



The SCORE

Meetings on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 300 W Wayne St, Fort Wayne, Indiana



Max Bell Sings at Sea

by Nancy Bell, Roving Reporter

out and told me no. (A word to the wise here men).

It was a cold snowy winter day in January 2014 and I was already tired of shoveling snow when the Barbershop Magazine, *The Harmonizer*, arrived in our mailbox.

After our initial registered confirmation from Doug Weaver, of Grand Rapids, MI (our own Barbershop professional coordinator),

As usual, I leafed through it to see if there was anyone we knew. An ad with a cruise ship caught my eye,



several months passed before there was further contact. Then the e-mails started flying. First came the opportunity

Calendar

Administrative Board will meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30pm

- Jan 12 (m) Board Meeting 5:30 P.M.
- Jan 12 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Jan 19 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Jan 26 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Feb 02 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Feb 07 (s) Leader Academy 8:30 A.M.

Clarion- Columbus

- Feb 09 (m) Board Meeting 5:30 P.M.
- Feb 09 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Feb 16 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Feb 23 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Mar 02 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Mar 09 (m) Board Meeting 5:30 P.M.
- Mar 09 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Mar 16 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Mar 20,21,22 (f-s-Su) Spring Conv.
- Mar 23 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Mar 30 (m) Chapter Meeting 7:00 P.M.

I stopped and read it. "Join our Comedy Quartet Cruise in November aboard the Celebrity Constellation Cruise Ship, featuring International Champion Quartets, *FRED* (1999 Champions); *STORM FRONT* (2010 Champions); and *LUNCH BREAK* (finished 9th in 2014)."

to "sing with the champions". Max was given a list of songs to choose from for each of the quartets. He picked one with *Storm Front* and one with *Fred*. His practice began. As it turned out this was such a popular event there was only time for one song for each of those that signed up. Max was chosen to sing "Sitting on Top of the World" with *Storm Front*. Of course he was awesome, got a standing ovation and made the Cardinal District look great. (Am I prejudice? Of course!). I think

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The Mission of the Summit City Barbershop Chorus is to offer male singers the opportunity to entertain using vocal music performances that adhere to the highest standards of sound production and presentation.

President's Corner-January 2015

By Dan Johnson

"countdown was on hold" - how frustrating!



Can you recall the numerous times a rocket of some special importance was fired from Cape Canaveral (Cape Kennedy for you young guys)? I remember many of them distinctly. It absolutely fascinated me!

I could not wait for the announcer's cry of "we have lift-off"! Unfortunately, to get to that moment and the visual sight that followed, I needed to sit through the dreaded and boring "Countdown". I always hated it when the folks in Florida told the audience that for some technical reason the

Well, after three weeks of no Monday night chapter meetings, here we are with the Summit City Chorus sitting and waiting for our own 2015, "Lift-Off". You might ask: lift-off to what? Well, at this year's leadership retreat, the board adopted the following catch phrase for our plans in 2015, namely, **"Let's Give-Em Something to Talk About"**! How can we translate that intention into new realities?

Your board members will be bringing new goals and challenges each week to make that happen! January 2015 will bring a new and vibrant "Lift-Off" for the SCC - great to have you with us! Why not ask another singer you know to join us?

On another matter, let me offer our special thanks to Pat and Mark for their exceptional spirit of respect and cooperation during this important time frame. What a great blessing it is to have the two of you front-and-center with the SCC!



January

Tom Schaden - Jan 16
James Gebele - Jan 18

Dylan Curtis - Jan 22

February

Von Bixler - Feb 7
Ken Steffen - Feb 14
Noel Carpenter - Feb 18

Carl Sipe - Feb 22
Matt White - Feb 24
Jim Ash - Feb 26

Summit City Chorus Hotline:

260-625-2299

Chapter Leadership

President _____ **Dan Johnson**
Secretary _____ **Paul DeWitt**
Treasurer _____ **Max Bell**
Chapter Development VP _____ **Roger Ford**
Mkting & Perform. VP _____ **Al Schumm**
Youth in Harmony _____ **OPEN**

Board Member _____ **Matt Huffman**
Board Member _____ **Chuck Unger**
Board Member _____ **Brad Pape**
Board Member _____ **Dave Thomas**

Chorus Manager _____ **Al Schumm**
Bulletin Editor _____ **Bob Benner**

Past Preident _____ **Jay Butler**

Musical Director _____ **Pat Garmier**
Assist Music Dir _____ **OPEN**
Show Chairman _____ **Dan Johnson**

The SCORE

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The SCORE is the publication of the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Chapter of the Cardinal District of the Barbershop Harmony Society:

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.

