



Association of Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors

www.harmonize.com/PROBE



PROBEmoter

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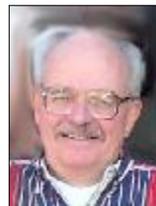
PROBE President

Lowell Shank

PROBE Annual Meeting - Agenda

9:00 am Thursday, July 5, 2007

Denver, Colorado



AGENDA

Call to Order: [Lowell Shank](#), President
The Old Songs – All

Welcome and Introductions – [Lowell Shank](#), President

Minutes from July 6, 2006, PROBE meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana
[Dick Girvin](#) – Secretary/Treasurer

Officer Reports

President [Lowell Shank](#)
Vice President for Membership [David Wagner](#)
Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations – no report
Vice President for Bulletin Editors [Bruce Anderson](#)
PROBEmoter Editor [Steve Jackson](#)

Awards

Induction into PROBE Hall of Honor (2007) – [Dick Girvin](#), Chair, Selection Committee
PR Officer of the Year (PROTY - 2006) – [Ted Sayle](#), past VP Marketing and PR
International Electronic On-Line Bulletin of the Year (2006) – [Bruce Anderson](#), Contest Coordinator

Most Improved Bulletin Award (2006) – [Lowell Shank](#), IBC Chairman
International Bulletin Editor of the Year Award (2006) – [Lowell Shank](#), IBC Chairman

****Award winning bulletins will be displayed for all to view****

Old Business

PROBE membership status – list provided by Secretary [Dick Girvin](#).

New Business

Topics presented by attendees

Election of Officers (Term begins October 1, 2007)

Report from Nominating Committee, [Bruce Anderson](#), Chairman
Nominations from the floor (if any) and Election

Keep America Singing – All

Adjourn (no later than 10:30 am – Quartet Semifinals Contest begins at noon)



Bruce Anderson (right), PROBE Bulletin Editor VP, presents Dave Haase with the traveling trophy for PROBE's International Online Bulletin Contest. The Hawkseye was judged as the best 2005 online bulletin. The presentation was made at the BHS International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Doug Brott, Executive Vice-President of the Kansas City chapter, accepts a PROBE award on behalf of Todd Anderson. Anderson placed third in PROBE's International Bulletin Contest. Photo by Dave Haase.

Going to Denver? www.denver2007.org

Photo's and captions were lifted from the November 2006 Central States "Serenade," David Haase, editor

PROBE

Association of Public Relations Officers
and Bulletin Editors

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Editor's Desk

Steven Jackson



**ONE RECIPE FOR
BUILDING A BULLETIN**

If your chapter does NOT have a bulletin, why not volunteer to start one up?

Start with your chapter calendar with complete details on your events. Add one article from your President. Stir in your Director's words of wisdom. Sift in chapter quartet activities. Add your chapter contact information, fold in your editorial thoughts, add your chapter logo, vision and mission statements, steal a craft article from another chapter bulletin or District publication (not necessarily the RMD), wake up your webmaster and have him send you .jpg of all chapter members, email your chapter counselor and ask him for a short article (to introduce himself, if nothing else), ask your secretary to send you the recent board minutes so you can condense them into useful chapter news.

Don't ask your treasurer for any articles, just ask him for a small budget to cover mailing, printing and software costs (as needed). **Shake thoroughly!** Voila! You have a great start on an effective, informative bulletin for your chapter. Not sure what else to include? I always make myself a checklist.

President

inspirational and informative articles

Membership VP

recent guests, new members, bios on current members, birthdays and anniversaries

Music VP

logistics on your performances, repertoire

YIH VP

upcoming events—contests and festivals

Program VP

what's happening at the weekly meetings, calendar of events

Chorus Director

craft articles, more inspiration

Quartet contact men

News on what they're doing

Livewire (from Society)

All sorts of good information here about Int'l programs and events

Webmaster (if you have website)

photos, info, and more photo's

Secretary

Membership renewals, current rosters, Board minutes

What should we add to this list? You tell me.....congratulations, now you are an editor.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally appeared in the RMD **Vocal Expressions**, March/April 2007, edited by yours truly. Ol' eagle eye **Lowell Shank** spotted it, and suggested a reprint in these pages — okie dokie, I'm easy.



PROBE GOLD MEDAL BULLETIN

In Fond Memory

"The Pride Of Iowa"

John W. Petterson



Gentlemen:

I received a phone call from Kay Petterson indicating that John passed away from cancer on Tuesday, Feb. 27th. Kay indicates he was in control, he was calling the shots and he died peacefully after only 48 hours in Hospice in Johnston.

His body will be donated to Des Moines University. There will be a memorial service on Saturday, March 17th at 11:00 am at Norwalk United Methodist Church in Norwalk. There will be no visitation.

For you newer members, John was our **Barbershopper of the Year** for 2002. He was the editor of our **"Harmony Overtones"** for many years and also took care of our annual show program. He was also the past editor of our Central States **"Serenade"** and past editor of the Society's **"PROBEmoter"** (for PROBE).

John was a very private person. He was always upbeat and positive even though he may not have been feeling well. He was very conscientious and professional in his work. Kay's address is:

Kay Petterson
1017 Meadow Drive
Norwalk, IA 50211

Al Severt



2005 PROBE HALL OF HONOR



Terry Jordan



John Suggs

Bulletin Exchange Program

Alexander Edwards
14024 Shirwaun Road
Apple Valley, CA 92307

xedwards@gtmc.net

Hm ph: (760) 247-1605

IS YOUR CHAPTER ON THE BULLETIN EXCHANGE PROGRAM?

