St Patrick’s Day at Canterbury-On-The-Lake

The chorus continued its tradition of singing at Canterbury on the Lake for St Patrick’s Day, March 17. Freddie led the group of 30 thru a set that included some Irish songs, and quartet presentations by 4URPleasure, 4GVN, and Limited Edition. The formal program in the Chapel was followed by the customary green beer in the parlor.

More of Alicia’s photos are available at: https://plus.google.com/photos/101675889488763020767/albums/6129583606503496865

AROUND THE PATCH

Pioneer District Convention

Spring convention is in Battle Creek, F-S-S April 24-26. The contest venue is at Kellogg Auditorium, a 7-minute walk from McCamly Plaza hotel.  

See the Pioneer District website at: http://pioneerdistrict.org/nextconvention/convention_info.htm  

The deadline for completion of competition entries is April 10. Then the order of singing will be published.  

Grosse Pointe, Flint, and Mt Pleasant will have hospitality rooms.

Ted Prueter has been back at Lockwood of Waterford for some time now, but for quite a while he was quarantined with that terrible “C. Diff” infection. He is doing well enough now that he attended our St. Patrick’s gig at Canterbury –on-the-Lake.

Seven Chiefs attended Rochester Adams High School’s performance of The Addams Family March 27.

The Addams Family is a new (Broadway, 2010) musical comedy featuring the familiar quirky television characters.
Chris Miller Honorary Quartets
Fred Pioch responded to Chuck Murray’s request for a new round of CMHQs.

Walter Bachmann’s new email address: walbac@att.net

New Chorus Manager
Gene Downie has volunteered to fill the position of Chorus Manager, a position that has been vacant for several years. The duties of a chorus manager?
- Organize Bus Trips
- Make arrangements for contest.
- Bring the boiled eggs for contest
- Work with Bob Greenwood and Roger to provide risers at pre-contest Rehearsal

Bill Holmes turns 86

Recent Guests have included Craig Grant, Ken Glaza, and Mark Smith.

Final Valentines tally (from Duane Roy)
The chorus quartets performed 29 gigs for a gross of $1587 and a net of $1379.

Quartets
Bidin’ Our Time
BOT had an interesting gig, Saturday, February 28 for Ted Carlson’s 80th birthday in Waterford. (It was a referral from the Ann Arbor chapter.) Roger Holm gave Ted’s wife Dolores occasional rides to work when they both worked at GM. Dolores remembered “Roger the Oger” and knew he was in a barbershop chorus, leading to the gig.

Limited Edition
The quartet returned to John’s old stamping grounds for the 2015 Oakland University Faculty/Staff talent show. Competing with eight other acts (including guitarists, dancers, and the Chinese dragon from the Detroit parades), the quartet took first place.

Chapter 2015 Performances: 51 gigs to 801,137 people

MEMBERSHIP: (at 50)
New Members: Bill Durham, David Stone. Welcome, guys!
Renewals: Bill Maxfield (7), Tom Blue (8), Dar Johnson (9), Dave Myre (9), Greg Moss (12), Bill Auquier (15), Jim Owens (15), Jeff Spires (15), Gene Downie (17), Chuck Murray (19), Jeff Doig (22), Mike Frye (27), Roger Holm (27), Howard Lynn (38)

Due in April: Walt Bachmann, Bill Holmes, Bob Legato, Bob Marshall

Overdue: Mike Doyle, Fred Pioch, Ted Prueter, Bob Stephenson

April Birthdays: Duane Roy (2nd), Wayne Oberstadt (3rd), Jeff Spires (16th)

Medical:
Ted Prueter – being treated for leukemia
Duane Roy – being treated for esophageal cancer

Lansing Show

Wharton Center is Michigan’s largest performing arts venue, and a step inside the huge structure Saturday night, March 14 showed why. It was the site of The Capitol City Chordsmen’s show, “A Sentimental Journey – 75 Years of Barbershop Harmony,” referring to the history of the Lansing chapter, founded in 1940. Under the direction of Steve Warnaar, the 33-man chorus sang songs that represented the decades in that lifetime. In-house quartets included Olde Thyme Harmony Quartet, Parts Unlimited, Knockin’ On Heaven’s Door, and Patch Chords. Guest quartets included a Sweet Ads quartet from the Spirit of Detroit chorus – FASCINATION! and CROSSROADS. It was CROSSROADS, of course, that drew so many barbershoppers from across Michigan. They sang eight songs in the show, and four more at the Afterglow. (The Afterglow was seven miles away at Robin Hill Catering, and Zaven and I would like to personally thank Dolores, my cell-phone-resident Google map girl, for guiding us thru the streets of Lansing.) Fred Farrell, Mike Slamka, Jim Henry, and Brandon Guydon sound stronger than ever. What gusto, historical deference, fast lips ...and bulk... they have! Slender baritone Brandon joked that there was a half a ton of harmony on the stage with him. Jim Henry cracked most of the jokes. “People ask how four guys from four different states found each other ... and the answer is quite simple – eHarmony.com”

A memorable aspect of the evening was that six past directors are still living and were present to tell some stories and share directing of the final number. They are: Ken Gibson, Doc Gillingham, Pete Stephens-Brown, Mike O’Donnell, Jamie Carey, and Jessica Thompson. The whole show with intermission ran 2:35.

