



"The most influential communications fraternity in the Society"

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PROBEmoter

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BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

July/Sept 2010

A Sad Day for Barbershoppers

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that our dear friend and fellow barbershopper Dick Girvin passed away early this morning, April 13th. Dick had been hospitalized for several days after having suffered a mild heart attack, as well as facing other medical issues. Dick had served as a FWD leader in many capacities during his barbershop tenure. He will be missed.

Russ Young
FWD Executive VP



"Dick was the glue that held PROBE together for many years. He served as Secretary/Treasurer, Layout & Reproduction judge, category specialist, bulletin editor (PROBEmoter), just to mention a few. He was one of a kind, giving selflessly of himself. I'm very proud to have called Dick Girvin my friend. God speed, Dick — you will be missed!"

Steven Jackson
PROBE President

PROBE Loses Senior Statesman!

P.R.O.B.E. LEADERSHIP



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Secretary-Treasurer
EMERITUS
Dick Girvin
In Memoriam



BULLETIN

Does your chapter publish and distribute a bulletin? The chapter bulletin is one of the chapter's best PR instruments as well as probably the most effective communication tool between board and membership. Ideally, every chapter should be exchanging bulletins with every other chapter—hard copy, not just on-line. Each chapter has its unique characteristics, reflecting the specific needs and interest of its membership, but share a common bond with other chapters experiencing similar problems.

Exchanging bulletins is a very effective and efficient way for chapters to share with each other not only news about activities such as chapter shows, special performances and participation in inter-chapter, division, district and Society functions, but also how they've handled problems that challenge most chapters such as recruiting and retaining members. We need the hard-copy bulletin and we need to be able to distribute and/or mail it to our supporters, friends, members (former, inactive, active and prospective), District and Society officers, and our brother chapters. We need more bulletin editors and more members in our chapters who can assist in editing, preparing and distributing.

The costs of printing and mailing bulletins today is prohibitive for many chapters, even if restricting mailing bulletins to known friends and those chapters close by and distributing copies to active members by hand. A few have weekly news-sheets to keep members apprized of chapter activities and publish/mail bi-monthly or quarterly. Many chapters have gone to on-line bulletins only, some available on their website, others e-mailing copies to those expressing an interest. However, not every barbershopper owns a computer or is computer-literate. Further, as any computer user knows, there are times when either the computer or the printer is out of order, not working, or unavailable. What's the answer? Swap that bulletin! **"It's great to be a barbershop editor!"**

Alexander Edwards

PROGRAM

PROBE President

Steve Jackson



Let PROBE Into Your Barbershopping World

It's been an interesting year. We brought back the Outstanding Achievement Awards; thanks, **Grady Kerr**. We welcomed back **David Wagner** who agreed to serve out **Dick Girvin's** term as Secretary/Treasurer. Two of our judges, **Owen Herndon** and **Fred Hinesley**, passed on. Congrats to the Colby, Kansas chapter for submitting Owen's bulletin into the contests.

There is much concern over the lack of participation in all three of our contests, the IBC, the E-IBC, and the PROTY. What's the purpose of PROBE if our contests go away? We're here to educate and motivate all of our Society communicators, whether you're an editor, webmaster, PR/Marketing VP. The contests are a perfect way to measure your progress and to honor the outstanding work being done. I've always found the judges critiques very helpful. You should have seen my first bulletin (too late, I burned it).

I've been cogitating (*my big word for this issue*) on how to increase participation. First thing is to identify possible reasons.

- Your chapter has a website so there is no bulletin.
- You have a bulletin but it's just a weekly calendar.
- You had no idea there was a bulletin contest available.
- What the heck is a BETY anyway?
- Your District didn't run the bulletin contests.
- You've entered so many contests that there is nothing new to learn.
- What's a PROTY?
- Who's supposed to run them?
- Can I enter a show program?
- I learned about it too late to enter.

I'm sensing some apathy and ignorance, which can be corrected. It starts with PROBE (da board) being proactive and getting the information out in advance to all districts. When a district has no coordinator, the contests will usually not happen. We have been very aggressive over the last few years in getting the word out. People aren't reading their emails! Let PROBE into your barbershopping world. Read the *PROBEmoter*. The last two years, **John Elving** and I produced several informational bulletins (ADLIBS) for all bulletin judges, district coordinators, and District bulletin editors. The information IS available. **It starts here!** We can help; we will help! But our communicators have to follow through. I do list the officer's email and phone numbers for a reason. Hello, is anyone out there?

Congratulations to all of you who entered our contests this past year. Thank you; I sincerely hope you had a positive experience. This is being written *before* International so the winners will appear elsewhere in this issue (unless I change my mind and update this article).

PROBE HALL OF HONOR

Bruce Anderson, Ray Barrett, Herb Bayles, 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, Art Lane, 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

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR PROBE MEMBERSHIP
DUES ARE STILL ONLY \$10.00 YEARLY!
SEND CHECKS TO DAVID WAGNER
PROBE SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Rocky Mountain District Earns **Gold** in **IBC & PROTY**

Owen Herndon

Colby, Kansas

International Bulletin Editor of the Year

Arnold Routson, I I

Albuquerque, NM (Bernalillo County)

International Public Relations Officer of the Year

Year Long Activity

It's GREAT to be an RMD barbershopper!

EIBC – 2009 Electronic Int'l Bulletin Editor of the Year



1st place

Karen Nanninga
Manhattan, Kansas

"InCider Press"
Central States

2nd place

Dick Kury
St. Louis, Missouri

"By-Lines"
Central States

3rd place

Fred Gelden
Fairfax, Virginia

"What's Happening"
Mid Atlantic

4th place

Ted Hinkle
Kokomo, Indiana

"Kokomo News"
Cardinal

IBC – 2009 International Bulletin Editor of the Year



1st place

Owen Herndon
Colby, Kansas

"Tumblewords"
Rocky Mountain

2nd place

Tom Wheatley
Dundalk, Maryland

"Charivari"
Mid Atlantic

3rd place

Jerry Troxel
Greater Indianapolis,
Indiana

"The Beat"
Cardinal

Most Improved
Robert Nicodern

Chicagoland West
Suburban, Illinois

"Pitch"
Illinois



Year Long Activity

Arnie Routson
Bernalillo County
Albuquerque, NM
Rocky Mountain



Single Event

Roberta Miller
West Portland Metro
Portland, Oregon
Evergreen

2010 Electronic International Bulletin Editor of the Year Contest 2009 BULLETINS

Place	Bulletin	Editor	Chapter	DIS	TOT
1.	<i>InCider Press</i>	Karen Nanninga	Manhattan, KS	CSD	994.2
2.	<i>By-Lines</i>	Dick Kury	St. Louis Suburban	CSD	986.8
3.	<i>What's Happening</i>	Fred Gelden	Fairfax, VA	MAD	865.3
4.	<i>Harm-o-Notes</i>	Ted Hinkle	Kokomo, IN	CAR	761.0

John Elving, E-IBC Chairman
leadermanje@gmail.com

2010 PROBE International Bulletin Contest (2009 Bulletins)

Bulletin (9) Chapter	Editor	District	Content		L&R		G&S		Total
			1	2	1	2	1	2	
1 <i>Tumble-Words</i> Colby, KS	Owen Herndon	RMD	379	372	262	256	297	297	1863
2 <i>Charivari</i> Dundalk, MD	Thomas Wheatley	MAD	396	352	262	252	297	299	1858
3 <i>The Beat</i> Greater Indianapolis, IN	Jerry Troxel	CAR	395	331	249	256	297	298	1826
4 <i>The Orange Spiel</i> Jacksonville, FL	John Alexander	SUN	370	307	233	257	297	296	1760
5 <i>Chord-inator</i> Minneapolis, MN	Hardin Olson	LOL	296	293	231	252	295	298	1665
6 <i>The Clipper</i> London, ON	Pat Moauro	ONT	254	257	265	229	297	299	1601
7 <i>Note Dispenser</i> Davenport, IA	David Haase	CSD	341	208	220	218	289	297	1573
8 <i>*** Pitch</i> Chicagoland W. Suburban	Robert Nicodern	ILL	302	200	231	200	295	296	1524
9 <i>Smoke Signals</i> Pontiac/Waterford, MI	John Cowlshaw	PIO	331	239	188	125	293	299	1475

NOTES:

- *** Robert Nicodern – Pitch is the winner of the Dick Girvin Most Improved Bulletin Award.**
- There were no entries from DIX, EVG, FWD, JAD, NED, SLD, and SWD.**
- Judges:**

Content:	1) Lowell Shank	2) Milt Weisman
L&R:	1) Waldo Redekop	2) John Elving
G&S:	1) Fred Hinesley	2) John Shuron
- IBC Chairman: Lowell Shank
- Preparation of *Participation Certificates* and Plaques for the winners: Bruce Anderson

OUR HARD-WORKING ADMINISTRATORS

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Awards Chairman
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E-IBC Chairman
John Elving
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**Q. What is the Difference
Between *i.e.*, and *e.g.*?**

**A. *I.e.* Means “that is” (to say).
E.g. Means “for example.”**

By Clark Abrahamson, Chairman,
Society Marketing and Public Relations Chairman

i.e., is an abbreviation for Latin *id est*, “this is.” *E.g.*, is for *exempli gratia*, “for the sake of example.” So you can say, “I like citrus fruits, *e.g.*, oranges and lemons”; or, “I like citrus fruit, *i.e.* the juice, edible fruits with leathery, aromatic rinds of any of numerous tropical, usually thorny shrubs or trees of the genus *Citrus*.” In the first sentence you are simply giving an instance of a citrus fruit; in the second you are giving an explanation. *E.g.* simply indicates an example; *i.e.* specifies, explains. Compare: *She loves to read non-fiction, e.g., reference books and how-to-books vs. He had one obvious flaw, i.e. his laziness.*



Bulletin Editor VP

John Elving

MAD ABOUT PROBE



Take a look at the new logo. What does it say to you? Is there any meaning at all to the general barber-shopper, or is it just a "secret symbol" of a "Secret Society?" This is the new logo for PROBE—the most influential group within the Society, or so it should be. PROBE exists because of the far-sightedness of a small handful of men who wanted to help each other as they spread the work about the BHS (at that time SPEBSQSA) It was a group of bulletin editors and then spread to include public relations minded people.

In the past several years the numbers of people involved with PROBE has dwindled to a precious few. The cornerstone of Marketing & Public Relations and Bulletin Editors, PROBE has seemingly been replaced by other groups within the Society.