Why would we want to be? You will receive bulletins from every chapter in the program! You can discover what's happening in chapters throughout the society. You can swipe material for your own chapter bulletin! (always giving proper attribution of course, but be careful of using material that has a copyright on it without first getting permission from the copyright holder). You can meet and talk with your fellow editors at conventions. You can correspond and exchange ideas with other editors. What are my obligations? You only have one. It is an exchange program, so you must agree to send a copy of each of your bulletins to everyone in the exchange program (currently 50 people). How do I sign up?

To be a part of the exchange, simply contact **Bulletin Exchange Program** volunteer coordinator **Alexander Edwards** and tell him you want to be a part of it, by email at: xedwards@gtmc.net, or by postal service at:

Alexander Edwards,
14024 Shirwaun Road,
Apple Valley, CA 92307
Tel. (760) 247-1605

He will add you to the list for other editors and will send you a list of current participants to add to your mailing list.



PROBE Annual Meeting
9:00 am Thursday, July 5, 2007
Denver, Colorado

See agenda elsewhere – but why should I attend?

- Meet PROBE officers, bulletin editors and public relations officers.
- Be first to hear who has won the various awards that are given out.
- Take my plaque that I have won home with me.
- Make suggestions for improving various aspects of PROBE.
- Make suggestions for improving the M&PR Track at COTS.
- Elect new officers for next year.
- Sing.

Deadlines Extended to May 1, 2007

By Lowell Shank, President

Send all **On-Line Bulletins** to VP **Bruce Anderson**. See the last issue of the *PROBEmoter* and the PROBE web page for instructions.

PROTY Award

Single and Year-Long

see PROBE web page: send to

Ted Sayle

512 W. Southern Hills Road
Phoenix, AZ 85023



Many thanks to editor Dick Kury
"Suburban By-Lines," Jan. 2007 — St. Louis,
 Missouri
 presented by Pres. Bob Wever (left)
 to John Conrad (pictured right)



Max Sabor

**AMERICAN HARMONY—
 THE MOVIE**

Here's a really great website that you just have to check out. When you go to the site at: www.americanharmonythemovie.com, you will find the following statement: "A documentary film about a true American art form ... AMERICAN HARMONY ... click here to see a sneak peek." Try it for yourself and you will see a terrific trailer from a film still in the making, about barbershop music! The story starts out with "One night a week, in towns and cities in every corner of America, fifty thousand people get together for one reason: to harmonize in the American musical style called Barbershop." Although choruses will be a part of the finished film, the main characters are the quartets who had been followed since last year in Salt Lake City. The producers, a group called the American Harmony Crew, plan on fitting this into a workable 90 minute film and submitting it to numerous film festivals around the world—hopefully securing distribution for the film at one of those festivals. If that happens, the film will be shown in theaters nationwide. The Barbershop Harmony Society will be fully advised of the status of the film, and will communicate to all its members how and when it can be seen.

[Editor's note: Thanks for the tip, Max!]

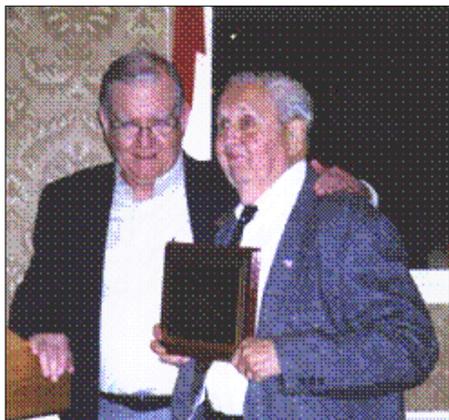
From "In Tune," Hunterdon NJ bulletin, Linda Williams, editor

Fill Seats and Generate Good Will

By W. Grant Carson

If your chapter performances are sold out, then you needn't read this. But if there are empty seats, here is an idea. I no longer sing barbershop, Gainesville, Texas, not being the center of gravity of the barbershop world. But I sing in a classical community chorus. Our challenges of public relations and selling tickets are no different from a barbershop chapter. The attendance at our performances is usually about 150 in an auditorium that seats 330.

For our next performance, in addition to the fliers, posters, etc., the Public Relations Committee has decided to provide in advance complimentary tickets to college administrators, who provide the auditorium free, to music teachers of all schools in the county, to church choir directors, to the editor and reporters of our local newspaper, and to the mayor and city councilmen. This will cost us nothing except printing tickets. The chorale members will feel better about singing to a larger audience, rather than to so many empty seats. And we may even pick up some members.



John Conrad was given a plaque honoring him for his untiring (15 year) efforts on behalf of the Gents as bulletin editor extraordinaire. John won the **Central States Bulletin Editor of the Year** award SIX times and in 2002 won the Society's International First Place Award. John retired from the job in September 2006. A great run John, congratulations from all of us.

Here is John's record of winnings.

As editor and publisher, John was awarded best bulletin editor for the Central States District for the years 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004 and was awarded *International First Place Winner in 2002....WOW!*

P.R.O.B.E. "HALL OF HONOR"

Nominations Now Open

Written by Dick Girvin, Chairman



Top directors and medalist quartet members justifiably receive high praise. But there are many other members who work behind the scenes in non-singing tasks to support our Society and the musical accomplishments.

They are the marketing, public relations and bulletin volunteers who help communicate our message and our music, both within the Society and to other music lovers. PROBE wants to recognize the top practitioners among them. And you can help -- by nominating them for the prestigious **PROBE Hall of Honor** award, established in 1989. Nominations are open for persons who will be considered for recognition at each summer's international convention.

A nominee, living or deceased, must have been a PROBE member for at least 10 years, and must have made contributions to PROBE and its purposes beyond the normal duties of performing PROBE-related functions for a chapter or district.

Any current PROBE member may make a nomination. If you're not a member, join now or pass your nomination on through a member. The nomination must be in writing, specifically describing the nominee's services and contributions. Include supporting evidence if available. You also may include letters of support from other persons who know the nominee.

