SHOW TIME!
Well, this is it. We better all be off the paper on these eight songs:
- There's No Business
- Oklahoma
- Consider Yourself
- Coney Island
- Ain't Misbehavin'
- Cabaret
- We Need a Little Christmas
- I'm Beginning to See the Light

and these closing songs
- It is Well with My Soul
- God Bless America
- Keep the Whole World Singing

AROUND THE PATCH
From Director Tom
Men and Friends of the BCC,
Another Monday night and here I sit writing some thoughts down about rehearsal. Thanks so much for the past few rehearsals as they have been very productive and our group attendance has improved. I am impressed with your work and your willingness to go beyond what we have done before. I think this show will be a very fine one! Good chorus songs, several in-house quartets and some very fine guest quartets make for an entertaining evening of fun and music!

Invite, invite and invite some more.
Our focus as usual needs to be on these vocal techniques...
- tall, round sounds that unify the vowel and the word sounds
- breath that is full, low and managed so that there is energy at the ends of the phrases
- our physical selves communicating the story (bodies alive and moving, faces alive and telling the stories with expression, and hands free to gesture and express)

Suggestions...
- The sooner you can be off the paper the more effectively you can communicate.
- The more breath energy that we can sing with, the more in-tune the chords will be.
- The more we can listen to one another within our sections (unit sound) and within the chorus, the more we can sound as a unified group.
- A singular focus of good barbershop craft. It's more than a hobby; it's what we love to do. We are amateurs in the original sense of the word (late 18th century: from French, from Italian amatore, from Latin amator ‘lover,’ from amare ‘to love.’)
From Music VP Roger Holm

GENTLEMEN: Let's see - five more Tuesday rehearsals + our show-prep retreat on Saturday, Oct. 11 - and we’re on stage for our show!! CRUNCH TIME!!

We hope to have show tickets available for distribution this Tuesday! We also hope everyone is out selling ads - the absolute deadline for getting all program-book ad copy to Doug at the Print Shop is Friday, October 24!!!!

With Duane Roy struggling mightily to beat cancer, Lance Shew is stepping in for Duane this year, and he will be our go-to guy for turning in sold show program ads! As Duane did last year, Lance will record all aspects of your turned-in ads, then forward the money to Jim Owens, and the ad material to Roger. So Jack has the system set up, now we just need everyone to SELL ADS!

Bob Wallace will be singing in an ‘Ology quartet, in Muskegon.

**QUARTETS**

4GVN performed Sunday, September 7 at the 29th Annual Kelley-Fisk Farm Festival, presented by the White Lake Historical Society. They began in their hour-long program in the barn and then moved out across the grounds. Small, but appreciative audiences listened, and several men were responsive to the question, “Where do you do your singing?”

LIMITED EDITION helped Charlie Perry celebrate his 64\(^{th}\) birthday at his pig roast, Saturday, Sept 6.

Charlie’s son Isaac maneuvering the 150 lb. pig over the coals

LIMITED EDITION sang an 8-set at the Highland Township Historical Festival Sunday, Sept 14 – pop, doo-wop, Disney, and CW. They were a late-minute substitution for the Huron Valley Community Chorus which is just getting its 2014-2015 season underway, (with the addition of Charlie Perry as a new member). In the spacious Highland Township grounds, a stage had been erected in front of the fire station, from which the quartet sang to a small group seated on hay bales, those coming and going from the pulled pork wagon, and those milling around in the vicinity.

LIMITED EDITION was pleased to learn that patrons of the 38\(^{th}\) Milford Historic Homes Tour were asking for them before the quartet had even arrived, Sunday, September 21. It was the 4\(^{th}\) year that LE has performed at this event. The five-hour gig began at the Milford Historical Society Museum on E. Commerce Rd, where they were recorded singing “It’s a Good Day,” [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Big-Chief-Chorus/195338833812959](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Big-Chief-Chorus/195338833812959) which was a bit of a stretch, given the periodic rain storms, that eventually drove the quartet indoors, in the five homes that were part of the 2014 tour. The quartet was also challenged to learn a “privy song” for the privy diggers next year. “My Broken Heart” from Elvis’s “Love Me” was the best they could do this year.