At last fall's mini confab held in Dallas, Texas, in the meeting of the Marketing and Public Relations group, **Ed Watson**, CEO of the BHS, stated that he was glad that PROBE was represented because he felt that they needed to be brought back to their position of prominence within the Society.

The cornerstone of any presence for PROBE in every district needs to be the VP/Director of Marketing and Public Relations. Yet we can count on maybe one had the number of those people who are members of PROBE themselves. Every district should have within their budget the payment of the dues for PROBE of at least three people—M&PR person, district bulletin/magazine editor and district webmaster. Without the help and buy-in of every one of those people, PROBE will not survive.

Does that mean that PROBE doesn't need to change? Hardly! Just as the Society is changing to be much more inclusive of those younger members and the ways they communicate, so PROBE needs to change. We are ready, but we need help from those very people. We need the advice of those who are experts in web design, in social networking—in fact, all types of communication, especially external. We want to be able to reach all of those who

Ed Watson....glad that PROBE was represented because he felt that they needed to be brought back to their position of prominence within the Society.

we know should be in our ranks as singers, but we need that assistance.

The number of bulletin editors entering our "contests" (actually one-on-one mentoring) is getting smaller each year. And every year there are some editors and M&PR people out there that would love to enter, but there is no one to act as coordinator for their district. Again, there are many districts that do not have a official PROBE member in the position of the M&PR position.

In meeting with the M&PR committee, which is made up of all the district M&PR people plus a few others who are extremely interested in M&PR, there were only a couple interested in something like bulletins. It was also very clear there was little interest in PROBE. That despite **Ed Watson's** comment. PROBE not only needs to re-invent itself, but must start thinking of communication in broader terms. Bulletins, websites,

newspaper coverage, radio/TV spots & coverage, outside performances of all kinds, need to be thought of in terms of marketing. No longer are our bulletins/newsletters a rag for the members, they are a way of communicating with the outside world. They are a way of trumpeting the values of our chapters to the world. How do we do that within every chapter and district?

There are chapters who are doing a great job of this, but it isn't well known how to do it within many, many chapters. PROBE itself should have taken the lead in that kind of thing and done what those chapters are doing. Instead we kind of sit around wringing our hands (when we quit sitting on them), and collectively saying, "Woe is me (us)."

It became very evident in working with the M&PR committee for just that short weekend that not only is there presently no value in PROBE, they don't even know anything about it. If barbershop is the best kept secret in every town, then PROBE is the best kept secret in the BHS. Many members of the Society, especially the M&PR committee have great expertise to help PROBE become what it once was, only in a different way.

What will it take for PROBE to survive and thrive again? We need the help of each and every person involved in any form of communication for their chapter, district and the Society.

For more information, please contact **Steve Jackson**, PROBE President, sjbullead@comcast.net; **John Elving**, VP Bulletin Editors, leadermanje@gmail.com; **Eric Herr**, VP M &PR, ewh14@comcast.net. They would love to hear from you.





A Reminiscence

**FAR
WESTERN
DISTRICT
- GOODBYE -
SIGH!**

Grant Carson

wmgcarson@sbcglobal.net

I lived in Westminster, California, in the 1980s, when I discovered that barber-shop harmony was still alive. I thought it had died along with Major Bowes' Original Amateur Hour.

In high school, I had a 45-rpm recording of the *Cities Service Green and White Quartet* that I had listened to so much the grooves were nearly worn down. There was a masterful blending of "Dear Old Girl" and "If I Had My Way." There was also "Rose Of Washington Square," which I never heard performed again. **Burt Szabo** once told me that it wasn't barbershopable. I thought the *Cities Service Green and White Quartet* did a classic barbershop job. But I digress.

My son, who knew I loved to sing, and who worked in a camera shop at a mall, came home and said, "Dad, you have to hear these guys!" Those guys were the *Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus*, trolling for members at a mall pizzeria. This was the pre-young-studs chorus.

I eagerly visited some meetings. The chorus director gave me a Barberpole Cat learning tape, showed me a few dance steps, and told me to come back next meeting for a voice and dancing audition.

I spent hours upon hours in the garage singing with the Barberpole Cat tape the song I had selected to audition, "Shine On Me." It was the shortest of the twelve. But it wasn't the easiest. What did I know?

I was taken into the men's room to sing with a quartet "Shine On Me" and to demonstrate to the chorus director that I could dance. Notwithstanding my hours of rehearsal in the garage, I didn't do all that well on "Shine On Me." And I miserably failed the dancing test.



Bruce Smith, editor of the Hemet, California chapter bulletin, the *Hemet Harmonizer*, has suffered a stroke. Bruce is still getting around with the aid of a walker. However, member **Bill McNaughton** has taken over as editor; his email is bill.mcnaughton@verizon.net.



Incoming PROBE Board Members

**Meet
Eric
Herr**



- Mid Atlantic District
 - Member of The Mainliners Bryn Mawr, PA
 - Member of The Pine Barons Cherry Hill, NJ
 - MAD Marketing/PR VP
 - Hi-Note Editor
- Marketing/Public Relations VP
Eric Herr**
9 Lincoln Lane
Marlton, NJ 08053
Home/Office: 856 988 7223
Cell: 610 506 5525
ewh14@comcast.net

Nevertheless I was elected to membership in Westminster because I promised to publish the chapter newsletter, having experience and some enthusiasm publishing newsletters for model airplane clubs, and the previous editor having recently retired. You will be happy to know I learned to sing better, but disappointed that I still had great difficulty dancing.

Far Western District was then a leader of printed communications in barbershop districts. **Herb Bayles** was the publisher of *PROBEmoter*, **Dick Girvin** was the "Grand Old Man" of barbershop journalism, and there was a monthly district printed bulletin of many pages.

**Meet
David
Wagner**



- Southwestern District
 - Member of Town North Plano
 - Barbershopper since 1981
 - Served PROBE as Membership VP
 - Started Online Bulletin Contest and served as first chairman
- Secretary-Treasurer
David Wagner**
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Davidand.Theresa@yahoo.com

The district bulletin, *Westunes*, had in every issue commentaries on activities by the chapters of the various divisions, reported by volunteer contributors. And winning the FWD bulletin contest was quite an honor, a triumph of many entries.

Well, times have changed. Chapters and districts forego printed bulletins for internet ones. But I'm really sad that the Far Western District, once the leader of printed barbershop communications, had no entry in the latest print bulletin contest. I thought the *Orange Chapter* would go on forever.



2010 PROBE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Grady Kerr, Chairman
BHS Historian
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Grady@GradyWilliamKerr.com



Scipio Garling

Alexandria Harmonizers, for his use of new technology and social networking tools to strengthen and improve the chapter administratively, musically, and in its outreach to many audiences. The impact of his work has helped re-energize the membership and spur a huge boost in growth.



BarbershopHQ.com

The new "official" blog of the Society, aka "Nashville's Water Cooler."



Mike McGee

for creating, promoting and maintaining YouBarbershop.com. This new web presence offers up to date news and information for Barbershoppers including pod-casts, weekly video-casts, interviews, Chat Rooms, CD reviews, Polls, a master show calendar and a discussion forum.



Westminster Chorus

for their commitment that enabled them to win "Choir of the World" honors. The chorus traveled to Llangollen, Wales, won the competition and the Luciano Pavarotti trophy raising awareness of Barbershop Harmony and the Society to a new and unique audience.





Eddie Holt

for his vision and outstanding design of the Barbershop Harmony Society's new and improved website. The content and navigation is top-notch and greatly serves the membership as well as visitors.



**"Montana Jack"
John Fitzpatrick**

for single handedly creating the "Youth Enrichment Program" and helping barbershop supporters reach out to the Music Educators in their local high schools throughout the United States and Canada.



**The Tonight Show
Conan O'Brien, 2009-2010**

For the unique coverage of the Anaheim convention giving us almost six minutes of national TV airtime and 2.5 million viewers.

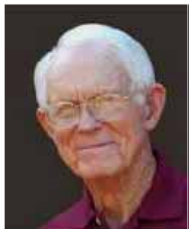


American Harmony

and Producer Aengus James – for his comprehensive and entertaining inside look at our hobby. The award winning documentary is reaching a new audience and has a major impact on the public perception of our organization.

Lifetime Achievement Award

By Jim Burgess, The Kentucky Connection



On March 23, 2010, the **Florida Seacoast Chorus** made something happen that had never occurred before in this chapter, or as far as we know, in the Sunshine District.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to their own

Dr. Clare McCreary

He didn't invent the wheel, or stamp out polio, or create the I.R.S. or any of these well known facts of history. But without his tireless service and sacrifice, the St. Petersburg chapter would have certainly been a fading memory of past history. To list his accomplishments would be redundant. Suffice it to say, "Doc did it all!"

Dr. Clare McCreary, Editor, cmccrear@tampabay.rr.com



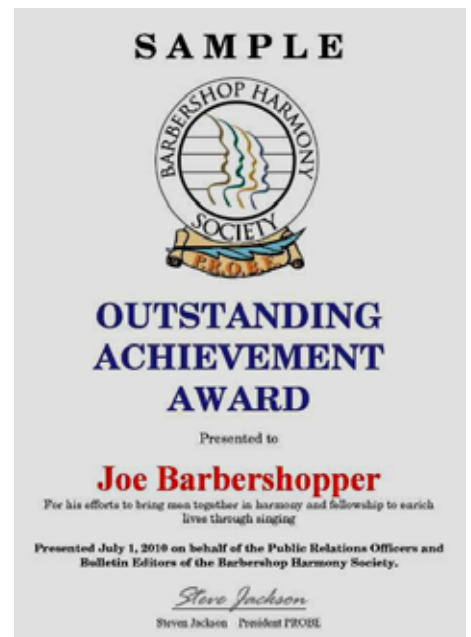
Jeff Ulrich

for publishing a top notch Spring 2010 Issue of the JAD Cider Press and, in the age of web-based electronic bulletins, PRINTING and mailing to the entire district membership.



Lorin May

for the historic achievement of publishing his 50th issue of The Harmonizer - January 2010 (Vol. LXXX, No. 1). One of only three men to reach this important milestone.





Dick Cote, editor
May/June 2010

In Memoriam

Richard "Dick" Girvin

November 3, 1921 – April 13, 2010

Dick Girvin, husband, father, grandfather, and friend passed away on April 13, 2010 after a short illness. He was also a "powerhouse barbershopper." Services were held in Hemet, California on Monday, April 19, 2010. Burial was at Riverside National Cemetery.