Your nomination need not be extremely sophisticated or professionally prepared. The selection is not based on the presentation, but on the nominee's merits. Further, this is not a competition, but recognition. **The deadline is April 30 of each year.** Send your nominations now, before the deadline, to the award committee chairman:

Dick Girvin, Chairman
Hall of Honor Committee
34888 Lyn Avenue,
Hemet, CA 92545
dickgirvin@juno.com

PROBE Hall Of Fame

(alphabetically)

Bruce Anderson Ray Barrett Herb Bayles
Wm. Grant Carson Jerry Coltharp Lloyd Davis
Wade Dexter Mel Edwards Leo Fobart Jim Fulks
Harry Gault Dick Girvin Ray Heller
Bob Hockenbrough Paul Izdepski Steve Jackson
Terry Jordan Grady Kerr Deac Martin
Bob McDermott William Moreland John Morris
Roger Morris Buddy Myers Dee Paris
John Petterson Waldo Redekop Craig Rigg
Jerry Roland Lowell Shank Wilbur Sparks
Stan "Stasch" Sperl Dick Stuart Jim Styer
John Sugg Staff Taylor Dick Teeters
Arnold Wade Charlie Wilcox

A Few Thoughts About Performing, Good Manners and Good Relations

By **Robb Ollett**
Peta Luma, California
FarWestern District



In my many travels and attending chapter officer trainings in other districts, I have the pleasure of seeing many quartets and choruses. Some I have enjoyed more than others, not because of their singing...but their manners!! Consider these thoughts.

When performing, meet your audience!

I watched a strolling quartet perform, disappear, perform, disappear, perform, disappear. They never interacted with the group and the audience that HIRED them. Nobody remembers them. I also watched an international champion quartet walk into an afterglow, split with two parts, started from the back of the room singing tags with chapter members, shaking hands, thanking people for attending, as they strolled to the front of the room to take their VIP seats. Took them almost 30 minutes. Now there is involvement!

Will you PLEASE lose that water bottle!

After 30 years with the Society, no one has to convince me on the importance of hydration. In disbelief, I watched a quartet break after every song and drink their bottled water during the applause. Get over yourself! You are performing and engaging your audience...and impressing them with your water intake skills?? NO! You are supposed to graciously appreciate an audience being there and acknowledging your singing. Get your hydration before and after the performances, not during.

WHEW, we are done, so let's get home!

Well, almost done. After you perform, does the music director thank the back stage team? Does someone visit with the person inviting the group to sing? Did someone visit with the audience about the chapter, handing out business cards for chapter night? And who wrote the thank you notes to these same people, inviting them to your show??

Performances take so much time, what good is it?

Aside from the joy of singing, if the chapter or quartet isn't out monthly, opportunities to bring in more singers disappear to be worth. So are they engaged in a hobby? Are they professionals or amateurs? Perhaps until grant givers and other supporters of the arts understand that we are serious about what we do, we should drop the words "hobby" and "amateur" from our barbershop vocabulary and tell people that we are members of an arts organization. Rather than calling ourselves amateurs and hobbyists, we should refer to ourselves as artists and performers.

A TIP OF THE HAT!

“You just might be a Barbershopper”

Selected by Tina Gunther (with permission) from Harmonet messages from Matt Swann, Ann McAlexander, Paul Agnew, Dave Jacobs, Rob Baltensberger, Kate Firthuk and Tina Gunther

ONLY HALF OF A LONG LIST

The rest will be published in the July - September PROBEmoter

If you hear a car horn and immediately reach for your pitch pipe, you might be a barbershopper.

If you wonder why the seats on a plane aren't FOUR across, you might be a barbershopper.

If the person sitting next to you at the symphony kindly suggests you stop humming the seventh of every chord played, you might be a barbershopper.

If you've ever gotten that weird look from the Dry Cleaner when you show up and ask if they can do sequins really well, you might be a barbershopper.

If you watched the first round of **American Idol** and made a list of potential recruits in your city, for your chapter, you might be a barbershopper.

If your most prominent bumper sticker is "I Can't, I Have Rehearsal," you might be a barbershopper.

If you have 1-800-876-SING on your speed dial, you might be a barbershopper.

If <http://www.spebsqsa.org> is your home page in your web browser, you might be a barbershopper.

If you've accidentally tried to blow a pitch on an Oreo, you might be a barbershopper.

If you let your wife think you're having an affair so you can slip in one more rehearsal before contest, you might be a barbershopper.

If, when the pastor starts reciting the Lord's Prayer, you can't help but hear the chords, you might be a barbershopper.

If, when listening to an oldies station, you think they're singing the song wrong because it's not how the **Boston Common** sang it, you might be a barbershopper.

Flattening (singing flat) can be a symptom of:

Poor posture; lack of knowledge of proper intervals; lack of resonance/vocal energy; lack of breath support; mental distraction.

Too often choruses like ours tune to the loudest voice in their section and sections tune to the loudest lead voice.

If you're a 'vocal leader' by talent or uncontrolled volume, it falls on your shoulders to know the words and NOTES better than anyone else and concentrate on staying on tune.

I've said repeatedly that the key to singing Barbershop is listening. A Society coach, Jeremy Reynolds, recently phrased it like this: "You have two ears and one voice; use them in that same ratio."

If you can't hear the voices beside you, chances are good you can't hear anything other than yourself - how then, do you blend? You don't, and that means WE don't.

Contributed by Jon Wagner, director Sun City, Florida chapter bulletin "Par for the Course"

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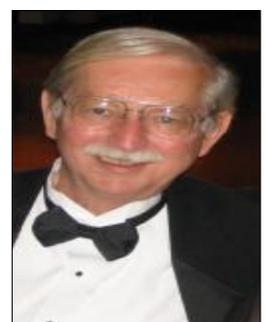
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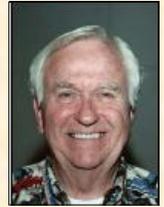
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WEBMASTER

Care and Feeding of the Chapter Bulletin

By Dick Cote, Publisher/Editor, Fullerton, California Barbershop Clippin's



Gene Clements asked me to put together some ideas for preparing a chapter bulletin, so here goes.

