes on. They set a high bar for crooners, even if we didn’t fully appreciate it when we were kids. Besides having intonation, perfect pitch and beautiful voices, these artists respected a song, its melody and lyrics. They made singing sound easy, which it isn’t.

My favorite singer as of this week is Harry Connick Jr., but not for his vocal talent. As a guest mentor on Wednesday's American Idol, he did something I’d never seen done on that show—and it was long overdue. He made it clear why, despite the impressive vocal abilities of the four finalists—Candice Glover, Angie Miller, Amber Holcomb and Kree Harrison—they probably will never be truly great singers in the mode of those who came before, like Dinah Washington, Peggy Lee, Vic Damone and Billy Eckstine. Again, the list goes on.

Idol's theme on Wednesday was “Then and Now.” Each contestant was asked in the first hour of the show to perform a current hit song. They chose newly released tunes by Pink, Bruno Mars, Rihanna and Carrie Underwood, who won American Idol in 2005. In the second half, they were asked to sing a classic from the Great American Songbook.

During the mentoring sessions, Connick would listen to the singers perform the songs they had chosen and advise them how to do it better. He was a kindly coach throughout the “Now” portion of the show, teasing, praising and hugging the contestants. But when it came to the “Then” segment, the joking stopped. His demeanor changed.
Songs of the past are an essential part of Connick’s repertoire. He loves, respects and understands their exquisite craftsmanship. He knows how to make them sound “now” without losing what they were “then.”

As Amber started to sing Rodgers & Hart’s “My Funny Valentine,” Connick stopped her. He asked her what the song is about. “What does it mean, ‘Your looks are laughable’?” he asked her, or “Is your figure less than Greek?” Amber looked blank—she had no idea. She struggled for words. He told her to go do some research on the lyricist, Lorenz Hart, a physically diminutive, closeted homosexual who died of alcoholism at age 48. Before singing the song, Connick sternly told Amber, you need to understand what Hart was writing about.

Kree also got stopped shortly after she launched into Harold Arlen’s “Stormy Weather.” She was singing in a loose, bluesy manner, like she said she’d heard Etta James do the song. But for Kree to do those fancy runs, Connick said, were diluting the meaning of the lyrics. The woman in this song, he explained, is sad and depressed; she’s lost her man. “You don’t sound depressed,” Connick observed. He wanted Kree to do it more like Lena Horne, who introduced the song in 1940. No frills needed.

Not one of the contestants took Connick’s “Then” advice when they got on stage. Substance was thrown out the window for pyrotechnic vocal tricks. Angie sang Gershwin’s “Someone to Watch Over Me,” an ode to vulnerability, in full-power voice. She hardly came off as “a little lamb who’s lost in the wood,” as the lyrics say. More like a John Deere tree cutter.

The judges loved Candice’s version of Billie Holiday’s “You’ve Changed,” giving her a standing O. Not Connick, whose tip to “Keep it simple” went completely over her head. “One of the worst things that can happen in a relationship is when the other person starts to drift away from you,” Connick told Candice. She needed to express that feeling. Her blaring version had no poignancy.

Connick squirmed in his front-row seat during the “Then” performances. I haven’t seen such facial contortions since Linda Blair got anointed with holy water in The Exorcist.

His breaking point came when Randy Jackson implied that Connick’s advice had hindered Kree’s vacuous rendition of “Stormy Weather,” which none of the judges liked.

He thought she should have sung it more like Etta James, as she had wanted to do. As it turned out, her rendition was neither Etta nor Lena, nor even Kree. It lacked any personality or feeling. You could see Connick about to pop his cork.

That’s when Keith Urban went into the audience, took Connick by the hand and brought him to the judge’s table. Taking a seat, Connick proceeded to school a very defensive Jackson in the art of singing standards. The point Connick tried to make, which Jackson didn’t want to hear, was that the show’s contestants didn’t know these classic songs well enough to take liberties with their melodies and lyrics. In doing so, they were murdering the music.

To me this made an even bigger point. Since its debut in 2002, Idol has always put value on over-the-top vocal performances. Subtlety and intimacy gets you the boot. If minimalists like Peggy Lee or Billy Holiday were to compete on Idol today the judges would eat them alive.

Once in a while that kind of talent comes along. On a recent NPR interview Streisand talked about how, when interpreting a song, she never violates its melody or lyrics, even when putting her own distinct spin on it. That’s why she’s so great. And that’s why Connick got so frustrated with the Idol contestants. He listened to them, but they wouldn’t listen to him.

Favorite Old Barbershop Songs

The BQPA (Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association) is a break-off group from BHS devoted to preserving the old-time barbershop quartetting of the past. They meet semi-annually. They recently posted a listing of 101 all-time favorite BBS songs at:

http://www.bhsadmin.org/bqpa/oldsongssurvey.cfm

Sort of resembles the list that we use each year for the Woodshed contest?

History - Chris Miller’s ashes

John Cowlishaw and Nancy Miller had an absolutely perfect day – sunny and no wind – in which to disperse Chris’s ashes, Sunday, September 26, 2004. Flying in John’s Piper Tomahawk, they flew at 500 feet over Nancy’s home in Commerce Twp, as John squeezed the bag’s contents thru the window. Nancy’s family, on the ground, said it looked like a contrail as it came out, or the “smoke” used by aerobatic planes, and that it descended in a line over her property and the adjacent Woodbridge Lake. John added a bucket of flowers. Afterward, Nancy’s family gathered at Villa Maria, site last year of the post-funeral wake.

Can Barbershop coexist with other a cappella styles?

