



Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Join Us In Song!



The SCORE



Meetings on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at Simpson United Methodist Church



Vol. 22, No. 8

October 2005

Calendar

Administrative Board will meet the first Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

- Oct 1-2 Fall Convention – Louisville
- Oct 3 (mo) Board Meeting 5:30 Simpson
- Oct 10 (mo) Open New Officer Nominee
- Oct 17 (mo) Officer Slate Finalized
- Oct 17 (mo) Music Team 6:00 Simpson
- Nov 7 (mo) Board Meeting 5:30 Simpson
- Nov 7 (mo) Annual Meeting and election
- Nov 13 (su) Cross Lutheran 2-5
- Nov 18-19 Planning Retreat – Lutherhaven
- Nov 21 (mo) Music Team 6:00 Simpson
- Dec 5 (mo) Board Meeting 5:30 Simpson
- Dec 11 (su) Christmas Show – 2:30
- Dec 19 (mo) Music Team 6:00 Simpson
- Jan 9 (mo) Annual Banquet

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Summit City Chorus with Guests

UCANSING2 - Great Guest Night!

Or at least, I feel it was! I don't remember (famous last words) a night when we had more guests than last night, or a better organized, more smoothly executed agenda. My personal thanks to Denis and Al for orchestrating, to Max for showing Singing Is Life and having the big sign in the parking lot, to the guys who set up chairs and risers, to the ladies for handling the chow, and to anyone I am inadvertently omitting, for what they did.

Unofficially, we had twelve guests, nine of which turned in their survey sheet, with six indicating they had fun and intend to return! Thinking positively, a "harvest" of six new members would be awesome. Denis,

correct me if I'm wrong about the numbers, and, *you did a great job!* New Hampshire's loss is our gain! We're also going to put you in charge of the *drawing*. LOL. Again, if I'm not mistaken, all guests were there as a result of *our asking them*. Which tells me, that even though our advertising was minimal what gets 'em through the door is *us*. *You and me!* The same principle is going to apply when it comes time to get people in the seats at the Scottish Rite. The Lord helps those who help themselves, huh? Anyway, thanks everybody, and to those guys (no pun intended) who brought guests, or at least tried, a special thanks!

— Dwight Nash
Bass Section Leader, Summit City Chorus

September Board Meeting

Those present: Luard, Steffen, Cushman, Bell, Severine, Nash, Hagen, Morphew, Bucher and Pierce.

- Secretary Report for August 2005 was read. Motion made by Ken Steffen to accept minutes, seconded by Max Bell, motion carried.
- Treasurer Report by Rod Severine for August 2005 was read. Motion by Dwight Nash to accept the report and seconded by Frank Luard, motion carried.
- Membership Report. Attendance Awards Program discussed by Denis Cushman. Program will con-tinue. Attendance report was provided for viewing. A sample guest packet was provided for viewing for UCANSING2 night.
- New Business. (1) Silent auction items for Fall Convention. Bob Benner will follow up for completion. (2) Chapter Youth Policy by-laws. Max Bell expressed concern that we need to cover ourselves legally. Max will follow up in getting by-laws amended if necessary. (3) Arts United membership dues of \$20 was approved. (4) Video training for taping a show for Public Access TV is being investigated by Bell, M. Leimer, and Brenda Gossett. (5) City-Wide Choral Concert – A com-mittee will be formed to move forward with a Disaster Relief Benefit concert, approved by the board. Other participating groups will be contacted as well as the Embassy Centre.

September Birthdays

Max Bell Sep 3
Greg Graber Sep 6
Dwight Nash Sep 10
Bob Bowman Sep 28

Happy October Birthdays

Randy Blair Oct 13
Jeff Gerber Oct 15
Mark Leimer Oct 17
Joe Pitzer Jr Oct 19
Denis Cushman Oct 22

Summit City Chorus Hotline
260-625-2299

Chapter Leadership

President Max Bell
Membership VP Denis Cushman
Program VP Bob Benner
Music & Performance Vaughn Albert
Public Relations Al Schumm
Secretary Dick Hamilton
Treasurer Rod Severine

Board Member Dwight Nash
Board Member Chris Piano
Board Member Frank Luard

Chorus Manager Bob Bowman
Show Chairman Chris Piano
Chorus Librarian Bob Bowman
Bulletin Editor Ken Steffen
Past President Dick Ellison

Musical Director Mark Leimer
Assistant Music Director ... Keith Morphew
Assistant Music Director Jeff Albert

THE SCORE

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SCORE is the publication of the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Chapter of the Cardinal District of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Unless carrying a by-line, articles have been written by the editor.