Some general principles

First and foremost, if you want to be an editor you have to be a friend to the chapter and its members. It's best to get to know all members by name, what part they sing, if they're in any quartets, get to know their wives, and even something about what they do and have done. In short, you have to know your members and let them know who you are, what you're doing, and why they should take an interest in it. No matter how good you are at mechanical considerations such as using a computer and word processor, if you don't have a good rapport with your members, chances are you won't get very far.

How about the mechanical aspects? In the old days, production of a bulletin was a matter of using a typewriter, scissors, a glue pot, and lots of patience. Cut and paste, literally, was just that. And I think there are still some bulletin editors who use that technique. But my advice is to get yourself a reasonably good computer, a good word processor, and a nice printer. None of these items is very expensive today, and most will do the job quite handily.

So let's start with some basic equipment thoughts. You should have a Windows based PC or a MAC to start with. I use a PC and do all of my work using the WordPerfect Office X3 software for composition and layout. I suspect that the more popular word processor is Microsoft Word, but even though I have it, I've found WordPerfect to be easy to use, and besides, it came with my first computer and I've grown accustomed to it. I know some editors use preformatted newsletter programs, and I have some of those, but I've never used them because I like the latitude that I have with a good word processor. More on that later.

"I have writers who would really hate to miss an issue, and in ten years of publishing, I have several who haven't missed even one."

Today, you can get a really nice printer for very little money—under \$100.00 for one that will do the job nicely and will have more capability than you'll ever be able to use. I have three printers. The one I use for final copy preparation is a high quality black and white laser printer. I have two color printers (you don't really need all that) but I got my second one as a premium when I bought my latest computer.



Kay and Dick Cote

Cote Archives

It's the second one that's a real gem. It's an HP Printer/Scanner/Copier model 1210, It's inexpensive and it has wonderful capabilities, not the least of which is that it turns out very nice color or black and white copies. However, one of its best features, from my point of view, is the scanner. With that you can make copies of photos or printed pages, and even use it to do character recognition of printed matter. You can really dress up your bulletin with photos of your members and their activities. That, to me, is one of the biggest selling points of a good bulletin.

Perhaps the biggest factor in the success of your undertaking is what you can put into it. That means, what kind of articles you use, how relevant they are to barbershopping, and how you put them together for maximum interest. But here's the catch—getting articles to use can be a real struggle. I know editors around the country who are lucky to have one or two contributors in a month. The result is that most of what they publish is what they prepare themselves or what they borrow from other bulletins.

By the way, borrowing is a good thing. But getting contributors can be a challenge. The *Barbershop Clippin's* is the envy of the some bulletin editors because I always have at least 15 contributors, and frequently as many as 20. How does that happen? Well, remember what I said about getting to know your members? If you get to know them and to show how interested you are in them, that's part of the battle. I have writers who would really hate to miss an issue—and in ten years of publishing, I have several who haven't missed even one.

Okay, you ask, how do you get people to write? The first source should be your chapter officers, and while most of them won't contribute an article for each issue, they should do so at certain times of the year. I think the chapter president should try to get a blurb in each month. And the secretary will get in because you'll want to publish a condensation of board meeting minutes.

On the other hand, the treasurer probably doesn't have much to say most of the year, but at tax time it's nice for him to prepare an article about what your membership means in terms of tax treatment. Anyway, you get the idea.

Other sources will be the guy who's responsible for quartet activities, quartet contacts, the chorus manager, Youth in Harmony coordinators, and social directors such as your afterglow or harmony for lunch bunch chairmen. But I, for one, don't wait for articles to come out of the wood work. I'd be waiting a long time. I see things happening and suggest to a member that perhaps he should write something about it, and that frequently works.

I've been known to be really sneaky and write an article and put someone else's name on it, just to show them what can be done. It works. The main thing is to get your guys into the habit of writing, and the more they write, the better they'll write, and the bulletin will improve as a result.

That's it for now. I plan to write a follow up article on some of the mechanics I use to put my bulletin together, including some pitfalls to avoid and shortcuts to making your bulletin shine.

Reprinted from the summer 2005 PROBEmoter and the reason I did it is because a follow up article is coming next issue, right, Dick?

Communication in perspective

By Gilbert M. Savery, retired newspaper editor
submitted by Bruce Anderson, VP-BE

The last half of the 20th Century has invited descriptive labeling. We have become familiar with popular labels given to this age, such as nuclear, computer, post-industrial, space and communication. For the first time in history, governments can no longer effectively control information. Satellites have erased many barriers to communication. On a personal level, computers make communication fast and convenient. This fact has direct application to all organizations seeking to improve the sharing of information with their members and with a larger public. Some believe the Internet and other computer-accessible data banks will replace the printed page.

Not so fast! There is something quite inviting about being able to lift a printed bulletin from the coffee table without having to log on and pull up items of special interest on a computer screen. Maintaining the printed page as an attractive, appealing form of communication is challenging. Brightly written items, tightly edited to conserve space and to avoid duplication, are essentials.

Yet these elements are merely the mechanical side of communication. The most important thing is to assure that material is published in a timely, clear manner to achieve maximum response to the efforts put forth by participants. A secondary element is the recording of activities for those who might be interested in the future.

Creating a written historical record is indeed desirable. The flow of ideas from one group to another is extremely important. Ideas are precious and become a part of the shared education of like-minded people. A shared idea may well be the seed of a far greater achievement, although that is not always true.