They Were One

The Summit City Chorus traveled to Muncie, Indiana to join forces with the Muncie chorus, Magic City Music Men, to sing in the 78th annual community Christmas sing. Eleven members from Fort Wayne became Magic City Music Men for one day. The *Secret of Christmas* was chosen for the occasion. Members from the Muncie chorus attended the meeting of Summit City Chorus to sing the song with us so we could get some rehearsal time singing with them. Brian Hughes came along as well, and directed the joint choruses for the evening.

Performance day came and the joint choruses met at the Muncie Field house for warm up and rehearsal with more of the Muncie Chorus members. The day found Mark Leimer being our director because of the illness of Brian Hughes. Thanks to Mark for stepping in at the last minute. The event was will attended by Muncie citizenry and the many musical groups from the Muncie area.

The event had its beginning in 1936. The community sing, gave the people of Muncie something to look forward to and get their minds off of the troubling depression years. The depression being in the past, but not forgotten, the Muncie Community sing has become and annual tradition. It also is a reminder of how the early people of Muncie survived and how great-full they were and still are today. It was an honor for the men of Summit City Chorus to be included in such an event. The community sing happened to be on the same day as Pearl Harbor Day. The community sing did have another day and time to remember.

--Bob Benner

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“Mars Meets Venus” at Good Shepherd Church

A number of folks from Good Shepherd Methodist Church are loyal followers of the Summit City Chorus so the chorus was asked if they could do a gig for the Good Shepherd Seniors Thanksgiving banquet. Having just performed a successful October Cabaret show “Mars Meets Venus” with the Towns of Harmony Sweet Adelines chorus we agreed to give another presentation of the show.

On Friday November 21st, about 100 seniors gathered at the church for a delicious Thanksgiving banquet, followed by our program. Risers were set up on the platform in the sanctuary and the two choruses assembled, practiced, and gave a 45 minute rendition of “Mars Meets Venus”.

As one of the male chorus members, it was great to again share the stage with the ladies as we took turns singing songs from our repertoire to each other. This resulted in a more fun, relaxed event, and even gave us a chance to occasionally watch them as they sang, rather than strictly looking out at the audience, as we normally do.

Harriet Ulmer from the Towns of Harmony and I both sing in the Good Shepherd Choir and it was a treat for both of us to show off our acoustically great auditorium to our respective choruses.

“Mars Meets Venus” was enthusiastically received with numerous compliments on the show.
-- Paul DeWitt



Cell Phone vs. Bible

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bibles like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency

This is something to make you go...
hmm... where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think, “Where are my priorities?”

And no dropped calls!



Christmas at Coventry Meadows

Summit City Chorus once again, entertained the residents of Coventry Meadows Nursing home and Assist Care buildings. The chorus was invited by the management to perform for the residents. SCC has been entertaining for Coventry Meadows for the past three years. It is always a lot of fun for the chorus members.

The residents and their families at the nursing home building show their appreciation by the way they clap their hands, bobbing of the heads, wiggling the feet or what ever else they can move. The families of the residents also join in as well. We get many hand shakes from residents and family members. This is, the standing ovation to the chorus members. We sang our half hour show consisting both Christmas songs and songs from our regular repertoire. My observation indicates, the non-Christmas songs are more appreciated. Many groups sing Christmas music but very few do non-Christmas music. We do sing a few Christmas songs, in line with the season.