We encourage contributions from our members. Such contributions reflect the individual opinions of their author and not necessarily the opinions of the members or officers of this chapter.

*Vaughn Albert
won the award for
Counsellor of the Year
in Cardinal District
He received a plaque at the
Fall Convention in Louisville.*

Harmonizing Toward a Championship

By: Rod King

(Free-lance writer for the Fort Wayne Newspapers)

When it comes to singing, the Summit City Chorus can belt out great barbershop harmony with the best of them. The 62 member ensemble not only has to be able to sing the songs, but be actors as well.

As board member, past president and former conductor Dwight Nash puts it, "we have to sell the songs. In other words, if we're singing a happy song, our expressions need to be happy. Or if it's a sad song, we certainly don't want to be smiling. So, I guess we have to be actors in addition to being singers."

The Chorus and three local quartets are presently putting the finishing touches on the songs they'll be performing at the Barbershop Harmony Society's Cardinal District convention in Louisville September 30 and October 1. And if their music, singing, and presentation garner high marks from the six certified judges, they'll earn a trip to the international sing-off in Indianapolis next year.

They're hoping their version of (Darktown Strutters Ball) and (Love's Old Sweet Song), which is sometimes called (Just a Song at Twilight), will do the trick. The Summit City Chorus has won the district championship three times in the past dozen years. Eight other choruses from throughout Indiana and Kentucky also have thoughts of capturing the top spot.

The three local barbershop quartets will be competing against 19 other quartets. A semi-final round will be held Friday evening, with the top eight groups competing for first place. Fort Wayne quartets include: *Hoosier Gentry* composed of Dave Thomas, Bob Bowman, Duane Johnson and Vaughn Albert; *River City Rhythm* with Dave Reiff, Dan Johnson, Carl Sipe and Tom Schaden; and *Those Guys* with Brian Eager, Al Schumm, Dwight Nash and Max Bell. The Fort Wayne chorus and quartets will be participating in a non-denominational church service at the convention Sunday, October 2.

Director Mark Leimer, who has headed the Chorus for the past three years, says the group has been "tweaking" its performance and putting in a few extras in order to "be the best we can be. We've taken some liberties with the two songs and embellished them to meet the story in the song. The group has a good balance and blend, and we've been working hard on having a smooth flow and connection between phrases. Our goal is to top our highest point total of 844 from two years ago."

Choreographer Brenda Gossett has been working with the group for the past three months on presenting a unified front with their body movements and facial expressions. She has their every movement synchronized with the lyrics so that they are showing anguish, fear, sorrow or happiness at the proper moment to sell the song across the footlights to the judges seated in the front row.

Nash, who has been in the chorus since he was 18 years old, says he just loves to sing. "I like the sound of barbershop harmony with its interlocking chords and all the overtones. And I really enjoy the camaraderie of the group. They're a great bunch of guys, and I've made a lot of lasting friendships over my 46 years in the group."

President Max Bell summed up his feeling for the organization by saying, "if it's Monday night, it's time to go singing. We rehearse every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Simpson United Methodist Church. These guys are very dedicated and just plain love to sing. It's a lot of fun, and we're open to anyone who wants to join up. They don't have to be able to read music, just enjoy it. Or they can check us out on the Internet at www.Summitcitychorus@comcast.net."

A Very Proud Director



Mark A. Leimer

I want to thank everyone in the chorus for their hard work. Many good things came from our weekend in Louisville. I think we all see that we are doing the right things. Our friend and Coach Raymond Schwarzkopf is right on the money as far as what we need to do to move to an "A" level chorus. Also Dr. Lyne was very, very helpful to us. We proved to ourselves that individual effort makes a difference. I have more things planned to make us even better next year. Stay tuned...you ain't seen nothing yet.