Making good choices for the mind requires even more discipline than making choices for the belly.

This concept was expressed by Oliver Wendell Holmes in this way: *“Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than the one where they sprung up. That which was a weed in one becomes a flower in the other, and a flower again dwindles down to a mere weed by the same change.”*

In any event, the sharing of information is vital to continued improvement of performances in almost every field of human endeavor. That’s why Americans attend so many workshops and seminars - both effective avenues of communication. Much has been said about information overload in today’s society. Not to worry! Enjoying a smorgasbord of ideas is just as enjoyable as a buffet loaded with a variety of foods. Making good choices for the mind requires even more discipline than making choices for the belly.

These are great days for communicators. Their work can add strength to whatever endeavor is undertaken. Good writing takes time and deserves polishing through revision and selection. That means choosing just the right word to convey a distinct meaning. Our new technical tools linked with our English language make for effective linking between transmitters and the receivers of messages.

Bringing these elements into play is the challenge facing all who seek to communicate. This publication itself comes to you through the miracle of desktop publishing. Two parting thoughts: It has been said of newspapers that they are the “first rough draft of history.” And, it is asked, **what is editing if not determining what gets printed and what does not?** That applies to everything from a full text to individual word selection.

Pulled from the PROBE website: Recent PROBEmoters



BARBERSHOP HISTORY QUIZ #47

by Mark Axelrod, editor of “Blue Chip Chatter,” Teaneck, NJ Chapter; copied from the PROBE website.



QUESTIONS

1. Who is known as Mr. Barberpole Cat and why? For extra credit, what was (and is) the purpose of the Barberpole Cat program?
2. Name the two VIP barbershoppers who collaborated with Mr. Barberpole Cat in the creation of the program.
3. When was the Barberpole Cat program launched?
4. What was the predecessor of the Barberpole Cat program called and when did that earlier effort come into existence?
5. How many Pole Cat songs exist today? How many existed when the program was launched? For extra credit, name them.

See answers on page 14.

Just Browsing

A Forum for our Readers

Creating A Website for Your Chapter?

Kristine Parkes <kristine@krispcommunications.com>

We use **GoDaddy.com** for hosting. It is less than \$5.00 per month for hosting, 500 email accounts, web mail access, and plenty of other options. The **GoDaddy** site is confusing due to all of the options they offer, but their customer support is excellent. I've had to call (more frequently than I'd like to admit) for help, and I don't think I've ever waited on hold.

GoDaddy also supports **Frontpage** extensions, php, sql, etc. The only downside I've found is that they don't support multiple passwords on the windows hosting servers (we use **Frontpage**). This became an issue when I tried to set up a secure members area using a sub domain. If you have a site written in PHP on the Linux servers, no problem, but this is beyond my capability. Good luck!

Krisp Communications
2556 Lafayette Court
Gilbertsville, PA 19525
610-279-4141

www.KrispCommunications.com

Thomas R. Arneberg <toma@cray.com>

There is yet another option; you can register a domain name for only about \$8.00 per YEAR, and then have it forward web hits to wherever you can get space. I do that through **NameSecure**. The web forwarding works fine, but their customer service is awful and their email forwarding is pretty slow. But if all you need is a web page, you can't beat the price. I own about ten different domains through them (all as hobbies).

Once you buy the domain, you need to find a spot to actually host your web pages. There are several free options, as others have mentioned...and, in fact, most email accounts come with a certain amount of free web server space.

Even 10 Megabytes of free server space is enough to get a lot of info out there. You won't be able to host tons of photos or sound files, but you can have a lot of info for a total cost of \$8.00 a year, which I'll bet would be approved by even the stingiest of chapter boards. ;-)

;-) I'd rather be ____ Thomas R. Arneberg
<http://chipsQuartet.com>
;-) singing in a |____| IC Design Engineer | toma@arneberg.com
;-) Barbershop _| _| Cray Supercomputers | Bari, "CHIPS" quartet
;-) Quartet! () () Chippewa Falls, WI | LOL Dist. Comm. Officer

“Nothing’s worse than having a website that’s displaying three year old info.”

Philip Maxfield <pmax@sport.rr.com>

Any website service is fine as long as you can financially support it long term and have access to make changes without too much fuss. I review many SWD websites all the time for updated info and ease of use. You can have a really cheap site and too much sponsorship ads attached to each page. This really makes for a distracting experience. On the other hand, you have the best server and hosting service but not have the means to support or keep it updated. What's the point in that?

Please touch base with your district PR & Marketing VP for insight. He might be able to provide some useful information that you might not have thought about. Some districts even have a means to host the chapter site at much cheaper costs and supply the chapter with tech support.

The Society encourages every chapter to have a website but it has to stay up to date or don't have a website at all. Nothing's worse than having a website that's displaying three year old info. We do have sites like that right now.

The chapter has to be dedicated to making this website a focus of public information. My point here is to make sure that the domain is something that can be remembered easily. It should make a statement as to who you are and what you do. The key word here is "branding" your site. Your district PR & Marketing guy can help you with that as well. I wish you luck for all those going through this project.

Philip Maxfield
SWD PR & Marketing Director
Vice Chairman - Society's PR & Marketing Committee

Tom Ennis

Probably, the most important offering an ISP can provide, assuming that they support the popular programming tools, is disc space. While 500 Mb sounds like a lot, it goes in the snap of a finger if you start archiving pictures and sound bytes. I thought one Gb. was good with my ISP and I was very fortunate that they upped it to 15 Gb. with no additional charge because I quickly went past one Gb.

John Elving <leaderman@>

Another hosting service is **RegisterFly.com** They have several different plans from \$3.95 up with all the features you would want, including 500 MB of space. It also supports **Frontpage** extensions, php, sql, etc. And you can have several different options as to how many email addresses it will support.