The company bus waits for us outside the nursing home building to take us to the assisted living building. We sing in a large assembly room. When we enter the room, many people are talking with their family members and staff members assigned to the room. When we started singing, the talking stopped, the attention of the people focused on us. We started with "Blue Skies" to get the full attention of the attendees. It is amazing how many people knew the music and tried to sing along. We continued on with our repertoire. One lady in the very front was clapping her hands, bouncing her feet and legs and nodding her head with the music. Her daughter and husband enjoyed the music, but were smiling just watching her mother enjoy the music. She was an inspiration to the chorus members. The thirteen singing men reached inside and brought out more performance mode to the audience.

The new singing and listening techniques presented to the chorus by Pat and Mark, earlier in his tenure, started to show in this performance.

The elimination of over singing, hot voices was present in this performance. The balanced singing and chord ringing was very much present in this performance as well. Many comments about our singing were received by the audience as we marched out. Shaking of hands and wishing of Merry Christmas and Happy New Year were given to the audience members by the chorus members.

Mark indicated, he received many compliments by others after the performance. He indicated we were already learning the hearing and singing techniques of the past couple of months with consistency. The Coventry Meadows is and has been a very fun place to sing and hopefully in the future. We have to thank Matt Huffman's wife, Tonia for helping us being able to sing at this venue. Thanks to the men who participated. Hopefully, we will have a full chorus next year.

-- Bob Benner



Have you talked to anybody about barbershopping this week?



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www.summitcitychorus.org/quartets.htm

Sings at Sea

Continued from Page 1

Storm Front was impressed, too.

Second opportunity given was to participate in the Platoon singing (similar to the Cardinal District's Brigade group). Max knew this was a big commitment but loving Barbershop, he took a deep breath and signed up. Four learning tracks were sent to him in August, and more practice was added (all of this while being knee deep in our own chapter show, "Mars versus Venus", held on October 25th, which was also a huge success). After the first group meeting on board we found out how Platoon was different from Brigade.

The third opportunity involved T-Shirts and Sweatshirts. A logo was created to memorialize this gathering of about 220 Barber shoppers (even one couple from England). The logo included the words "Waves of Laughter" and had each of the Comedy Quartet names on them.



More e-mails back and forth. (Did you get your music, are you learning your songs, did you place your order for shirts, do you have your passports, have you made hotel reservations, do you need a shuttle from the airport to the hotel and back, have you pre-registered on line for your boarding pass, do you have your luggage tags, don't forget the manager's reception at the hotel on Sunday night prior to boarding ship on Monday, pick up your shirts at the manager's reception, first meeting Monday night on the ship at a cocktail party...} We were a bit of a concern for Doug Weaver

because we were driving down, not staying at the hotel. He fretted a bit, but soon was put at ease when we showed up when and where we were supposed to be and Max knew the music. (Of course, I knew it too as he practiced every night all the way to Florida).

The first evening on the ship Doug had all the Barber shoppers (men and women) who had signed up for the platoon competition divided into 13 quartets. These people did not know one another, so naturally they had never sung together. Each quartet was given a song to sing and had 24 hours to get together, practice and perform in front of judges (who were members of the champion quartets). That competition went fairly well and all we know is Max's quartet did not place first or second. Afterwards,

quartets were re-arranged and Max was singing with three different people for the finals which were held on Thursday night. Now here is the difference between Brigade and Platoon: they would not know which of the four songs they would be performing until they were called up to sing. So, I am guessing they had to practice all four songs together the next day. (I, intelligently, did not attend practices. After all, this was my vacation and I had no intention of working.)

Thursday afternoon, the three Champion Quartets performed in the ship's theater to a packed crowd. The cruise activity director had heard them the first night and invited them

to perform for all the passengers. BIG, BIG HIT!! This was an extra bonus for all on board and those that attended could not stop talking about it and those that did not, wish they had. Of course there were standing ovations for each quartet.