Dick was born in Brawley, California, the eldest of three sons, to Fred and Rose Girvin. He grew up in California even though his father was from Canada and his mother was from Russia. Although he traveled widely for the aerospace industry as well as for pleasure, he lived and worked in California his whole life.

By 1930 the family had moved to the Simi Valley and established a large walnut orchard. Dick enjoyed the same pleasures that most boys did: fishing with his dad, going to school, and riding a horse to Canoga Park High School. Well now, how many boys had a horse to ride to school? During his early years, he explored one of his life long passions of electronics. He set up a tele-

graph wire between his bedroom and his friend at another ranch, and then proceeded to learn Morse code so they could talk to each other whenever they wanted.

Dick was a WWII Navy veteran and a forty year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society, AKA SPEBSQSA, Inc. He served the various chapters where he held his membership, the Far Western District and the Society with distinction in many leadership roles.

I am sure this is only a partial list of his barbershop accomplishments:

CHAPTER

Bulletin Editor, Secretary, Show Chairman, President

DISTRICT

Area Counselor, WESTUNES Editor, President's Award 1979, Vice-President, Executive Vice-President, President, Vice-President of Chapter Support and Leadership Training.

All this and he was a Contest Ad-

ministrator for several years. He was awarded the FWD Bachelor of Harmony Certificate on October 17, 2005. Also, Dick was a member of the Far Western District Hall of Fame (1984). (International level) International Board Member (now Society Board Member), Chairman of the Society Operations Manual Task Force.

PROBE

Vice-President of PROBE (Public Relations and Bulletin Editor's Association), Bulletin Editor and three terms as President. He was inducted into the PROBE Hall of Honor in 1993. Served as Layout & Reproduction Category Specialist, certified L&R bulletin judge, Hall of Honor chairman

Dick was always a "go-to" guy. Every time many members of the Far Western District had a problem, Dick often was the man they would "go-to" for an answer. He either knew the answer or he was able to get the answer in a short period of time. We will all miss him and his humor in future days.

*I don't know if I ever met a Barbershopper more dedicated to our hobby than **Dick Girvin**. He will be sorely missed by all of us who loved him. Rest In Peace, Sir Richard!*

Leo Larivee

Amen, Leo. Dick was a superb gentleman who gave it his all to the very end, still acting as CA for the SoCal Novice Contest every year. He was one of those people in FWD that you simply expect to see every time you turned a corner at a convention, and he'd likely be standing behind a table doing some kind of work. He will be dearly missed.

Alan Gordon

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All these things about Dick Girvin are true. I just wanted to add that he not only gave of his valuable time and diligent efforts at the local and district level, but also at the International level. Behind the scenes of this "hobby" we call Barbershop, there are always wonderful volunteers to assist the staff and leadership with all the things required to bring success.

Dick Girvin was a persistent and dedicated lover of our organization, and at every level of Barbershop he will be missed. Until his sudden passing, he was serving on the influential Governance and Bylaws committee, and I often corresponded with him about many issues. He never failed to call me "Skipper" - that meant a lot to me. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Dick. We will find others to do your work, but none to replace you.

Ed Watson
Executive Director/CEO

Bob Patterson
tortillaflats@charter.net
April 15, 2010

I met **Dick Girvin** when he joined the *Pomona Valley* chapter in 1972. His first job was editor of "The Tag," our chapter bulletin. He asked me for an article for it one Tuesday night. I promptly forgot about it until I was awakened by my phone ringing at an unholy hour on Sunday morning. Dick was at General Dynamics, his place of employment, putting the bulletin together. Half awake, I dictated my story while listening to him typing in the background. He cleaned up and expanded my semi-coherent babbling, and made it sound like real news.

Although Dick moved elsewhere, and up in the Society, and we didn't see him very often, he always stayed in touch, and maintained his membership with *Pomona Valley*, and now with the *Inland Empire* chapter. Anytime a barbershop question came up, you always knew that Dick had the answer. If you called him with a question, he had the answer instantaneously. If you sent him an email, it took much longer, at least 60 seconds, to get a response.

But my favorite **Dick Girvin** story was the time I asked him to sing a tag. His response was, "I'm a writer, not a singer!" Yeah, right, Dick.

Bob Patterson



Alexandria Harmonizers Score Big In Philadelphia

The Alexandria Harmonizers and Miss America joined forces to lead patriotic ceremonies at Independence Hall in Philadelphia on July 4th. With a statue of Thomas Jefferson and a large replica of the Declaration of Independence as backdrop, Virginia and Pennsylvania were joined once again in a full-voice Celebration of Freedom.

Miss America 2010, Caressa Cameron, of Fredericksburg, Virginia, a former Miss Virginia and Miss Arlington, performed the National Anthem. The *Alexandria Harmonizers* of Alexandria, Virginia, fresh from their 5th place win at the International Chorus Contest, BHS, sang "The Stars and Stripes Forever" to begin the day's festivities that featured dignitaries, military units, and youth performers. The popular Independence Day parade followed, winding through Philadelphia's historic district.

Under Master Director **Joe Cerutti**, the 100-man *Alexandria Harmonizers* competed among 27 groups from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Sweden, Australia, and New Zealand. With a total of 16 international contest medals including four gold medals, the *Harmonizers* have taken the name of Alexandria across the United States, and indeed the world, in landmark performances in the Nation's Capital, Carnegie Hall, Disneyland, and Canada, on the Internet, and in television broadcasts for the Kennedy Center Honors, Wolf Trap Galas, and America's Got Talent.

We are grateful for strong public funding for the arts that build communities and share pride in Alexandria's recent ranking as third among the nation's best arts destinations by American Style magazine. The *Harmonizers* are supported in part by the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities and by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts. Chartered in 1948, the Alexandria, Virginia Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA, Inc.) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), non-stock corporation comprised entirely of volunteers with a mission to bring men together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing.

For more information, visit the Alexandria web site www.harmonizers.org or Fan Page on Facebook (see videos of the Independence Hall performance!) or write to Alexandria Harmonizers, P.O. Box 11274, Alexandria VA 22312-0274.





Back row: Waldo Redekop, Tom Wheatley, "Montana Jack" Fitzpatrick, Harvey Kiser, Mike Morgan, Art Lane
 Front row: Patrick Thomas, Lowell Shank, Martin Banks



Several photos came our way from Lee Roth, MAD, Hunterdon, NJ chapter, who had his camera in hand at the annual PROBE meeting

- 1 Montana Jack and Martin Banks
- 2 Lowell Shank and Tom Wheatley
- 3 Lowell Shank, Martin Banks, Patrick Thomas
- 4 Montana Jack and Martin Banks
- 5 Lowell Shank and Tom Wheatley
- 6 Montana Jack, Lowell Shank and Martin Banks



1



2



3



4



Congratulations!

Rocky Mountain District

Owen Herndon, 1st place, IBC
Arnold Routsen II, PROTY
Year Long Award

Central States District

Karen Nanninga, 1st place, E-IBC
Dick Kury, 2nd place, E-IBC

PROBE Meeting Highlights

- Announced two Public Relations Officer awards
- Announced eight International Bulletin Editor awards
- Announced 13 Outstanding Achievement Awards
- Approved a new PROBE logo as submitted by **Patrick Thomas**
- Elected **Eric Herr** as Vice President, Marketing and Public Relations
- Elected **David Wagner** as Secretary-Treasurer

Rest of 2010 Board will serve another term of office from October 2010 to October 2011.

Montana Jack Fitzpatrick, Dundalk, MD, MAD, said the BHS Membership Committee reported out with recommendation that a standing committee be established to work with the BHS Marketing/PR Committee to look at sources of communications i.e. social media, Facebook) available and provide them to chapters. He also mentioned the social media usage information published by **Bob Fichtner** of *Midwest Vocal Express*.

Harvey L. Kiser Manhattan, KS, CSD, suggested that PROBE be represented at the full Forum of functional district VPs apparently scheduled the 1st week of November in Dallas.

IBC winner **Owen Herndon**, Colby, Kansas was represented by former chorus director **Don Kready**. The award will be presented to Owen's family (Owen died April 2009).

E-IBC winner **Karen Nanninga** was represented by chapter member **Harvey Kiser**. Karen's husband, Terry, is a member of the Manhattan chapter.

Martin Banks
mlbanks111@aol.com



PROBE Meeting Minutes

July 2, 2010 – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The annual meeting of Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors of the Barbershop Harmony Society was called to order by Immediate Past President **Lowell Shank**.

PROBE Officers Present

- **Lowell Shank**, Immediate Past President
- **Martin Banks**, VP Marketing and Public Relations
- **Patrick Thomas**, VP Web

PROBE Officers Absent

- **Steve Jackson**, President
- **John Elving**, VP Bulletin Editors
- **Don Levering**, VP Membership
- **David Wagner**, Secretary/Treasurer

Others Present – See Addendum

Agenda

The Old Songs – All

Introduction of members and guests

Moment of reflection for **Dick Girvin**, Secretary/Treasurer emeritus (November 3, 1921 – April 13, 2010) – Led by IPP **Shank**

Minutes of the Anaheim meeting (07/02/2009) taken by **John Elving**, Acting Secretary, were approved with correction that **Steve Jackson** be added to list of PROBE Officers Absent. Motion **Wheatley** Second **Thomas**

Officer Reports

President

Report submitted by **Steve Jackson**.

Secretary/Treasurer

Report of **David Wagner**, appointed by President this year, discussed by **Shank**. Attempting to recover records, some still in **Dick Girvin** account. Treasury balance \$2,975.97. Bills \$291.00. 85 members on rolls.

VP Membership

Don Levering No report

VP Web

Patrick Thomas

- Two projects: re-design web site and international web site contest.
- Announce contest criteria, not ask for submissions, judge all web sites.
- District Webmasters gather and select winner and alternate, top two go into international contest.
- District contest set by first of year, international version by April, announce winners in Kansas City

VP Marketing & Public Relations

Martin Banks (discussion)

- How can we increase participation in PROBE contests and increase PROBE membership
- Need clarity on contest rules, etc. and publicize better
- Publish feedback on good program ideas, scan and share submissions on web site

- Free membership in PROBE after entering web contest
- Check off PROBE membership on Society membership application.

VP Bulletin Editors

Report submitted by **John Elving** (discussion)

PROBE should be represented at Full Forum of District VPs in Dallas first week of November. (Kiser)

PROBEmoter Editor

Report submitted by **Steve Jackson**

Webmaster

Arnie Wade report discussed by IPP Shank. Average three visits a day to web page. Only counting front page visits. Investigate including other page visits in count.