Chapter 2014 Performances thru September: 85 gigs to 47,705 people
**Membership:**

- **Renewal:** Ray Sturdy (16)
- **Due in October:** Bruce LaMarte, Wayne Oberstadt, Gil Schreiner, Lance Shew
- **Overdue:** Hoff, Mann, Perry, Valko
- **October Birthdays:** Walt DeNio (22nd), Bill Nevaux (27th), Roger Holm (29th)
- **Medical:**
  - Duane Roy – esophageal cancer; being treated with radiation and chemotherapy.
  - Ted Prueter – being treated for leukemia
- **In Memoriam:** Oct 3, 2009, Bob Butcher, #103

**District**

The **Rochester Guardians of Harmony** are presenting their 39th Annual Show "SHOW BIZ!" 6:59 PM, on Saturday, October 4, at the Stoney Creek High School Performing Arts Center (575 E. Tienken, just east of Rochester Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48306)

- **Major Guest:** INSTANT CLASSIC
- **Minor Guest:** LIMITED EDITION

**Pioneer District Convention:** October 17-19, Muskegon Holiday Inn and Frauenthal Theater

http://pioneerdistrict.org/nextconvention/convention_info.htm

- Justin Miller, Director of the Westminster Chorus, will lead the Joe Barbershop Chorus thru two non-polecat songs – “Kentucky Babe” and “In the Good Old Summertime.”
- Classes include:
  - Jamie Carey
  - Warren Hettinga on Vocal Techniques
  - John Brockman on Music Theory – What Every Barbershopper Should Know

Contestant registration deadline is, midnight October 3

**International**

The original Polecat book contains the verses to “Down Our Way” and “Heart of My Heart.”


**“What’s Up, Chief?”**

(Thus begins a new feature.)

**What’s Up, Gene Downie?**

Nothing very exciting going on. I am a full time caretaker for my wife as she is disabled and blind. I am able to get out twice a week. I hired a neighbor to stay with my wife on Tuesday evening for barbershop and Friday morning for nine holes of golf. Those two breaks are life savers.

I do a lot of grocery shopping before 7 am in the morning or after 8 pm in the evening. Not my favorite activity any time of day. Jan DeNio has been very helpful getting some of Dea’s friends to stop in and spend several hours every couple of weeks, which is a tremendous help. It is great to have good friends.

Most of my time is spent sitting with Dea when she is awake or getting her to doctor’s offices two or three times a week. I was happy to take over the music library position because it gives me something to do while she is napping which is quite often. Jim Owens also asked me to take over the show ticket distribution which helps fill some of my dead time.

I haven’t felt comfortable doing any quartet singing the last couple of months because of my allergy problem. It doesn’t cause any problem in group singing but it sure interferes when a quartet is trying to sing together.

**What’s Up, Howard Lynn?**

This was the month for the biennial reunion of USS Wisconsin veterans, and the first time in a long while that Howard stayed home. But he shared this story.

In 1991, when the battleship USS Wisconsin returned from its third and final war, its veterans were invited on board for a 3-day cruise. On the first morning, Howard Lynn rose early to walk the fantail, as was his custom. Seeing another gentleman standing there, he asked if he was
a vet. “No, I’m a writer.” “Newspaper reporter?” “No, I write books.” “Any I might recognize?” “Don’t know. Read any Tom Clancy?” Well, conversation ensued. “You’re my second favorite author.” Clancy was startled. “Who’s your first?” Well, it was Alistair Maclean, and Clancy agreed he was excellent. Clancy complained about the shortness of the beds, and Howard suggested he report to sick bay, where there were 7-foot bunks. Once the officers knew Clancy was onboard, they captured him for the rest of the voyage. But as they disembarked, Howard saw Clancy waving to him, and shouting out, “Hey, Lynn!” “Wisky” was the final battleship in world history to see action.

MEDIA

Apparently, you can get the whole new album by Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga (and she can really sing!) free, at https://play.spotify.com/album/56uP6C9dDe31eLwhpfgIWT

BarbershOpera

This is BarbershOpera, the "only opera that is completely barbershop," called Something Special, which is the name of the beer they are making at Frothingslough Brewery ... in Ohio. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=On_hEils-AY

Dr. Walli DePue is the composer and he just won a Gold Medal in a competition sponsored by the Boston Metro Opera. Famed Richard Mathey from Bowling Green had the leading role.