G-Fours

...has scheduled its senior recital Saturday, April 4 at 4:00pm, in the Hart Recital Hall, in the MSU School of Music.

Mike Jaissle

There has been an outpouring of warmth in response to Mike Jaissle’s death.

“Mike served as President of the Guardians for many years including the majority of our trips to compete at International. Over the last 20 years Mike had, not one but two heart transplants. He was a great asset to the chorus and to Barbershop and will be very much missed. I’m sure the first he’ll ask at Heaven's Gate is whether there are any Barbershop Singers checked in.”

Tom Blackstone

Dick Liddicoatt passed away on the March 26 in Lake Orion. No formal arrangements will be done by the family. Dick was a past member of our chorus in and his wife Linda was a past coach.
Sing-Off Tour

The Sing-Off is on tour, in March and April. Not the contest, but some of the winners.

http://www.singofftour.com/

The closest venues to us were Royal Oak Music Theater March 18, and Grand Rapids DeVos Music Hall the next evening.

Some barbershop groups were chosen to be opening acts, including FOREFRONT March 25 streamed live from Louisville, and INSTANT CLASSIC in Indianapolis March 26.

Sing-Off Tour showcases barbershop!

MEDIA

Danny Fong has returned to barbershop with his recording of "When I Leave The World Behind."

You may have never heard anything more than the tag before.

http://tinyurl.com/obwtjx3

History

Sweet Music

"Ever wonder why popular music was so saccharine before the arrival of rock 'n' roll? Because teenagers and college students wanted it that way -- they wanted a type of music that came to be known as "sweet music." And they largely eschewed fast music. They had just endured a war with over 70 million casualties, the atomic bomb, and the emergence of the significantly more powerful hydrogen bomb.

"A year after [World War II] ended, Life noted, 'If the songs a country sings are any indication of its mood, the U.S. last week was lolling in an amorous, sentimental daze. On dance floors and radios were heard such plaintive queries as "Why don't you surrender?" and such pleas as "Linger in my arms a little longer, baby."' In a 1949 Billboard poll, well over three-quarters of college students said their favorite kind of music was sweet; swing was second, while just over 1 percent voted for 'Progressive Jazz, barely beating out "Corn."' Some college promoters put a 'three-ballads-out-of-four' clause into orchestras' contracts; Billboard reported that Cornell University, in addition to asking for the slow dance music proviso, forced an agency to include a clause which would prohibit the ork [orchestra] from smoking [playing fast music] on the bandstand.'

From The B Side: The Death of Tin Pan Alley and the Rebirth of the Great American Song, by Ben Yagoda.

THE SINGING CRAFT -

Snap Singing

It's an old Woodshedding game. The quartet stands in a circle and, at any point in a song, the person singing Lead snaps his fingers. Without breaking cadence, Bass, Bari, and Lead, take the next higher part and Tenor goes to Bass. If the group is good, they can change parts on every breath!

What's Up, Art Carinci?

Art joined the Chorus in 2000 and played an important role in our “New York, New York” show.

He retired from the Southfield School Language Department. Then met and married Maria, for whom he took a job in Las Vegas, NV, to get vested in a pension that would include her after five years.

He taught French there from January 2007 thru June 2013, mostly to lower-class, at-risk students, “five years of hard labor in the desert!” Ironically he took a “Spanish survival” course at UNLV to increase his communication skills with his students, many freshly from Mexico, and mostly lower-class, at risk students.

Now that he has retired from that school system he is rejoining the chorus, even perhaps with more seriousness than his first trip. He is working hard on his bass skills and may explore quartetting.

He is spending his retirement fixing things up in the house he owns with Maria in South Lyon, and in fixing to sell their Dearborn rental.

He also enjoys part-time work as a “mystery shopper.” It keeps him out in the community, talking to people, and maintaining his communication skills as he writes up reports on the conditions he has
discovered at Kroger’s, Olga’s, Blaze Pizza, oil change shops, new car dealers, Costco, et al.

**CALENDAR,** (With Performance Times; Warm-ups 30’- 45’ earlier)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 31, T</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 7, T</td>
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<td>Apr 14, T</td>
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<td>Apr 24-26</td>
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<td>Pioneer District Convention, Battle Creek</td>
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<td>7:00</td>
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<td>Elmhaven Manor, Mother’s Day</td>
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<td>2:30</td>
<td>Lockwood of Waterford</td>
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<td>May 30, Sa</td>
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<td>Great Lakes Harmony Brigade show, Okemos</td>
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<td>Jun 23, T</td>
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<td>Flint’s Dead Creek Picnic (Bus at 5:30)</td>
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<td>Jun 27, Sa</td>
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<td>Log Cabin Days, Waterford</td>
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<td>Jul 1-5</td>
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<td>BHS International, Pittsburgh</td>
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<td>Jul 26 – Aug 2</td>
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<td>Harmony University, Belmonth Univ. Nashville, TN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 7, Sa</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>71st BCC Show “BCC Does the Grammys”</td>
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**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: Gene Downie
Captain Sunshine: Bill Maxfield
Section Leaders: McFadyen, Stephenson, Cowlishaw, Moss
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Cowlishaw, Doig, Frye, McFadyen, Moss, Murray, Prueter, Stephenson, Mazzara
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)

From Lansing Woodshedder (I think)

From Barbershop Memes