Immediate Past President

Lowell Shank reported total contest entries: nine HC-IBC, four E-IBC, one for each PROTY.

Awards

Hall of Honor

No nominations or awards presented

PR Officer of the Year (PROTY)

- **Single Event**
Roberta Miller West Portland Metro OR EVG
- **Year Long Activity**
Arnold N. Routson II Bernalillo County NM RMD

IBC Editor of the Year

Electronic

- First Place – **Karen Nanninga** Manhattan KS CSD
- Second Place – **Dick Kury** St Louis MO CSD
- Third Place – **Fred Gelden** Fairfax VA MAD
- Fourth Place – **Ted Hinkle** Kokomo IN CAR

Hardcopy

- First Place – **Owen Herndon** Colby KS RMD
- Second Place – **Tom Wheatley** Dundalk MD MAD
- Third Place – **Jerry Troxel** Greater Indianapolis IN CAR
- Most Improved – **Robert Nicodem** Chicagoland West Suburban IL CSD

IPP **Lowell Shank** is coordinating presentation of individual plaques to winners and placement of name plates on the permanent award plaques at Nashville HQ.

Old Business – none discussed.

New Business

Approved new PROBE Logo submitted by **Patrick Thomas**. Motion **Wheatley** Second **Kiser** (See attachment)

Discussion of need to employ social media. Urge all PROBE members to visit and join new PROBE Facebook Fan Page. **Jack Fitzpatrick** reported that the BHS Membership Study Group recommended creating a standing committee that informs chapters of availability of various communication sources; also that **Bob Fichtner** had published a great social media usage primer.



PRESERVATION

Have you seen the new “*Preservation*” publication put out by Society historian **Grady Kerr**? His second issue is full of memories — good stuff, Maynard!

Discussion led by VP Web **Thomas** on web site update status and change/purchase of new domain name.

This year PROBE reinstated the **Outstanding Achievement Award** first started in July 2000 and discontinued in 2005. **Grady Kerr** chaired the nominating committee and PROBE officers selected 10 award recipients. (see attachment). VP M/PR **Banks** is coordinating presentation of award certificates prepared by **Kerr** to each winner.

Election of Officers

Following officers from 2010 to carry over to 2011: Jackson, Elving, Levering, Thomas, Shank.

Approved the election of the following officers to term beginning October 1, 2010:

Eric Herr – Vice President, Marketing and Public Relations
David Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer
Motion Thomas Second Redekop

Meeting adjourned.

Draft minutes taken by Martin Banks, Acting Secretary

Addendum - Others in Attendance

John Alexander	Jacksonville FL	SUN
Jack Fitzpatrick	Dundalk MD	MAD
Bill Halter	Akron OH	JAD
Harvey L. Kiser	Manhattan KS	CSD
Don Kready	Colby KS	RMD
Art Lane	Holland MI	PIO
Mike & Kathy Morgan	Rochester NY	SLD
Waldo Redekop	Guelph ON	ONT
Lee Roth	Huntington NJ	MAD
Tom Wheatley	Dundalk MD	MAD

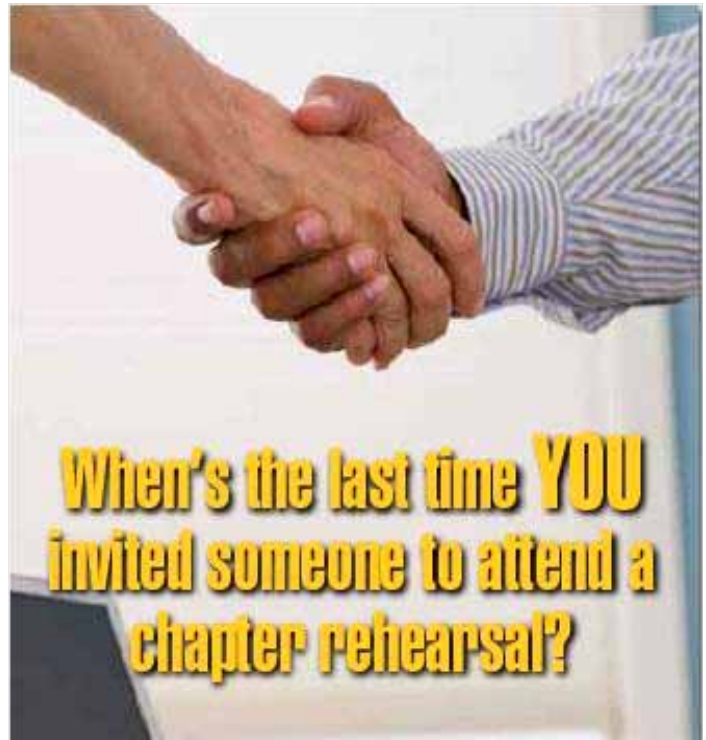
Many thanks to **L owell Shank** and **Martin Banks** for filling in for missing board members. Their involvement was instrumental in making the **General Meeting** successful! Thanks!



Make Plans Now to Attend
Midwinter Convention
In Las Vegas
January 25 - 30, 2011!

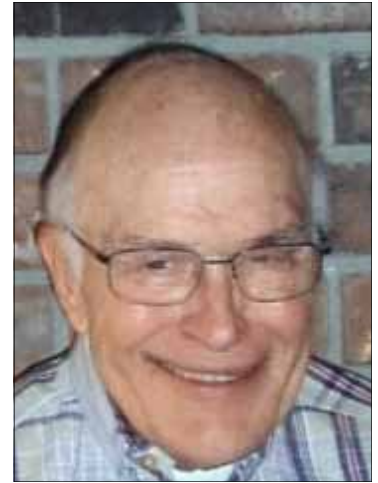
**Enjoy the Seniors Quartet Contest and the
 4th Annual International Youth Chorus Festival**

- All hotel rooms and contest / show venues will be under the same roof at the newly remodeled Riviera Hotel & Casino. NO busing!
- All hotel rooms will be in the completely renovated Tower
- \$99/night rooms all week (no extra person charges). Housing information to "go live" shortly!



Fred Hinesley, long-time member of the BHS and AHSOW, died on June 3 as the result of a fall on May 14 that broke his neck. Complications followed, resulting in his death. He had served as the Dixie Membership Vice-President and was the BOTY for Dixie in 2000. He served also as secretary of AHSOW for many years.

Currently he was a judge for District and International Bulletin Contests. He loved the barbershop style and his barbershop "family," wherever they were. Please remember his family. Some of you may remember that he frequently introduced me as "my first wife," Elizabeth.



Remembering Fred Hinesley

By Ev Nau, ENau@comcast.net

He was a friend the moment I met him. His warmth, graciousness and charm coupled with a droll wit marked him as a true Southern gentleman. He was my contact in the Dixie District as the DVP of Membership, and together we traveled to sites in the district to help chapters grow and to form new ones. It was the latter which produced an incident that will always remind me of Fred.

We had been in Golden Isles, GA working with some local guys to start a new chapter. I had stayed with Fred and Elizabeth in their little guest house in Macon the night before, and on this day, Fred and I found that we were done early and heading back to Macon. I had a chance to catch an earlier flight back to Chicago from Atlanta, so I was . . . ahem . . . moving along at a brisk pace. Suddenly, a sheriff's car came over the hill from the opposite direction, turned immediately in the median strip and came up behind me with lights flashing. He had me dead to rights.

The deputy came along side the car and asked for my license and registration. I gave them to him. He then asked, "Mr. Nay-you, y'all have any idea how fast you were goin' back ere?" I replied, "82 miles an hour." He looked incredulously at me and said, "I clocked you at 88 . . . are you sure?"

Not only was I sure, I explained that my rental car had a digital speedometer and that I had the cruise control set at 82. He went back to his car, and returned a short time later, still puzzled that I would admit to speeding. He asked why, and I explained that I was taking Mr. Hinesley back to his home in Macon and that I had the chance to catch an earlier flight out of Atlanta after having been on the road for two weeks. "Can you give me a break?"

He scratched his head, bent down to look at Fred across from me and then said, "Mr. Nay-you, the State of Georgia has placed signs all over the place that say 65 mph on them. You won't find a damned sign in the whole state that says 82 mph, you got my drift?" Boy, did I! And Fred just chuckled.

"Now, Mr. Nay-you, y'all seem like a good guy to me, and I sure do understand wanting to get back home. But, you need to slow down and take it easy, understand? So, I'm letting you off with a warning this time. But, about five miles up the road, y'all might meet my brother Orville, and he don't cotton to Yankees!" And we left. Five minutes later, Fred tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Don't forget to wave to Orville!" And he grinned.

And that is what I will miss the most about him . . . his subtle, infectious sense of humor. Our Society has lost a stalwart in Fred; one who was content to do the little jobs that made a difference, and never seek nor accept acclaim. He and Elizabeth always had a smile and a warm hug for me at every occasion that we would meet. And he never forgot to ask if I had met Orville on a subsequent trip. That just seemed to tickle him.

Rest in peace, my friend, and know that I will carry this story with me and in it you will always be remembered in a loving way as I see once again the grin and the twinkle in your eye.

Ev Nau (pronounced "Nay-you" if you're a Georgia sheriff!)