VP Mus & Perf
Editor-in-Cheap
Shrine of Democracy Chorus
Rapid City, SD

Deadline for the July—September PROBEmoter will be July 15th

Just Browsing

A Forum for our Readers

From: "Lyle Southam" <Lyle@ProInstall.ca>
To: "PROBEmail" <PROBEmail@yahogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [PROBEmail]
Re: Creating a WebSite for your chapter

I'll add to Phil's post. For chapters wanting a spot on the web without cost, I'll suggest hosting at <http://harmonize.com> and <http://evg.org> (within reason, no limit to space, my experience).

I'll also suggest that chapters first priority is to make their site 'inviting' and 'informative' to the *prospective* member, or *prospective* show attendee or *prospective* organization considering hiring your chorus. Educate prospects on what your chapter is and how a prospect can benefit from the chapter.

As a second priority, you might provide information to your chapter members. Some may even have a helpful 'members only' section.

So, as Phil says, *branding* is important. The Society has done much work on branding over the past few years. Gradually, we all are shedding the old brand (SPEBSQSA) and taking on the current 'Barbershop Harmony Society' brand and it's related logo. Again, your District Marketing & Public Relations VP will help you there too. I'm one of them and happy to help any who ask.

Lyle Southam
Director of Communications
Marketing and Public Relations, Evergreen District
lyle@ahsow.org
toll free 1-866-252-1615

Seen in the Sunshine District's Sunburst, Nov-Dec 2005,
Ron Hesketh, editor

This was written in 1984 by Wes Morgan, and I believe was even published in a Harmonizer around that time.

The Barbershopper's Psalm

The chord is my shepherd;
I shall not sing flat.
It maketh me lie down in cheap hotels,
Where I woodshed 'til dawn.
It leadeth me beside the Coach,
Who tells me to 'match vowels.'
It restoreth my pitch.
It leadeth me in the paths of baritones For perversity's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of Thoroughbreds, I will fear no judge;
For my Quartet is with me;
Their sevenths and overtones,
They comfort me;
They prepareth a key change for me in the presence of seven flats;
They anointeth my head with confidence;
My stage presence runneth over.
Surely harmony and laryngitis shall follow me all the conventions of my life;
and I will sing in the house of Kenosha forever.

On The Lighter Side

Seen in "The Plains Notes," Alexander Edwards, Editor

Virus info-beware

Thought you would want to know about this e-mail virus. Even the most advanced programs from Norton or McAfee cannot take care of this one. It appears (more frequently) to affect those who were born prior to 1960. The symptoms are:

- You send the same e-mail twice.
- You send a blank e-mail.
- You send e-mail to the wrong person.
- You send it back to the person who sent it to you.
- You forget to attachment the attachment.
- You hit send before you're finished.
- You bit delete instead of send.
- You hit send when you should delete.
- This is called the C-Nile Virus.

(should it be called "editoritus?" — SJ)

Thanks to Al Reis, *Overtones*, Lake County, Indiana chapter

Lincoln Chapter members honored at International convention; other members recognized for accomplishments

Article and photos by R. T. DeLorm, BULLETIN EDITOR, LINCOLN CHAPTER



Bruce Anderson, right, presents the PROBE PR Man of the Year Award to Darby Vannier

At the regular chapter meeting on Monday, July 19, 2005, a couple of grand awards were presented to Lincoln Chapter members. **Darby Vannier**, Chapter Marketing and Public Relations Vice-President, was recognized as the PROBE (Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors) Public Relations Officer of the Year for 2004. PROBE Past President **Bruce Anderson** presented the award.

Darby was instrumental in designing and providing a new logo for the chapter, and masterminded a campaign to include the new logo in every piece of literature the chapter provides. He designed posters for the annual show, the annual waffle feed, the YMIH program, the Christmas concert and the meeting place.

New tee shirts with the new logo were made available to each member and informal chorus shirts with the same logo. He honchoed the Valentines Day activities and kept everyone on schedule and he took the reins of the quest to make a chapter CD. He was there at each recording and at the studio when the recording was processed. He designed the jacket and is actively marketing the finished CD. This is a guy who won't quit — and we appreciate his persistence.

At the same meeting Program VP **Ron Mays**, called **Bruce Anderson** to the podium and announced that Bruce's name had been added to the "Hall of Honor" of PROBE, at the International Convention at Salt Lake City. Bruce continues to serve the Society at PROBE.



Ron Mays, right, presents the PROBE Hall of Honor Award to Bruce Anderson

Dale Comer, our musical director, remarked that the Lincoln membership should be proud of the Society honors bestowed on our members. We make these announcements at our chapter meetings and they are met with polite applause, but these are no small accomplishments, ie:

Darby Vannier, Public Relations Man of the Year — Society wide honor

Bruce Anderson, Past President of PROBE, Hall of Honor — Society wide honor

R. T. (Dick) DeLorm, Bulletin Editor of the Year, International Contest — Society wide honor

Dale Comer, Certified Judge and coach — Society wide honor

Adam Reimnitz, Certified Judge — Society wide honor

Denny Sorge, Certified Judge — Society wide honor

Bruce Anderson, Certified Judge, Bulletins — Society wide honor

Dick DeLorm, Certified Judge, Bulletins — Society wide honor

Ron Mays, past District VP Chapter Support and Leadership — CSD

Mark Fuerniss, District Secretary — CSD

Dale remarked that it would be hard to find another chapter of our size that could boast as many honors within a few years. 🎵

Lifted from the December 2006 HARMONOTES, Kansas City, Missouri chapter, Todd Anderson, editor

THE ROAD TO MAKING YOUR CHAPTER BULLETIN



Matt Bostick

1 Each month there are many consistent contributors to *Harmonotes*. Without their input, our bulletin can't communicate anything! From photography that captures a performance, to articles that inform, educate or entertain, we begin with the raw ingredients!