Special thanks to Brenda Gossett for all the extra effort she put into the chorus and the front row. Note to all of you guys: Be sure to go out of your way and thank her for her time and effort. We are blessed with her talents and willingness to always be there for us.

I would like to thank front row for your efforts. When I heard that the front row had committed to meeting on their own, I was so delighted. I never asked for this. It just happened. It showed me that they where committed. Gentlemen, I thank you.

So where do we go from here? Very easy question. New repertoire is here. Our holiday show is next. We also have Valentines Day. That day will be here very soon and all our quartets will be busy. Also of course our big annual show in April. You can also expect Raymond to be back in the first quarter next year.

Our Chorus is blessed with committed people. People that see and share the vision that I have for this chorus. It is a real pleasure to be a part of a group/family of individuals in the Summit City Chorus. I know that some day we will be on top and remember these days of building.

Thank you to all of you!

— Mark A. Leimer, Music Director



Wow! What A Party!

A very special thank you to the Summit City Chorus, their spouses, *Hoosier Gentry*, *River City Rhythm*, *Crosstown Sound*, and the many friends, former students, and family members who attended our 50th anniversary open house.

Special thanks to *Hoosier Gentry* for their song (Go Tell it on the Mountain) arranged by fellow barbershopper Joe Johnson in our honor.

We truly appreciate the Harmony Foundation gift presented in our honor by each member of the Summit City Chorus.



Thanks also, to the *Crosstown Sound*, *River City Rhythm*, and, *Hoosier Gentry* for entertaining those attending throughout the reception hall. Your gifts of music was greatly appreciated by us on our very special day!

— Keith and Delores Morphey

Editor's note: Something should be said about the generosity of the Morphey's. It has come to my attention that they have added to the Summit City Chorus account to the tune of \$500. We always love to sing, especially to our own, but when we get rewarded for our efforts, it's even better. We thank you Keith and Delores Morphey, and truly wish you the very best in years to come.

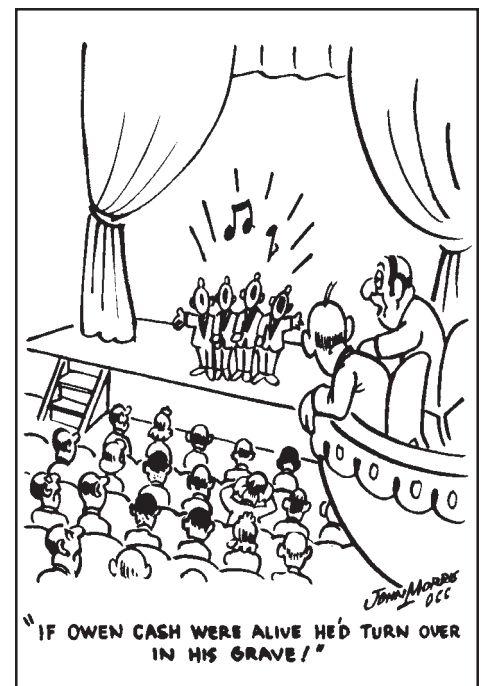
Simpson Summer Finale

SCC's final Choir Replacement performance of the 2005 Summer Season occurred on Sunday, September 11. Led by Assistant Director Keith Morphey, sixteen SCC members sang five songs from the SCC church repertoire during the 9am service at Simpson Methodist Church in Fort Wayne. The chorus opened the service with (Praise Ye The Lord) and closed the service with (Nearer My God To Thee). At select spots in the service they also sang (The Lord's Prayer), (I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked) and (You'll Never Walk Alone).

During the service the congregation gave the chorus a generous round of applause after (You'll Never Walk Alone). While the chorus members were departing the sanctuary following the service, many congregation members gave individual singers favorable comments and expressions of 'thanks' for being part of the service.