**"Whenever something goes wrong,
I just push this little button and restart.
I wish my whole life was like that!"**

{13} Bulletin Exchange List — June 2010

Editor, last date received, address, bulletin, ^last bulletin received, hc: hard copy, ol: online, xxxx: chapter

John Alexander 2429 Southern Links Drive Orange Park Florida 32003 The Orange Spiel^ johnalexander@att.net	12/09 <u>Jacksonville</u> hc/ol	Charles F. Bell 67 Laurel Avenue Sea Cliff New York 11579-1915 Toosday Toons chizabell@optonline.net	12/08 <u>Nassau-Mid-Island</u> ol
John Elving 5806 Peaceful Pines Road Black Hawk South Dakota 57718 The Voice of Rushmore leaderman@earthlink.net	05/10 <u>Mt Rushmore^</u> hc/ol	Roy Hayward, Jr. 66 Bunker Hill Parkway W Boylston Massachusetts 01583-2025 Key Notes royhay66@yahoo.com	05-06/10 <u>Worcester</u> hc
Clare McCreary 10550 Village Drive N #204B Seminole Florida 33772-4879 Scoops & Swipes^ cmccrear@tampabay.rr.com	01-02/09 <u>Greater Pinellas</u> ol/hc	Paul White %Twin Mountain Tonesmen P O Box 2897 / <u>San Angelo Texas</u> 76902 Concho Caper^ conchocapers_ed@yahoo.com	06/10 ol
Tom Wheatley 102 Washington Street Timonium, Maryland 21093 The Dundalk Charivari charivari@dundalk.org	10/09 <u>Dundalk</u> hc	Linda Williams 24 Toad Lane Ringoes New Jersey 08551 In Tune^ lindaw23@embarqmail.com	05/10 <u>Hunterdon County</u> hc/ol
Jim Yasinow 5316 Golfway Lane Lyndhurst Ohio 44124-3738 The Suburbanaire mmyjmy@aol.com	03-04/09 <u>Cleveland-East</u> hc	Arnold Cohen 1508 Escalante, SW <u>Albuquerque</u> New Mexico 87104 Serenader sacohen007earthlink.net	 ol/hc
Dick Cote 2008 Calle Candela <u>Fullerton</u> , California 92833-1541 Barbershop <i>Clippin's</i>	03-04/09 hc	Peter Hensley* 1899 Fox Bridge Court Fallbrook, California 92028 Pacific Coast Harmony Limelight^ phensley34@roadrunner.com	05-6/09 <u>La Jolla (Ca)</u> ol
David Updegraff 3018 E. 6 th Street #29 <u>Tucson</u> Arizona 85716 The Voice of eXperience	(new)		

Don't forget to send a copy of your bulletin to the
PROBEmoter editor Steve Jackson
 215 Cheyenne Street Lot 18, Golden, CO 80403

DAILY BULLETIN POST MORTEM

The Bellringer – Philadelphia 2010 International Convention

We organized our bulletin committee early with basically one editor (**Art Miller**), one assistant editor and dispatcher (**Joe Spampinato**), one layout editor (**Elyse Endy**) and one photographer (**Gerry O'Halloran**). We requested late night bulletin delivery volunteers but failed to get any until the convention itself (see below).

Printing – A basic decision is needed here. Either you go with a contracted commercial printer such as FedEx-Kinkos or bring a rental high speed printer into your bulletin room at the hotel. We were fortunate (and so was the BHS budget!) to obtain a high speed printer as a donation.

If you bring in a high speed printer, assess ahead of time its speed (ours printed 30 copies per minute one-sided and only 15 copies per minute two sided). When we did the arithmetic we found that to print 5000 copies of the bulletin (two-sided) it would take five hours at 1000 per hour. We had one breakdown when our second ink cartridge ran dry. It was the July 4th weekend but we managed (through the CEO of the company) to get another ink cartridge but as a result we had to contract with FedEx-Kinkos to print one bulletin issue.

Content deadlines – This printer capability therefore dictated when we needed to have the stories for each next day's issue gathered, written and laid out. We gathered the news mostly the previous day, wrote the stories in the morning and laid out the next day's issue by noon the day before. It's up to the editor to chase the stories he wants – people rarely come to you. Our steering committee people who were interfacing with the events were also a good source of information.



The Philly 2010 Bellringer and the contest scoresheets were courtesy of your host chapter, the Bryn Mawr Mainliners

and by editor **Art Miller**; assistant editor **Joe Spampinato**; layout editor **Elyse Endy**; photographer **Gerry O'Halloran**; assistant photographer **Tara O'Halloran**; and our delivery team: **Bill** and **John Toffee**, **Justin Gray**, **Sam Hoover**, **Roy Roseberry** and **Frank Cianciulli**.

Paper – An adequate supply of paper was delivered by truck on schedule by BHS Nashville to our hotel room – a different color for each day's bulletin and each day's score sheet. BHS gives you each day's color and the number to print. If the clamor for scoresheets got too loud we printed and distributed additional ones.

Delivery of bulletins and scoresheets – We did some serious advance planning here. Our hotels fortunately were fairly close together but an automobile was definitely needed to deliver. We arranged with the hotel to grant us two free parking places for two autos for the week. When the bulletins and scoresheets had been printed (the scoresheets, of course, were printed last, from 9 pm to midnight),

Bulletins and scoresheets were divided into piles according to the number of attendees registered at each hotel, and taken in boxes by dolly to the auto. The two delivery

guys (one to double park, the other to take the bulletins into the hotel lobby) made the rounds. Our last delivery on Saturday night, for example, was made at 1 am.

Delivery volunteers – As mentioned, this was a problem. It ain't popular to volunteer to make late night deliveries! Two attendees (**Bill** and **John Toffee**) volunteered and delivered on two nights. Joe Spampinato and I delivered the first night to acquaint each hotel with our needs and request them to put the bulletins and scoresheets in a prominent place so attendees would get them in the morning. **Justin Gray** and **Sam Hoover** from BHS made the deliveries the last two nights.

Access badges – We sent the names of those on the bulletin committee to **Doug Maddox**, backstage manager for BHS, a week before the contest, requesting "All Access" badges for our committee so we had the full run of the convention. Doug prepared the laminated badges ahead of time, brought them to Philadelphia and issued them to us.

Editorial content – We retained full control of what went in the bulletin. No one requested a prior look and we didn't offer it. We were responsive to anyone who wanted to get a message into the bulletin and promoted each of the convention's events. Ladies Hospitality and Harmony Market place both provide the names of winners of their daily gift certificates and door prizes.

Internet and Wifi – BHS assigned a public relations representative to our room and she required an Internet connection. We had arranged for one Internet connection and definitely needed two since we had to share the one. Wifi at our Marriott hotel was prohibitively expensive and the Internet connection was, I believe, \$125 a day.

Continued next column

Communications – Cell phones worked fine throughout the hotel and convention center and were vital for communication. We all used our own personal cell phones. We had a telephone in the room but used it rarely.

Computers – We had three laptop computers (our own personal computers) equipped for wireless. We laid out each issue in Publisher and Word. We transferred photographs from **Gerry O'Halloran's** camera directly to Elyse's laptop. We transferred stories from Miller's laptop to Elyse's laptop by flash drive.

We published bulletins for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We also published online a pre-convention bulletin, emphasizing the wonders of Philadelphia. **Dusty Scheier** saw no reason to publish a Sunday bulletin as everyone was leaving.

Monday set-up – It was necessary for the bulletin staff to be at the convention center for set-up on Monday. We needed to set up and test the printer and cell phone communications. We needed to be sure the paper had arrived. We also printed the Tuesday bulletin and delivered it Monday night.

From our experience, I would design the bulletin masthead (nameplate?) early and get approval for the bulletin format. I found that you can prepare a good many stories ahead of time, anticipating which day they would run in the bulletin. I made a file folder for each day and put a hard copy of each story in the folder to remind me what we had.

Get the full convention schedule with room assignments as soon as you can. Consult with your steering committee members to get information. Good luck to **Mike Mathieu** and all the Kansas City bulletin team!

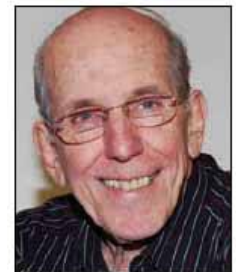
Many thanks to Art Miller for sending all this info (with photo)
Hope it's enjoyable reading for all

Kudos to the editorial staff of *The Bellingringer* during the Philadelphia Convention. For many of us who couldn't attend the convention, it was a very well done and complete publication. We in PROBE all understand how hard it is to publish a monthly or weekly newsletter/bulletin, but few of us have taken on the challenge of publishing a daily edition.

Art Miller set aside his duties as editor for the Bryn Mawr Mainliners to take on this daunting job, thereby limiting how much of the convention he could enjoy himself. I doing so he put out a very excellent publication that would have scored very high in the judging program, but more importantly was very informative and provided great reading for all those at the convention as well as those of us who were able to read it at home.

Thank you Art and all your excellent staff.

John Elving



Pat Moauro
Editor

It's great to see the Ontario District Trillium back in production after almost a two year absence. Longtime editor Waldo Redekop produced his last issue in 2007



Santas Ring A Chord

These four barbershoppers compared notes and their white beards during a break at the Fall Convention in Grantford in October. They are all members of the Amalgamated Order of Real Bearded Santas.

From left to right, are: Robert (Sarge) Childs, Brampton, of the Frank Thorne chapter; Larry Matachka and Harry Qualman; both of Ottawa who sing with the Capitol City Chorus; and George Goddard, Guelph, who sings with Mega City Chorus, Greater Toronto. These barbershoppers also work as Santa during the Christmas season.

Concho Capers

THE TWIN MOUNTAIN TONESMEN
San Angelo, Texas Chapter, Southwestern District of Champions



I've been clipping these for the last few months from the *Concho Capers*, edited by **Paul White**. Hopefully, these images are clear enough for everyone to use — enjoy! SJ



We Get Letters...



Barbershopper of the Year — Ray Ashcroft, 2009

By Woody Woodson, Program VP, 2008 recipient

Barbershopper of the Year. That has a nice sound to it, doesn't it? Each year we make this award to one of our members who has responded above and beyond what is expected of any member. This year's recipient, **Ray Ashcroft**, is no different.

Each year the past winners of this award select this year's Barbershopper of the Year and the past BOTY gets to make the presentation. In a chapter as large as Fullerton, this is not always an easy task, as there are often more than one that could be chosen for this award.



Mary Ruth and Ray Ashcroft
Joan Goding Photo

Barbershop Clippin's, Dick Cote, BE
Fullerton, CA chapter, BHS

THE YAMAHA RECALL

Yamaha has recalled 20,000 pianos due to a problem with the pedal sticking, causing pianists to play faster than they normally would, resulting in a dangerous number of accidentals. The sticky pedal also makes it harder for pianists to come to a full stop at the end of a piece making it extremely risky for audiences.



Importance of Good Photos

By Lee Roth, VP Marketing and Public Relations
Mid Atlantic District, *Mid'l Antics*



A very good photo is worth the time and effort, if your goal is capturing the interest of local editors. The Hunterdon chapter has demonstrated this fact of life from time to time. It was proven again in promoting our recent holiday show. We sold over 50% more tickets this year than the prior year and we were everywhere in the local publications.

A symphony orchestra in our area got one column of space promoting their performance. There was no photo. Another instrumental group did submit a photo and it appeared with an article about their upcoming concert. It was not a striking image and thus it appeared only one time in the most local weekly in their area.

We had a special photo session one afternoon before our show. There was full cooperation from important principals. Three of our lead role singers appeared in full costume. Our set builders had completed most of the set and props before the session. Our director came to the session to help direct the photo subjects.