Start Here!
RECEIVE TOP-NOTCH PHOTOS AND ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS!

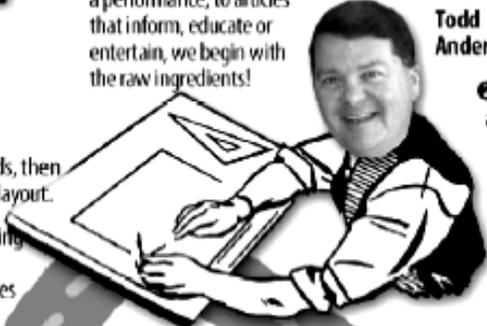


Don Fuson

Ron McIntire

2 Your editor gathers up the goods, then spends many hours developing a layout.

3 Several eyes proof our pages, trying to eliminate grammatical errors. Even our director, who already writes numerous pieces, assists other articles to read their very best. *(Bet the Associated Press could use a guy like that!)*

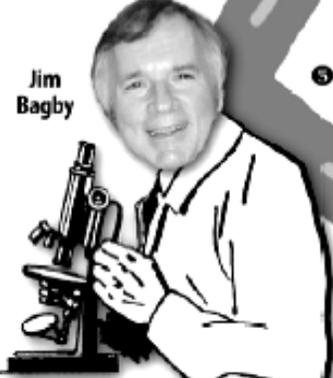


Todd Anderson

4 Our reporters range from a champion International bulletin editor to leaders throughout HOA. Just a FEW are shown below! (We even have a retired TV weatherman who can write hilarious articles or offer accurate forecasts for our shows!)



Wade Dexter

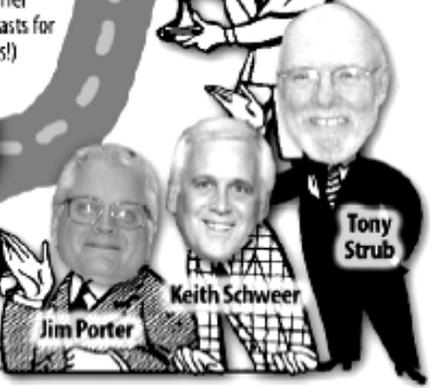


Jim Bagby

5 After proofing is completed, an electronic file is sent over the Internet to Overland Park, where Chris Brimble and his dedicated crew at FedEx/Kinko's fire up their presses and print our bulletin! They holler when the publication is ready to be picked up.



Dan Henry



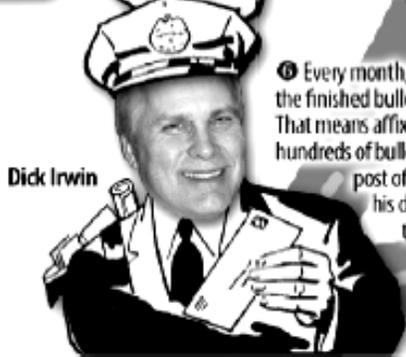
Jim Porter

Keith Schweer

Tony Strub



AS YOU CAN SEE, IT TAKES MORE THAN JUST A BULLETIN EDITOR TO BRING YOU A BULLETIN!



Dick Irwin

6 Every month, HOA's Distribution wizard picks up the finished bulletins, and prepares them for mailing. That means affixing labels and organizing the hundreds of bulletins in such a way so that the post office will accept them. Without his dedication, everything done to this point means nothing!





Howard Wood, left, and Deane Scoville, right, present the ninth straight FWD Bulletin Editor award to Dick Cote.

Joan Golding Photo

That's quite a streak; can anyone else match it? We'll feature you, too — found in the May 2006 "Clippings" edited by guess who?

BARBERSHOP HISTORY QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 11)

1. Floyd Connett (the Society's very first musical field rep) was dubbed Mr. Barberpole Cat because the concept of the program was his. The idea behind the program was/is to provide all barbershoppers everywhere with common arrangements of simple barbershop chestnuts to be sung during contest weekends, inter-chapter get-togethers and any other events where barbershoppers from different chapters find themselves in the same place at the same time. It's barbershopping's very own secret handshake.
2. Mac Huff, a musical field rep employed by the society in the 1960's and 1970's, and Ralph Ribble, the society president at the time the program was launched.
3. 1971.
4. The Barberpole Cat program had no predecessor per se. However, Floyd Connett saw the need for it, or something like it, as early as the late 1950's. It was then that Floyd published the song book entitled Just Plain Barbershop, which provided barbershoppers with a common repertoire for the first time. (Extra personal trivia - In the fall of 1967 when I started singing in my first quartet, the FDU Barbershop Quartet - this was before I became a society member - all of the songs we learned were in Just Plain Barbershop. This collection of old, simple barbershop tunes remains available from the society to this day).
5. The original Pole Cat songs from 1971 include: My Wild Irish Rose, Down Our Way, Honey/Little Lize Medley (counted as one song), Sweet, Sweet Roses Of Morn and Shine On Me. The 12-song series we are familiar with today was adopted in 1987 by a vote of all society members and consists of the five songs mentioned above plus: Wait Till The Sun Shines Nellie, Let Me Call You sweetheart, Heart of My Heart, Sweet Adeline, Down By The Old Mill Stream, Sweet And Lovely and You Tell Me Your Dream.

Mr. Barberpole Cat - Floyd Connett

He helped us to learn to sing together

During the Society's first two decades our members had no common repertoire—different choruses and quartets sang different songs, or the same songs in different arrangements. Many men could sing common arrangements of "Coney Island Baby" or "Shine on Me" or "After Dark," but that was about it. Floyd Connett's first collection of songs intended for every barbershopper, Just Plain Barbershop, provided a common repertoire for the first time, in the late 1950s. But more was to come. In 1971, Connett, with two other Society leaders, the legendary Mac Huff and then-president Ralph Ribble, formulated the first Barberpole Cat program, originally six songs.