Before leaving the choir loft after the service, Morphey thanked the chorus members for remaining focused and energetic. On behalf of the singers, I thank Morphey for his marvelous job directing this performance. Thanks also to Chorus Manager Bob Bowman for rescheduling with Simpson after the original date was cancelled. The SCC Teamwork was again evident.

— P.E.S.//Sept. 11, 2005



Bear Creek Success

The Bear Creek Farms Show on Saturday, September 17, was a success. An extended standing ovation after the Armed Forces Medley finale gave evidence that the audience was delighted and pleased with this performance. Of course, the credit for this successful performance is shared by Director Mark Leimer, quartets *Hoosier Gentry* and *Those Guys* as well as all members of the chorus. However, I'd like to focus attention on several actions that I consider major contributions to this success.

First, the welcome and capable direction by Mark Leimer was critical. For example, early in the warm up before the show, the chorus wasn't focused. (Maybe it was the drive from Fort Wayne or wherever.) Many faces were "not at home". Mark insisted everyone on the risers get into performance mode and stay there. His enthusiasm and leadership helped all singers give their best performance.

Further, SCC quartets *Hoosier Gentry* (Dave Thomas, Bob Bowman, Duane Johnson, Vaughn Albert) and *Those Guys* (Brian Eager, Al Schumm, Dwight Nash, Max Bell) did a splendid job. During the 25 minutes each foursome was at the microphone, they sang great and demonstrated that they are, indeed, skilled

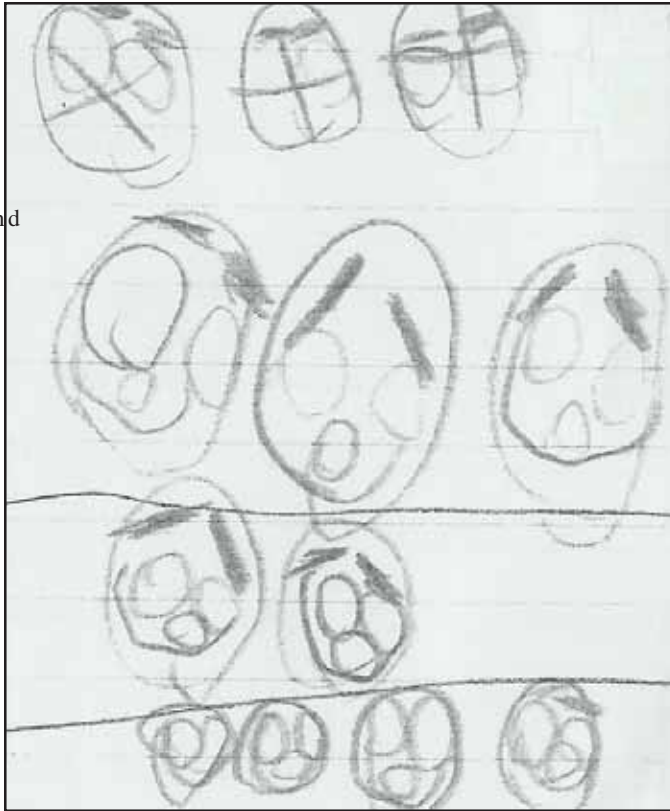
entertainers. Two of the best audience reactions came when *Those Guys* had the stage. When they sang their (Bathroom Parody) and later the (Mississippi Squirrel), they had the audience laughing and smiling – and applauding. However, the loudest audience laughter came when *Hoosier Gentry* had the stage and Bob Bowman was at the microphone. His joke about the novice waitress at the Truck Stop had the audience "spellbound". When he delivered the punch line, they exploded with laughter. It was a "gas"! Take my word for it.

A grateful thank you to the 27 singers who remained focused and performed so well on the risers. Thank you to *Hoosier Gentry* and *Those Guys* whose close harmony, repertoire and jokes enhanced this performance and captured the audience. Also, thanks to Rich Bucher and all who helped with the risers. A special thank you to Mark Leimer who skillfully led SCC throughout this "Standing O" performance. Grateful thanks to SCC's TV celebrity Keith Morphey for his motivational directing on (You'll Never Walk Alone). Finally, an "Atta Boy" to M.C. Bruce Hagen and all those who spoke at the microphone. This was SCC teamwork at its best.