(Continuing last month’s article)

From Paul Ellinger:

Be aware that the definition of “a cappella" is a moving target. For example, in the contemporary a cappella world is "no tuned instruments nor those that are the central theme to the performance" is the definition and is what the Harmony Sweepstakes uses. I'm not saying it's right, wrong or somewhere in between. Just pointing it out. And vocal percussion is HUGE in that community with vocal percussion contests happening all over the world. Here is how I see it: The less you limit the definition it the less control you have; the more you limit it (by other's definitions or personal tastes) the more
likely you have the exact same issue facing you in the future of becoming a subset or fraction of the whole community. Choosing the right position would be a matter of deciding what the goal would be. Again, I’m not selling anything and don’t have a horse in the race. Just something to consider.

**Inside A Cappella**

This youthful pop “video-publication” is advertised as “Entertainment Tonight meets Pitch Perfect.” The first issue was Feb 1, 2013, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQeS4qZ9fc4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQeS4qZ9fc4)

And new issues are coming out fast and furious. This is definitely NOT barbershop, but it IS a cappella. Give it a try.

But, as Julien Neel responded, “LOL Barbershop is just one genre of a cappella among many. It just happens to be mildly popular in the USA. Modern a cappella music as described and arranged by Deke Sharon isn’t barbershop (at all), it’s meant to be sung with amplification (microphones), it doesn’t have the same kind of ringing chords, it’s meant to be performed with shiny lights and show, etc. I don’t see much connection with barbershop to be honest.

Please don’t forget that much of the content you describe is USA & college oriented. There’s a LOT of a cappella outside the US, and YouTube is international. For instance, “Pitch Perfect” is all-American; I haven’t heard about the movie here in France and I’m not sure it will meet the success you describe, much like “Glee” doesn’t do so well here either. I hope you’ll also go over other genres than modern pop.

**Media**

Tom Blue shared this video from the American Choral Directors Association’s choralnet blog, “Never Stop Singing.” [http://www.choralnet.org/view/418165](http://www.choralnet.org/view/418165)


A routine day of shopping for groceries at John Lewis Foodhall from Waitrose turned into a grocery store opera when five singers performed a rousing rendition of the Italian classic Funiculi, Funiculà. This creative and fun musical flash mob is from Sacla’ the Pesto Pioneers and Italian foodies favourite brand who served up a great surprise by staging this impromptu Opera in the food aisles. How cool would it be to have some opera singers perform each time you went shopping for groceries.

**Executive Board Minutes, May 30, excerpted from Jack Teuber’s minutes.**

Members present were Domke, Greenwood, Holm, Johnson, McMain, Pioch, Sturdy and Teuber.


VP Eric Domke reported a current membership of 52.

VP Roger Holm announced an additional Show Song “A parody of Let’s Get Away From It All. Holm will have a conversation with Al Fisk as to a possible Contest Expectations Presentation.

Upcoming Events: Roger Holm will be prepare a Send-Off Box for Ebb N’ Flow. Ray Sturdy moved that the Board donate $100 to Ebb N Flow for their contest expenses in addition to the Send-Off Box.

Log Cabin days will be Saturday, June 29th. Warm-up will be at 2:00 p.m. Pierce Middle School. Quartets are encouraged to participate.

Old Business: Fred Pioch and Gil Schreiner will be moving the Chorus Library to the Waterford Oaks Activity Building.

We are in need of a Show Ad Chairman. Show Ads fell from 61 to 39 ads in 2013. Saturday, October 12th is the tentative date for the Show Preparation Retreat. Teuber will review the quartet qualification dates for the Show with Doig Holm and Mazzara. The dates were established by the Music committee on November 18, 2012.

New Business: We will consider a Guest Night in September, Mike Frye will advise us as to the response he gets from area High Schools.

Our Chapter Picnic will be on Tuesday, August 13th. Dick Johnson will investigate the use of Marshbank Park in West Bloomfield Twp. If all goes well at the new location we will consider using the Park for a multiple chapter picnic in 2014.

DeNio, Greenwood, Dar Johnson, Moss and Shew will receive Special Recognition for the construction and installation of a Wheel Chair Ramp for Bill Auquier’s home.

**Errata**

Tuesday, June 18, was misidentified as a chorus rehearsal night. The chorus attended the Dead Creek Picnic, Frankenmuth MI.

All unattributed articles and photos by John Cowlishaw

**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: Charlie Perry
Treasurer: Dick Johnson
Members at Large - Fred Pioch, Ray Sturdy, Jim McMain, Bob Greenwood
Chorus Manager: Open
Captain Sunshine: Bill Maxfield
Section Leaders: McFadyen, Stephenson, Cowlishaw, Moss
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Johnson, Doig, Ensign, McFadyen, Murray,
Pruter, Moss, Cowlishaw, and Stephenson
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)

**CALENDAR, 2013** (Times are Performance Times, Warm-ups 45’ earlier)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun 25</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 29</td>
<td>Sa</td>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>Waterford Hist. Soc’s Log Cabin Days (Warm-up-2:00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 30 – Jul 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>International Convention, Toronto</td>
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<td>Jul 2</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<td>Jul 6</td>
<td>Sa</td>
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<td>International Quartet Finals, webcast</td>
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<td>Jul 9</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 11-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Harmony Explosion, CMU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 13</td>
<td>Sa</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Harmony Explosion Show, CMU</td>
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<td>Jul 16</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 20</td>
<td>Sa</td>
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<td>Harmony Boot Camp, Okemos</td>
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<td>Jul 22</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>D.O.C. picnic, Sylvan Lake Community Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 23</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 30</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 23, 24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chorus picnic</td>
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<td>Aug 24</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bush League, Gaylord, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 30, 31</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harrisville, BBS Camp</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Show preparation retreat (tentative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 18-20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District Convention, Kalamazoo Radisson</td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rochester Chapter Show</td>
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<td>Nov 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BCC Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canada Night, hosted by D.O.C.</td>
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