Currently there are 12 songs in the Barberpole Cat collection. Five of them are Floyd Connett arrangements, all in the key of B-flat: "My Wild Irish Rose," "Down Our Way," "Honey/Little 'Lize Medley," "Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn," and "Shine on Me." The legacy of one of our Society's greatest figures, Floyd Connett, lives on every time barbershoppers harmonize these songs and feel the close fellowship they bring. ♪

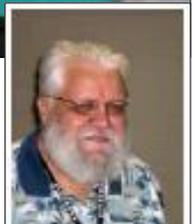
Borrowed from Tom Pearce, Richmond, Virginia, Chapter, adapted from Heritage of Harmony Songbook, Burt Szabo, Editor. Taken from Big D Bulletin, October 1998, Grant Carson, Editor



Bill Saber accepts award for Mike Fordice who was chosen 2005 PROBE

PR Officer of the Year
Year Long Activity

August 2006 "In Tune," Linda Williams, Ed.



Mike Fordice,
Music VP



The Songs We Sing

Source: Wikipedia
Compiled by Wade Dexter

Irving Berlin

In 1917, during World War I, Irving Berlin was drafted into the U. S. Army and staged a musical revue, *Yip Yip Yaphank*, while at Camp Upton, New York. Billed as a “military mess cooked up by boys of Camp Union,” the show cast 350 members of the armed forces. The revue was a patriotic tribute to the U.S. Army, and Berlin composed a song entitled “God Bless America” for the show, but decided against using it. When it was released years later, “God Bless America” proved so popular that during the 1930s, it was even considered for the National Anthem, but was rejected by the press because it came from a Jewish composer.

The Yaphank revue was later included in the 1943 movie, *This Is the Army*, featuring the Berlin songs, including the famous title piece, as well as a full-length rendition of “God Bless America” by Kate Smith. It remains to this day one of his most successful songs and one of the most widely-known in the United States.

A particularly famous rendition occurred after the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001, when members of the United States Congress stood together on the steps of the Capitol building and sang Berlin’s tune. ♥

HARMONOTES

EDITORIAL: 15 Bonus Points, Please!

by Todd Anderson, *Harmonotes* Editor



Since *Harmonotes* was fortunate enough to win third place in the 2006 bulletin contest, more sweat equity was invested toward [hopefully] capturing first place for 2007.

A group of stalwart contributors, including 1988 International bulletin champ Wade Dexter, poured over the ‘06 judging sheets to see how we could improve. We once again are striving for excellence. After all, PROBE—Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors of the Barbershop Harmony Society—demands that when dispensing contest points. Likewise, when things aren’t what they should be, PROBE deducts points.

While perusing one area of the official score sheets that judges use, I noticed a section stating, “If any items employed by the editor have pleased you and are not covered by the scoring, award up to 15 bonus points and explain in your written comments.”

WOW! 15 bonus points! I thought to myself, “There simply *must* be a way to impress the judges and compel them to award us the entire 15-point batch. But how?” I strained to come up with the answer. I implemented new ways of displaying photos. I justified my text. I had wordsmiths pour over our issues to ensure that inaccuracies were eliminated. And lo, even after doing all that, I remained flummoxed on how to secure those extra points. That is, until, a revelation appeared. This gift from heaven arrived as my wife was reading those same scoring sheets.

Charlene, my dear spouse, graduated summa cum laude—top of her class at Southwest Baptist University (‘79). A real braniac (don’t ask why she married me). She quietly glanced over PROBE’s official bulletin scor-

ing system, when she stopped and handed it back. With a proud smile on her face, she simply stated, “They spelled *cliché* incorrectly!”

“What?” I exclaimed. I snatched the paper from her hands and read. Sure enough, in the section under “Style” was the sentence:



S3 Using clichés, trite phrases, inappropriate slang

Someone had inadvertently misspelled the word *cliché*!

“Jeepers!,” I thought, “I wonder if PROBE would want to know that? After all, it’s their own score sheet!” As I continued to ponder this new find, one of



those cartoon light bulbs literally went off over my pointed head. Perhaps PROBE would reward an editor who discovered such a faux pas? Then again,

maybe this wasn’t really an error. Maybe it was actually placed on purpose. *Eureka, that’s it!* PROBE, in its craftiness, had printed this to draw out the finest editorial eyes. If a bulletin editor were to find this eentsy-weentsy glitch, such scrutiny would easily be awarded... 15 points!

So, I’m respectfully cashing in this bonanza. Now granted, if we’re awarded the 15 points, we may still not have enough to come in first. However, the judges will clearly see that we have given our all on the bulletin battlefield. We’ve worked to leave no stone unturned in our quest for gold. Our ability to discern those wily judges—at least on this—have confirmed we are worthy of bonus points.

Those folks at PROBE are downright cagey! Who knows what other trickery they are devising? ♥

PROBE^moter

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The deadline for the
July — Sept 2007
PROBE^moter is July 15th

The Songs We Sing

Let Me Call You Sweetheart

(1910)

Words by Beth Slater Whitson (1879 -1930)

Music by Leo Friedman (1869-1927)

Illinois and Tennessee met happily in the persons of Leo Friedman and Beth Slater Whitson when they composed "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." This may very well be the all time champion community singing favorite. Merely singing the opening line of the chorus is a surefire way to start a mixed group of singers harmonizing. Barbershop singers love it, too, and the melody suggests plenty of those harmonizing opportunities so loved by woodshedders. Is there anyone in the audience who hasn't sung this song? Very likely not. ♪

Borrowed from *Seabreeze*, Ventura Chapter bulletin, Keith Bogost, Editor



Here's your PROBE^moter — enjoy!