Our photographer took seventy digital images. We edited out all but the twelve best. These twelve were printed in the form of a color proof sheet. All print publications on our primary, thirty-address mail list received a print of the proof sheet, the news release, and instructions for ordering a full color image, all in a large, eye-catching bright red envelope. We offered an exclusive use of an image for two weeks to anyone who planned to run the photo on their front page of any section.

The result included one color photo on the front of a section and another on the front of the publication. Other publications used photos in black and white. There were six inside stories about the show and our chapter. The bonus was that three publications found us interesting enough to send their own photographers, to either the show or an event prior to the show. One of these resulted in a color photo on the front of a section, and another used black and white photos inside their publications.

Several people have commented on the stories, photos, and the show itself. I submit that photos made the difference in getting the attention of the media and of their readers.



Southwestern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society Receives A 2009 Constant Contact All-Star Award

Constant Contact recognizes the Southwestern District for commitment to best practices in email marketing

April 18 2010 - Southwestern District today announced that it has received a 2009 All-Star Award from [Constant Contact® Inc.](#), a leading provider of email marketing, event marketing, and online survey tools for small organizations. The Southwestern District was selected for meeting Constant Contact's best-practice standards for the use of Email Marketing throughout 2009. *"It's important that we provide the best processes in getting information to our membership"*

Philip Maxfield, SWD Director of Marketing & PR



The Southwestern District received a 2009 Constant Contact All-Star Award for demonstrating best practices in the effective use of Constant Contact Email Marketing in the following areas:

Frequency of campaigns Open rates Bounce rates Click through rates

"Our customers work hard to build strong relationships with their customers through email marketing and some, such as the Southwestern District, truly excel in this effort," said Gail Goodman, CEO, Constant Contact. "We created our All-Star Awards to highlight those customers who are passionately committed to following our best practices as they work to improve their customer communications. We're proud of the role we play in helping The Southwestern District be successful and we look forward to continuing to assist the company with its marketing.



"SWD Roundup" bulletin April/June 2010, thanks Philip Maxfield



The Press Release Lives On

New editor for the Sunshine District is **Bob Johnston**, from the Melbourne, Florida chapter.
Ron Hesketh has retired as editor.

With the retirement of editor **Ron Hesketh**, the Sunshine District would like to thank Ron for his innovations, tireless efforts, and the wearing of many hats. Ron has served as editor, photographer, LEADAC Instructor, BETY contest coordinator, and other thankless tasks. He was instrumental in getting the *Sunburst* back as a hard-copy District bulletin again. We wish him well in his continuing barbershop activities and will see him around the District to shake his hand for a job well done.

Meet **Bob Johnston**, editor of *The Sunburst*, effective immediately. Bob joined the Melbourne chapter in 1993 as a lead and is now singing bass. He sings in pickup quartets in Melbourne's annual shows and Singing Valentines. He has been the Bass section leader for 10 years.



Speaking of many hats, Bob has been on his chapter BOD as a Member at Large (3 years), Publicity (2 years), District Delegate (6 years), Music Librarian (5 years), and Uniform manager (11 years). Obviously, he likes work. Bob was named chapter BOTY for 2009 so somebody noticed his dedication. His experience includes the publishing of Melbourne's show programs and generating most of their advertising literature from handouts to poster boards for the last 14 years.

The Sunshine District is grateful for Bob's willingness to take on the enormous task of producing our District bulletin and we welcome him to the Sunshine District Operations Team. Bob will be putting together a plan for and implementing an Editorial Board for proofing and reviewing to make sure our District bulletin is the best it can be.

Send all contributions to editor@sunshinedistrict.org or sunburst@sunshinedistrict.org. The electronic version [in .pdf format] is available on the District web site: sunshinedistrict.org/about/sunburst/ and the back issues will soon be uploaded for your reading pleasure.

Christopher Baker
PR/Marketing VP, Sunshine District
barbershopper@bellsouth.net

There is much debate in the world of journalism about the necessity of the often lengthy, one-sided press release. Many journalists and members of the media find them burdensome and do not have the time to spend reading through hundreds, if not thousands, of press releases a day.

However, while national papers may not have the time to spend looking over press releases, many local papers rely on the information they contain for story ideas. In recent years, as newspapers struggle to survive, the press release has helped local reporters save time and make up for being understaffed.

The local community is greatly affected by the news that is released through the media, allowing them to stay up-to-date with the latest information.



However, it is imperative that a press release is written well. As anyone who handles media relations knows, a press release that has errors or is poorly written is not going to be published. By following these important tips, your press release will be picked up and published in no time.

1. Make sure that all information is correct and nothing is missing. If you have an upcoming event and you provide the wrong date, time, or location this hurts your organization and its supporters. A poorly written press release with incorrect information will also hurt your reputation with the media because they won't be able to trust the information in future press releases.
2. Create a headline that is not only eye-catching, but is to-the-point and accurately sums up the information presented in the body of the press release. The first thing a journalist will see is the headline and from there he or she will determine whether it's newsworthy or even worth reading. A lot of press releases come through a journalist's mailbox and they make the decision to continue reading in split second – your headline needs to stand out from the crowd.
3. Use the inverted pyramid when writing the body of your press release. Put the most important information in the first paragraph of the press release and the least important at the bottom. This way, not all of the press release needs to be read in order for the journalist to understand the story. And, when editing for space, newspapers usually edit from the bottom up so you want the most important information in the first few paragraphs.
4. Keep it short and to the point. Lengthy sentences and long paragraphs can be hard to read. Same thing applies to the press release; try to keep it to one page. The journalist will be more likely to read it and ask questions if more information is needed.
5. Use the AP Style Guide. This is an essential tool that is used by members of the media and is the newspaper industry's standard guide for grammar to punctuation. Having knowledge of the latest AP style will save journalists time because they won't have to make unnecessary edits.

For more information on media relations, feel free to contact Krisp Communications or visit us on Facebook and be sure to click the Like button to receive public relations and fund development tips you can use everyday!

Founded in 1989, Midwest Vocal Express (MVE) male a cappella chorus specializes in "Storytelling through Song," performing traditional barbershop favorites, show tunes, spirituals and popular music. Headquartered in Greendale, and made up of singers from across southeast Wisconsin, MVE is known locally for the best in family entertainment, and worldwide for their "legendary" theatrical presentations on the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Contest Stage.



Many of the members of the Midwest Vocal Express are involved in what can be considered the purest form of barbershopping – the quartet. One of those members is John "Bo" Gibson, and he has been barbershopping for a long time.



A Barbershopper Who Gives Back

Submitted by Bob Fichtner



Bo performs regularly with Easy Days at the [Harmony Inn the Village](#) in Greendale, WI. A few weeks ago, he coached a quartet made up of members of the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus for their performance with the [Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's](#) recent Americana concert.

Shown are photos of Bo (in the middle) with the quartet at the Monday night rehearsal, the quartet in their ready room and with Maestro Marvin Hamlisch. Since the quartet appeared nameless, the Maestro made one up for the quartet during the first performance right in front of 2200 people - Below The Town.

It was the humorous opposite to the bluegrass group, Above The Town, that also performed on the program. The Maestro's interview schtick before and/or after they sang helped the foursome have even more fun in those brief minutes singing "This Land is Your Land" linked to "America the Beautiful."

Audiences, the Maestro, Lee Erickson (the MSO Chorus director) and management offstage were all beaming every time. After the performances, the quartet sent out an email about Bo, saying, "His willingness to work with us, his generosity of time, and kindly manner were simply awesome--and it showed in the three performances. Special thanks go to Bo!"



Bo – thanks for all you do for barbershop and the MVE!



Editorial Musings

David Updegraff,
Editor

That must have been SOME editorial to earn 30 days!



Originated in the Ontario District by Bill Vermue of the Ontario chapter and adopted as 2010 Society vision by president Bill Biffle.

Social Media and Social Networking

How These Tools Can Help Your Chapter

Posted by Danielle Cole in [Chapters](#), [Membership growth](#), [Run your chapter](#)



John Fitzpatrick

Guest nights. Handing out flyers. Performing for the local community. All good ways to promote your chapter and barbershop in hopes of garnering interest and possibly gaining a few new members. Well – is it working? What do you have to show for it? Hopefully these methods are successful as they require a good amount of effort, but maybe you’re hoping for a bit more; more gigs, more people at guest nights, more phone calls asking your chorus to sing at an event, and ultimately, more registered Barber-shoppers.

Bob Fichter (from the [Midwest Vocal Express](#)), with the help of Montana Jack, mtjack@bresnan.net, has written an article titled, “[Social Media for Barbershop Quartets and Choruses](#)” – it explains how to reach more people and target the younger generations. For those who are intimidated by the Internet – have no fear! Bob gives step-by-step instructions – fool proof! If you’ve used Facebook for the purpose of recruiting new members, advertising a show/meeting, or anything barbershop-related, tell us about your experience. What works best and what doesn’t – let’s hear it.

Need a quick photo of someone for your publication? Try facebook — I do!

Social Networking article for PROBE moter

Montana Jack is the architect of all of this - I'm merely the hired labor. Read his comment on the BBS HQ Blog site -

<http://www.barbershophq.com/?p=1353#comments>

There is more to the story as it involves Montana Jack driving across Pennsylvania with Midwest Vocal Express member Mike Lietke and a discussion about recruiting members to the Society, plus other work that Jack has been involved in but too modest to discuss. This document is meant for wide distribution; the more people who see this and use it, the better. [@MidwestVocalExp](https://www.facebook.com/midwestvocalexpress)



Bob Fichtner

@

Bass & Social Media Guy
Midwest Vocal Express
www.mve.org



Montana Jack

This manual ([pages 12-14...SJ](#)) was originally conceived to be used as aid for chapters in setting up a **Facebook** page. We had hoped that chapters could use **Facebook** as a tool for recruiting “pre-qualified singers” by trying to locate men who had sung in college choral groups.

As it was being prepared, we realized that there were so many other ways that **Facebook** could be used to help chapters.

Therefore, we do hope that chapters make their primary use of **Facebook** to recruit new members. While reaping the benefits of **Facebook**, please remember to share your great and proven ideas with all of us.

The major thing we hope results is that everyone realizes that **Facebook** is easy ([it is...SJ](#)) and not just for the young folks. With Bob’s excellent manual as a guide, jump in and have a ball. I gave it a try and am learning new things and making new friends everyday. Once you get there look for Bob and I. Blessings....