— P.E.S.//Sept. 19, 2005

And You Thought No One Noticed

During Sandra Lesteis last visit to a Monday night rehearsal, she made an interesting observation. As Sandra (5 year old niece of Brenda and Jack and granddaughter of Bob Bowman, who is a veteran of three Cardinal District contests, as well as one Midwinter convention in Jacksonville) sat watching the chorus, she was drawing pictures, as she often does. Only this time she was drawing faces of the chorus. She crossed out those without the correct, excited expression. Hmm...and you thought no one noticed!



Weston Young

BIO of Weston Young

My name is Weston Young and I was a guest of Vaughn Albert. My first night at practice with the Summit City Chorus was very enjoyable. It was guest night, and there was 18 guests there that night.

I am 14 years old and I sing bass. I have an 18 year old brother, and am home schooled. I get credits for singing with the chorus. I live in the Aboite area, and I love to play singles tennis.

I have always loved to sing, and I appreciate the opportunity to sing with the Summit City Chorus.

HOOSIER GENTRY
Barbershop Quartet
Dave Bob Duane Vaughn

Bob Bowman
3109 Southwin Drive
Fort Wayne, In. 46816

260 447-4115
hoosiergentry@comcast.net

River City
Rhythm

DAN JOHNSON-LEAD CARL SIPE-BASS
260-458-2169 (Bus) DAVE REIFF-TENOR
260-749-5636 (Home) TOM SCHADEN-BARI

THOSE GUYS
BARBERSHOP QUARTET
HARMONY

Brian Al
Dwight Max

Fort Wayne, Indiana
260 486-5875
Thoseguys_97@yahoo.com

Chris Piano
Barber Shopper
of the Year
2004

(The Old Songs)

from *Seaway Current*, John Blank, Editor

“The Old Songs, the old songs, the good old songs for me...” was composed and set to music by Geoffrey O’Hara, who was born in Chatham, Ontario, Canada in 1882. He moved to the U.S. and became a banker and a professional musician. He studied music at Huron College, and eventually earned a doctorate degree in music from that school.

O’Hara was an author and composer, and he wrote songs for Al Jolson, Enrico Caruso and other stars of his day. Some of his more famous compositions were (K-K-K-Katy) and (Your Eyes Have Told Me So). He also wrote many spiritual songs including (There Is No Death) and (I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked).

It’s not known whether O’Hara wrote barbershop songs, although he was founder and first president of the Manhattan, New York chapter. (The Old Songs) is actually an introduction to a more complete work of 14 pages entitled *A Little Close Harmony*, which was a glee club-type book for men’s choruses with banjo and other instrumental background, which was published in 1921.

In the early days of our Society, O’Hara gave permission to SPEBSQSA to use this one song as its theme song, and we’ve used it ever since as a rallying call to chapter meetings and other barbershop gatherings.

Many Thanks to the Summit City Chorus Family

Many thanks to all the Summit City Barbershoppers and their wives and friends who helped make our “Hospitality Room” at the fall Convention in Louisville a BIG success! We asked for donations to help cut expenses, and you really came through. The food was great, the singing outstanding, and the camaraderie was off the scale. Thanks especially to Bob, Nancy and Max for helping plan and carrying out those plans. I can’t begin to name all the friends who offered their help. These people stepped up and got the job done. Thank you to all! We’re proud of our Summit City Chorus and their families. You all made what could have been a big hard job a lot of fun! Hope you had fun too.

— Sandy Bowman

Milestones in History – Judging of Contests

By: David Wright from his *History of Barbershop* — Par 9 of 10

1975—The Sound category was formed to replace Harmony Accuracy and Balance and Blend. Its main goal was to evaluate the level of expanded sound.

1986—Time limits were changed to allow a minimum singing time of three and one half minutes.



Ken Steffen
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To Barbershopper:

1993 Buckeye Invitational Champion

1985, 1988, 1993 & 2003
District Chorus Champs