Jay Hawkins wrote: Dr DePue wrote the Barbershop Opera in the 1970's and it was performed by the Maumee Valley Seaway Commanders and Bowling Green State University men's chorus.

THE SINGING CRAFT

“Some Ideas to Consider for singing better”
By Don Poole, San Luis Obispo Chapter

1. SING SILENTLY. Take a song that you know well and sing it aloud.

   Check the key at the beginning and at the end. If you’re still in tune – congratulations! Now sing the song silently to yourself. If you’re now in tune and you weren’t before, that’s a pretty good indication that it’s a vocal problem and not your ear. So practice singing aloud.

2. SING SOLO. You should be able to sing your part by yourself without the aid of the other parts. If you need other harmony parts, you’re woodshedding. You don’t know the song unless you can do this.

3. SELL IT. Tell the story as you sing. Whether it’s the message of the lyrics or the rhythm that’s the strong element of the song, you should present a believable performance.

4. SING TO PEOPLE. Be personable. Don’t sing to a void. In the chorus, the director is your audience. Convince him that you’re sincere.

5. STRETCH. Sing your songs in different keys in order to improve your ability to sing higher and lower. This also improves your ability to use your head tone.

6. FACES. When singing by yourself, pretend that you have an audience. It’s difficult to be flat-faced when practicing and then become animated in a performance. Remember – practice makes permanent.

7. NOTES. I have more success in learning a new song if I initially just concentrate on the notes. I sing a do-do on each syllable and avoid worrying about the lyrics.

8. HARMONIZE. It’s worthwhile to learn another part on a simple song like a Barberpole Cat song. Even Leads have to sing harmony sometime. This builds character and gives you a feel about what’s going on elsewhere.

9. VOWELS. It’s well worth your time to practice singing through all 16 vowel sounds. Listen as you sing, have someone else listen to you, or record yourself. Apparent discords are often times just a vowel problem.

10. BREATHING. Practice a song using fewer breaths. Much of the time, we run out of air because we didn’t get much in the first place. Open your mouth and pop out your gut – the air will come in. You don’t need to “suck.” When you suck, the only things that happens is that the incoming air makes a noise as it passes between your lips.

11. SING. Sing every day at home or in your car.

12. THERE’S MORE. There’s more to learning a song than knowing the words and notes. How about the interpretation and any choreography? Make the song your own as you receive all sorts of input from the directors or, in the case of a quartet, what the group decides upon. We need to present a unified front to our audiences.
THEORETICALLY SPEAKING

Wikipedia defines Barbershop as a style of a cappella music, characterized by consonant four-part chords for every melody note in a predominantly homophonic texture. So when a guest asks what that means, what do you tell him? (Answers at end of this issue.)

Big Chief Jeopardy, #47

1. **Answer**: He was a high school singer, actor, and runner. After the Army he was a cook and a baker, then a Pontiac Motor employee, a photographer, and an editor. In retirement, he has been a woodworker, a golfer, a rose-grower, a mentor, a grandfather, and a Lead.

   **Question**: Who is Dave Myre?

2. **Answer**: He is surrounded by females – his wife and five daughters. He is a Vietnam veteran and a machinist. He was a Karaoke aficionado before being recruited by Ted Prueter and then brought in his good friend, Tom, who has since moved to Ireland.

   **Question**: Who is Gil Schreiner?

HISTORY

Let’s start by understanding that our original chapters were "social clubs of men who liked to sing" and give you a picture of the chapter meeting of 60/70 years ago. There was no craft. There was little organized learning. We had chorus directors who were sometimes church choir directors or even men with enough confidence to stand up front and wave their arms, but few music educators. There was lots of gang singing, largely because that’s all we could do. We sang from song books created by our fledgling Society and called "Songs For Men" which featured some of the worst songs ever written but arranged in the barbershop style. There were a dozen or so of those books. There was no formal way to learn a song so it depended on who could read music and how many men around him he could influence. It was musically pretty bad but DID WE HAVE FUN!! We didn’t care about being good because there were no chorus contests in those days. We sang for delighted audiences of wives and family who were thrilled we had found an enriching hobby that kept us out of the local saloon...