In the evening we had the Platoon finals. Max's quartet

consisted of Lead: Jacalyn Compton of Sidney, IL; Tenor: Ed Olson from Grand Forks, ND; and Bass: David Southern from Norcross, GA. I believe they were the third group to perform out of the 13 quartets. There really was not a bad quartet among them and it was very close (as I have found most quartet competitions are). However, at the end, Max's quartet was named First Platoon at Sea Champions!! Afterwards, one of the judges, (Shane from *Lunch Break*), asked them if he could sing a song with the champions. What a thrill for all four.

For their first place finish with the song "Just in Time", each was given a sweatshirt. "A sweatshirt?" you ask, in the Caribbean? Well, believe it or not, the next day we were in Key West, it was only about 65° with 20 mile an hour winds. I know, I know, tough life you say, but this was a bit nippy for this area (you should have seen the locals, they had on gloves and earmuffs) and the shirt was received just in time to keep the old man warm.

The cruise concluded on Friday evening with an awesome two hour show featuring the three comedy quartets with Max's quartet being the "Mike Testers" for the show. Accolades for all, hugs and a promise to repeat this successful voyage in a few years was made by our cruise director, Doug Weaver.

The Songs that We Sing

Shenandoah

From choralnet.org

Reprinted from Overtones, Al W.

Ries, Editor

"Shenandoah", one of the most beautiful of all sea songs in English, is a sea chanty sung by sailors working aboard sailing ships to maintain a rhythm. Hundreds of years ago there was a tribe of Indians called the "Shendo" or "Senendos" who lived in the valley between the blue ridge and Allegheny Mountains in Virginia. Several hundred years later the Iroquois tribe used the word "Shenandoah" to mean "Big Valley" and the Onandago tribe used the word to mean "River Through Big Mountains."

Shenandoah is believed to be a sea chanty from the early 1800's of American origin. Its subject is the Shenandoah River. It was originally performed by a chantyman singing the verses and workmen echoing the refrains. "Away, you rolling river" and "Away, we're bound away, 'cross the wide Missouri." Original verses included the legend of a trader who fell in love with an Indian chief's daughter, and the word "Shenandoah" refers to the trader's homeland

According to The Fireside Book of Folksongs, Shenandoah is a chanty that told the story of a white trader who courted the daughter of an Indian chieftain, Shenandoah, and bore her away in his canoe across the wide Missouri.



They Won. Again.

The Summit City Chorus sang for the Fort Wayne Komets Hockey Team again this past December. The game was played at the War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne with a 7:30 P.M. start time. The chorus sang Christmas music at the top of the escalator and followed the Christmas music with a few repertoire songs as well. The audience did respond to the extra songs just as much as the Christmas music. The new listening and singing techniques that we have been working on seem to have made its appearance in our singing for the hockey attendees.

I did get great compliments for my oldest son, daughter-in-law and



grand daughters. They thought we were "awesome" and better than last year when they heard us.

Meanwhile, the Concordia Lutheran High School choral group was warming up to sing the "National



Anthem" along with Summit City Chorus members.

SCC used the time, after singing to the hockey crowd, to rehearse with the Concordia group. It was evident that Pat Garmier had worked with alma mater, instructing them on how we sing the "National Anthem". They blended with SCC singers very well. What a huge sound from the joint entities! A smooth, balanced sound seemed to prevail.

I believe this to be the eleventh year SCC has sang for the Komets. They have won all the games but one. The SCC seems to bring a lot of luck to the team!

We need to thank the Komet Hockey team and Dennis Schebig

our chorus contact for getting us tickets to the game. Hopefully, this will continue to be an annual event for Summit City Chorus and the beginning of other opportunities to sing with the Concordia Singers.
-- Bob Benner

*We may not be professional performers,
but we perform professionally.*

Mark Says...

Mark says, while singing at rehearsals, shows and contest, resonance triumphs volume. Make sure each singer is using the proper vowel production and proper tone placement. This will support resonance to make sure you are hearing the persons around you so you are not a hot voice.



Pat Says...

Pat Says: Get the bass and baritone to lock up. Add the tenors and fit the lead sound within that sound will create the buzz and overtones needed to create that big, full sound. Keep listening for the bass and baritone sound for continuity with every song and every performance and easier singing.



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