Montana Jack
mtjack@bresnan.net

KEEPING THE FAITH & KEEPING IT BARBERSHOP

Social Media for Barbershop Quartets and Choruses

By Bob Fichtner & John “Montana Jack” Fitzpatrick



Bob Fichtner
fichtner@gmail.com

Things to Consider

Social media and social networking can be powerful tools for communicating with your audiences, fans and the communities where you perform. With a little effort up front and some ongoing efforts throughout the year, your quartet or chorus can leverage the power of social media and social networking to your benefit.

For those of you old enough to remember the old Faberge shampoo commercial about “...and they told two friends,” you should immediately grasp the power of social media and social networking. For those of you not old enough to remember - look it up on YouTube.

Why does this matter? Social media and social networking is a very cost-effective way for you to reach a large number of people. Rather than sending mailings to a list of people, or maintaining an email list and sending things out, you “publish” information on your site or send “updates” to your fans that opt in to receive information from you. Using freely available (and free!) tools, you can send information to hundreds or thousands of people with a few mouse clicks.

The real power of social media and social networking comes when people to whom you send information share it with their friends. One post to one person might be shared with their friends. If their friends like it, they may pass it on to their friends. If you start with 500 fans and only 1% share the information, it still has the potential to reach thousands of people.

It is similar to putting up a show flyer at the entrance to the grocery store – lots of people walking by every day. Some will notice it and some won't. But given the costs of getting involved with social media and social networking are nominal, besides someone's time, your quartet or chapter doesn't have much to lose.

Where Do We Start?

There are many flavors of social media and social networking, with hundreds of sites offering services. Just Google “social networking sites” and see for yourself. However, the most popular ones include Facebook and Twitter. Before you dive in and start setting things up in any of these sites, there are several important questions to which you should know the answers:

1. What do we want to accomplish with social networking?
 - a. Raise awareness of our quartet/chorus?
 - b. Sell tickets?
 - c. Recruit new members?
2. Who is going to set it all up?
3. Who will manage the content over time?

Before We Get Started -Copyright Laws

I am not a lawyer and I don't play one on TV. But I do know that the Barbershop Society has been very forthright in communications about copyright laws. Be sure you are familiar with these laws before you start uploading videos, MP3s or other audio files to the Internet, whether your web site, a social media site, YouTube or other publicly accessible location. If you haven't done so already, click on the links below for information from the Society on how to handle these and other matters related to copyright laws.

Facebook

Facebook is the current king of social networking sites. If I had to choose one site and one site only for social media and social networking, this would be it. What started out as a way for college students to stay in touch with one another – both in school and out of school – has turned into a site with a broad base of consumers using it regularly. Hardcore users are on the site daily, if not more often.

First Steps

The Account

One of the first decisions you will have to make regarding setting up on Facebook is whether you will create a “business account” on Facebook that is not associated with a particular individual or if you will create the site using a member's personal account. On the surface, that seems easy – but it really isn't.

Facebook started out as a way for individuals to stay in touch, not a way for businesses or music groups to communicate with fans or followers. Everything about Facebook is geared towards individuals, so while Facebook allows for business accounts, there are some downsides to going this route. Click on the link below and read for yourself just what they are. Personally, I would lean towards using a personal account, but you have to make that decision for your quartet/chorus.

<http://www.facebook.com/help/?page=721>

Group or Page?

The next decision you'll need to make with regard to Facebook is whether to create a group, set up a page or both. Just keep in mind that if you set up both, you will need to update and manage content at both of these places, essentially doubling the amount of work you have to do.

Once again, there are pros and cons to each of these. People “join” a group, but become “fans” of pages. Which sounds better? The links below are all good resources for understanding the differences and benefits that each offers.

<http://www.searchenginejournal.com/facebook-group-vs-facebook-fan-page-whats-better/7761/>

<http://mashable.com/2009/05/27/facebook-page-vs-group/>
<http://www.allfacebook.com/2010/02/facebook-groups-pages/>

Again, if I had to pick one of these, I would opt to create a fan page.

The Fan Page “Admin”

The Fan Page Admin is a Facebook user who manages the content on the site and has the ability to edit the page. It is probably best to have more than one person in your quartet/chorus designated as an admin of your page. Why? People come and go. If the person who is managing your social media sites leaves and they were the only person with access to your pages, your sites become boat anchors.

Cont. next page

barbershop.org/document-center/category/8-copyrightlegal.html?download=68%3Acopyright-basics-for-barbershoppers
<http://www.barbershophq.com/?p=1278#more-1278>

Create Your Page/Group

One of your designated admins will actually create the page. The steps are fairly straightforward and can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/create.php>

IMPORTANT – click on the box that says “Do not make Page publicly visible at this time. (You will be able to edit and publish later.)” This will allow you to set up and customize your page and create some content for your page before you open it up to the world. If you don’t, people will come to your page and there won’t be anything for them to do there.

Get your vanity URL

When you first set up your fan page, Facebook will give it a URL like this -

www.facebook.com/pages/MidwestVocalExpress/409635288331?ref=mf

Not very easy to remember or to tell people so they can visit your site. Go to www.facebook.com/username and you should be able to create a more memorable name, like

www.facebook.com/MidwestVocalExpress

You may have to wait until you have 25 fans, but do it as soon as you can.

Content

There is a lot that can go into setting up a fan page and you need to decide how much effort you want to put into it. At a minimum, you may want to consider the Wall, Photos, Videos (copyright legal only!), Events and Discussion. The more content you have, the more people will want to visit your page or receive updates from you. If you build a page and never post any content, fans will become bored and you’ll have wasted your time and effort.

Add candid photos from rehearsals and retreats showing your members having a good time. Have any CDs? Add a “discography” tab and enter them, along with a link to where they can buy them. Did you just raise money for a local charity? Post that on your page and link to the charity’s web site. Did your quartet get on the radio to promote Singing Valentines? Ask the station director if you can post the audio file on your fan page with a link to their web site or if they will post the audio on their web site and then link to it. The possibilities are endless. Be creative. Be genuine. Be prodigious!

Publish

Now that you have at least some content on your page instead of a blank wall, go ahead and publish it. Put it out there for the whole world to see. After all, that’s why you did all that work, right?

Promote Your Page

The corollary to “If a tree falls in a forest...” is “If you create a Fan Page in Facebook and don’t tell anyone about it, how will you get any fans?” Your admins should become the first fans. This will then show up on their Facebook wall. Then ask every member in your chorus who is on Facebook to become a fan. Don’t force them to sign up for Facebook if they don’t want to. The whole premise of social media and social networking is built upon people opting in and giving you permission to reach out to them.

There are many ways you can promote your page. Below are just a few of the things you can do:

- “Suggest” the page to your family and friends. Ask your fans to do the same.
- Add the page to your “favorites.” Ask your fans to do the same.
- Post a note on the Harmonet inviting everyone to become a fan.

Add the URL for you fan page to your letterhead, show flyers, mailings, emails, web site, show programs, etc. Anything you publish should automatically include the link.

Add a “fan badge” to your web site.

http://www.facebook.com/facebook-widgets/fanbox.php?page_id=88926183463

Promote Other Pages & Content

You are not the only fish in the sea. If you see something that someone else posted and think your fans would want to see it, share it with them. Give proper credit to the original author, but by all means share it.

- Post links to interesting pages, even if it isn’t barbershop. Think choral, a cappella, singing, music – chances are your fans may find those topics just as interesting
- Post links to the Society, Sweet Ads and Harmony Inc
- Post links to (legal) videos on YouTube, such as Crossroads at International
- Link to your District fan page, if there is one
- Link to quartets in your chapter - fan pages, web sites or both
- Link to other chapters in your area

Chances are, they will link back to you or become a fan of your site. Be generous and your generosity will be returned.

Encourage Your Fans to Get Involved

Another important aspect of social media is that it allows for two-way interaction. TV and radio (excluding talk radio) are one-way broadcasts. They publish and you watch/listen. Social media breaks down those walls.

Ask your fans questions. What is their favorite song of all time? What is their favorite song that they’ve seen you perform? Invite them to post things on your wall (if you want this and have set this up). Instead of you dominating the conversation, people will see others posting and may feel like chiming in as well.

Keep it fun and interesting and they will be more likely to want to promote or share your page with their friends. It takes time, but once the snowball starts rolling downhill, you’ll be surprised by how quickly it can pick up speed. It may take a month to get 100 fans and another month to get 200. It may take three more months to get to 300. Be patient. Keep at it and the fans will come.

Recycle Content

One of the downsides of social media is that with a billion+ channels of information available on the Internet nowadays, it is easy for your content to get “lost” in the vast ocean of information that is out there. Don’t be afraid to publish the same information over the course of several days or weeks. Just because you posted that awesome video of Crossroads two months ago doesn’t mean that everyone who is a fan saw it. And guess what – people who are new fans within the past two months likely haven’t seen it either. So post it again. And again in another three months.

Obviously you don't want to post the same information on an hourly basis and be considered a "spammer." Respect your fans time and they will respect you for it.

Advertise!

In some respects, a Facebook fan page in and of itself is a form of advertising. However, you can also place paid ads on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/ads/create/>). The costs are very reasonable and you have the ability to target what types of Facebook users will see your ads.

You can target by:

- Geography – country, state or city (including cities within an 'x' mile radius)
- Age
- Gender
- Relationship – single, married, or ??
- Language
- Likes and Interest – e.g. "singing" or "chorus" or "choral" or music friends of your current fans

As you make targeting selections, Facebook will tell you how many people it can potentially "reach" with your ad. Unless you have an unlimited advertising budget, it is likely you won't reach all of them. But you can see if you go overboard in your targeting if Facebook says it can only reach 10 people based on your criteria. Play around with it

The costs are fairly nominal and you can pay by the impression (how many people "see" your ad) or by the click (how many people click on your ad). You can set a daily budget and the minimum is only \$1.00 per day. If you have a show coming up in a few weeks, you could tell Facebook that you would like to spend \$20 a day for two weeks. Or \$5. It's all to you.

Keep in mind that clicks will cost more than impressions and other people are bidding to have their ads placed on the walls of the same people you might be targeting.

Above all, track your advertising efforts. Have the person handling your tickets ask people how they heard of you. Maybe offer a special promotion for your Facebook fans; mention code "123" and get \$10 off an order of four or more tickets. If you don't track this, you won't know if the money you spent on the ad resulted in any ticket sales.

Recruit!


You can also use Facebook to recruit new members. Post information about an upcoming guest night on your page and ask your fans to share it with their friends. They may not be interested, but might know someone who could be.