By Jim Dodge, posted on BBSHOP@YAHOOGROUPS.COM

Our Show Guest Quartets

**RUSTY PIPES**

Dale Fetick (T), Carl Taylor (L), Jay Hawkins (Bs), and Tom Rouse (Br)

"RUSTY PIPES (JAD) clearly proved that they’re only kidding about the name when they won the Seniors Quartet Gold Medal at Midwinter Convention in Tucson on Friday, January 20, 2012. These guys were definitely in fine voice, with great showmanship to boot. The foursome sang "I’ll See You in My Dreams" and "Mistakes" to win it all.

RUSTY PIPES only just formed in August 2011, but some of the members are no strangers to gold. Jay Hawkins and Dale Fetick together won a Quartet Gold Medal with MARQUIS in 1995, and Carl Taylor won a previous Seniors Gold with THE BARONS in 2003.

**ALLURE**

Dodie LaMarte – Br, Sandy Worswick – L, Kathy Green – Bs, Staci Slamka - tenor
“For the members of ALLURE, the fun began when the quartet formed in December 2012...and it hasn’t stopped yet!

“Since coming together the quartet has competed in two regional contests, earned a spot for an international competition, and are currently preparing for a regional contest taking place in Dearborn, Michigan in April 2015. When they’re not traveling to their regular rehearsals in Lansing (or doing their favorite thing: shoe shopping!), they enjoy working with coaches from all over the country to refresh and work on their skills. It’s a good thing they like to travel, because with one living in Farmington, one in Hillsdale and two in the White Lake area, they spend a lot of time on the road!

“It all can be challenging with jobs, husbands, teenagers, college visits, six cats and a dog, but somehow this group can work it all out with their combined love of laughter, friendship and barbershop harmony!”

Executive Board Minutes, July 17.

Members present were Pioch, Holm, Roy, Doig, DeNio, Perry, and Teuber.

Treasurer’s Report: Available funds $7156.91

VP Growth and Development: New Member, Mike Doyle. Discussed recruitment options, including ads in newspapers and on placemats in restaurants. Seek ideas from membership.

VP Music and Performance: Show preparation is progressing. There are two in-house quartets as of now. Emphasis on learning new songs, expression & balance.

Old Business: Inquire about the Milford boys we sponsored at Harmony Explosion singing in show.

On line ticket sales are ready to be set up. Show publicity/flier mailing will be handled by Ray Sturdy.

New Business: Ticket prices are:
- $16.00 on line
- $16.00 from member
- $12.00 group of 10 or more
- $5.00 children under 12

Show Ad Kits are ready. Motion passed to keep ad prices the same as last year Show retreat set.

Barbershopper of the Month; Lance Shew

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP
Director: Thomas Blue (248-814-9627)
Assistant Directors: Fred McFadyen, Mike Frye, & Bill Holmes
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: Jim Owens
Members at Large - Fred Pioch, Ray Sturdy, Jeff Doig, Walt DeNio
Chorus Manager: Open
Captain Sunshine: Bill Maxfield
Section Leaders: McFadyen, Stephenson, Cowlishaw, Moss
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Cowlishaw, Doig, Frye, McFadyen, Moss, Murray, Prueter, and Stephenson
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)

CALENDAR, (With Performance Times; Warm-ups 30’- 45’ earlier)
Sep 30, T, 7:00 BCC Practice, WOAC
Oct. 4, 7:00 Rochester GoH Show “SHOW BIZ!” INSTANT CLASSIC
Oct 7, T, 7:00 BCC Practice, WOAC
Oct 11, Sa,8:30 Rehearsal, Church of Christ, 115 Campbell at 11 Mile Rd
Oct 14, T, 7:00 BCC Practice, WOAC
Oct 17 – 19 Fall District Convention, Muskegon
Oct 21, T, 7:00 BCC Practice, WOAC
Oct 28, T, 7:00 BCC Practice, WOAC
Oct 30, R Possible extra practice for show
Nov 1, 7:00 Big Chief Chorus Show, “Big Chiefs on Broadway”
Nov 4, T, 7:00 Christmas Chorus begins

Answers:
A cappella: (Note the spelling - two words, two p’s, two l’s) is Italian for “in the manner of the chapel” which came to mean “singing without instrumental accompaniment.”

Consonant: a pleasant-sounding chord, as opposed to dissonance, such as the harsh sound of two notes a half-tone apart

Homophonic: the four voices moving together in harmonic progression