And similar to promoting a show, you could place an ad to recruit new members. The Nashville Singers successfully recruited a number of members using Facebook ads. Use the targeting abilities available in Facebook ads to have ads displayed on the walls of people who might be looking for an outlet for their talents. Start small and try something. If it doesn't work, change the target and try again. Keep at it until you find something that works.

Next Steps for Facebook

This manual has only begun to scratch the surface of what you can do on Facebook. Try things. Experiment. Visit the fan pages of other barbershop choruses. Visit the fan pages of other non-BBS choruses in your area. See what do and then try it using your own group's style. After all, we are a society founded upon "preserving" things.

WELCOME
Ben Geesa
Editor
"INKY NOTES"
Cardinal District



Pre-registration
Now Available for
2011 Kansas City
International Convention

2011 Kansas City
July 3 - July 10, 2011



LET'S SING "IDA LEE." IT TAKES A LONG TIME TO GET TO THE 45TH FLOOR.

STANOLIND PIPE LINE COMPANY



TULSA OKLAHOMA

O. C. Cash
TAX COMMISSIONER

April 6, 1938

Mr. Roscoe Adams
First National Bank
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Al Wells
The Carter Oil Company
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. W. A. Palmer
Rounds & Porter Lumber Co.
313 West Archer
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dr. Ira T. Parker
McBirney Building
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Jack Carroll
McBirney Building
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. C. A. O'Donovan
1755 S. Victor
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Bud Neal
Alhambra Hardware Co.
15th & Peoria
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Pete Hurley
First National Bank
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Dixie Gilmer
County Court House
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Charles R. Pendleton
Gates Hardware Company
317 E. Brady
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. R. A. Hittson
Thompson Building
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Marvin Asbaugh
311 East 6th Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Glen Thompson
Tidewater Oil Company
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. Paul Fenton
609 S. Detroit
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Gentlemen,

In this age of Dictators and Government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights not in some way supervised and directed, is the art of Barber Shop Quartet singing. Without doubt we still have the right of "peaceable assembly" which I am advised by competent legal authority includes quartet singing. The writers of this letter have for a long time thought that something should be done to encourage the enjoyment of this last remaining vestige of human liberty. Therefore, we have decided to hold a songfest on the Roof Garden of the Tulsa Club on Monday, April 11, at six thirty p.m. A Dutch lunch will be served. After several months of research, and investigation, we are convinced that your record warrants our tendering you the honor of joining this group. We sincerely trust you will not fail us.

As evidence of the work that your Committee has done in this connection, we enclose a compilation of most of the good old fashioned Barber Shop Quartet songs which we trust you will look over and familiarize yourself with. Bring this list with you. It is our purpose to start right in at the first, sing every song, in numerical order, plow right down the middle, and let the chips fall where they will. What could be sweeter than ten or twelve perfectly synchronized male voices singing "Dear Old Girl!" Just thinking about it brought back to your Committee fond memories of a moonlight night, a hay ride and the soft young blonde summer visitor from Kansas City we dated on that occasion years ago. Do not forget the date, and make every effort to be present, telephone us if convenient. We will have a private room and so will not be embarrassed by the curiosity of the vulgar public. You may bring a fellow singer if you desire.

Harmoniously yours,

Rupert Hall, Royal Keeper of the
Minor Keys
Braniff Investment Company
Phone 2-9121

O. C. Cash, Third Assistant Temporary
Vice Chairman
Stanolind Companies
Phone 2-3211

Society Archives Committee Report April 13, 2010

Committee Members

Grady W Kerr - Texas (Chairman)
Richard A Girvin - California
(Past Chairman)
Carl J. Cash, III - Ohio
Bob Sutton, Sr. - Virginia
Steve D'Ambrosio - Tennessee
Bob L. Davenport - Tennessee
Ed Watson - Tennessee
(Staff Liaison)

Since we decided NOT to have our annual face to face meeting in Nashville this year, we're funneling that money to the intern / inventory working being done by **Bob Davenport**. This might get us to July. Sadly, that will probably do it. Bob is now morally obligated to continue (insert smile face here) and work for free for the rest of the year. Seriously, we hope he DOES continue and give us as many hours as he can. He's done a great deal of work down in the basement and helped increase awareness among the HQ staff: all good things. Thanks Bob!

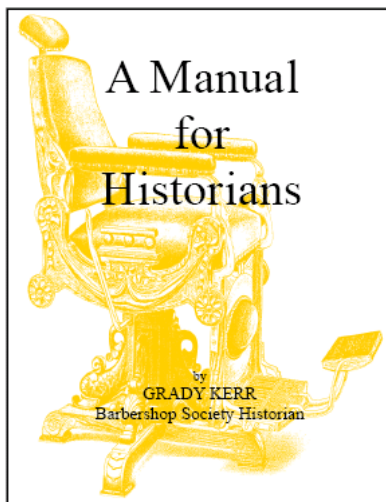
With this I'll ask Bob and **Steve** to write up a report on all they've done and distribute it to the team via 10ArchivesComm@barbershop.org. After all, they know where all the bodies are buried now.

OC Cash Book

We have now completed the **OC Cash Book**. This was originally created many years ago on behalf of the **Heritage Hall Museum**. We updated it and reprinted some. I used some as hand-outs at the IDAH and also gave each Society Board Member a copy as part of my report. All were appreciated. It has also now been added to the **Harmony Marketplace**. They cost us \$1.80 to produce at HQ and we're selling them for \$10.00.

harmonymarketplace.com/occashbook.html

We sold some (about 10) via HMP as a result of our posts / alerts via The Harmonet, SAI Sing list and my Face-Book page. The money will go to the Archives budget and while we don't expect to make much money but do hope to increase awareness of our goals, plans and cause.



IDAHA

I was invited by **Bob Squires** (School "Dean" & ILL District Historian) to teach a history class at Illinois District's weekend school. It went well. I took LOTS of Show and Tell items and played lots of audio clips. I have notes and stuff to assist anyone else who wishes to teach such a class. I highly recommend it be a part of every district school. All who attended said they enjoyed learning about our heritage. I'll be contacting all the district historians to push for such a class in their district.

Society Board Meeting Report

The Board met in Nashville recently and I submitted a report. We (the Archives Committee) presented them with a copy of the Cash book. Increasing awareness and support is our goal.

Original Invitation ReCreated

It has always pained me to NOT have a good, readable copy of the invitation for the April 11, 1938 meeting. We fixed that recently. I trust you all got your copy. With help of **Bob & Ruth Sutton**, **Dickie Johnson** and **Bob Davenport** we re-created the historic document word for word, line for line, note for note. We now have a copy we can read and distribute. And, Yes, its suitable for framing.

72 years and counting

We got this new and improved document done just in time for the 72nd anniversary. I wrote up a little article on the first meeting and to my surprise, **Ed Watson** had it used in several ways to promote the anniversary. It appeared in Live-Wire, was distributed by **Bill Biffle** (our President) to several of his lists and appears on the website with a nifty banner to promote it.

I even got a call out of the blue clear sky from some guy on one of those lists to simply say, "Thanks."

Awesome History Animation

I'm hopeful you've seen the new animation on the Society website.

barbershop.org/about/history.html

Our thanks to the hours spent by BHS Webmaster, **Eddie Holt**. He took the Megs of content I sent and made it "sing". I think this should win some web design award. It's so well done. He also gets high marks for tolerating all my nit-picking. He has as much skill as he does patience. It's now completed and has had over 1000 hits: more to come.

New History Section of BHS Website

The next step of our world-wide internet presence to promote BHS history/archives is our own place on the Society Web Site. Eddie is working on that as you read this. He now has all the content from me and I suspect we'll have this up and ready for the public by the end of the month.

Extra Harmonizers

Steve is starting to organize and take stock of the million copies of the Harmonizers in our collection. We are going to find out how many COMPLETE sets we have and possibly offer the extras for sale to the membership as a fund raiser. Any other suggestions as to what to do with these valuable an historical artifacts?

Trip to Nashville

I'm finalizing my plans to travel to Nashville on May 8 and get the 50th anniversary quartet (Evans) display ready for Philly. I'm also taking my white glove to do an inspection of the Archives. I do hope Bob and Steve are ready for me. I look forward to seeing what all they've done. If they're nice I'll let them take me to the **Music City Chapter** shows that weekend (**New Tradition, Lunch Break & FERD**).

First Medal to be Displayed in Lobby

As I reported before, the family of **Bob Durand** (bari, 1939 **Bartlesville Barflies**) donated several of his artifacts. One was a barbershop collector's "Holy Grail", the 1939 Gold Medal. Thanks to **Patty** (and Ed) it will soon be custom framed and placed for all to see in the BHS HQ lobby.

Historian's Manual Update

I'm in the middle of updating the 1987 Historian's Manual done by **Dean Snyder** and **Wilbur Sparks** and will distribute to all the District Historians for distribution to the chapter historians.



GRADY KERR

As we discussed in our meeting a few years ago, we wish to include all of them in our work to preserve and promote the past. I'm interested in our input on this process.

Close Harmony Singers CD

Another project we're updating is the release of the Close Harmony Pioneers tape sold by the Society to benefit the HH Museum. I made contact with an "early quartet expert" who is helping me produce this re-release. My plan is to cram as many songs on a CD as possible (all Public Domain songs). If you recall these will be recordings of the professional groups famous between 1890 and 1915 (Peerless, American, Haydn, etc) who originally recorded the songs we're preserving today. I can find no other such recording available via retail. We'll have this available via HMP in a month or so.

Score Sheets Complete

Steve Tremper manages the **Harmonet Reporter** site that holds a massive numbers of scores. At the request of a barbershopper, we scanned all the missing score sheets and have supplied them to Steve to fill in the gaps. In the end we will make sure he has a complete collection of International scores from the very early years (1949) to present day.

Recent Acquisitions

We continue to receive artifacts in Nashville. Bob is taking them in and he and Danielle is sending out the proper paperwork. As you know we lost **Marty Mendro (Mid-States 4, lead)**. His family has sent in several boxes of photos, artifacts and even some MS4 costumes. We're agreed to reimburse their shipping cost (we sent them a check for \$100).

The Gold Medal uniforms continue to come in slowly. New to the archives are **Power Play, Vocal Spectrum, Michigan Jake, Platinum, & Revival**. There are seven others who have promised me they will be send soon. By my count we are only missing 24 of the 71 champs with 15 available and very possible.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

NOTE: * indicates required field

First Name:* _____ M.I.: _____ Last Name:* _____

Address1* _____

Address2: _____

City:* _____ State:* _____ Zip:* _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email:* _____

Society Member #:* _____ Chapter # (if known): _____

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