

The Harmonizer

BRINGING BARBERSHOP HARMONY TO LIFE • MAY/JUNE 2023



MIDWINTER 2023

It was the first "normal" Midwinter in three years—singing with friends in a great location, even greater shows & contests, and helping a new generation fall in love with barbershop.



NOTEWORTHY

"AVERAGE" QUARTET, BIG COVERAGE
BHS, HARMONY FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT

INSIDE

QUORUM: FROM THEIR "BLUE SKIES" ORIGINS TO
THEIR IMPROBABLY PRODUCTIVE THREE-YEAR BREAK

IT ONLY HAPPENS HERE



"At the Convention last year in Charlotte, I got to compete with my best friends in the NextGen Contest in my quartet Buck 50. We chose a song called *Slippery Sal* that was originally performed by the 1977 champs Most Happy Fellows. What a joy it was when a member of that

quartet came to our group after the performance to tell us how wonderful of a job we did!"

Jake Bavarsky



"As a member of Music City Chorus, I had the distinct privilege of helping Forefront and the incomparable Curly get ready for their Storm Trooper appearance on stage with us. Charlotte 2022 was my first International convention, and I got to tag endlessly with other newbies, with tons of youth

singers, seasoned gold medalists, and even some Society leaders. What an absolutely incredible week full of amazing memories."

David Murphree



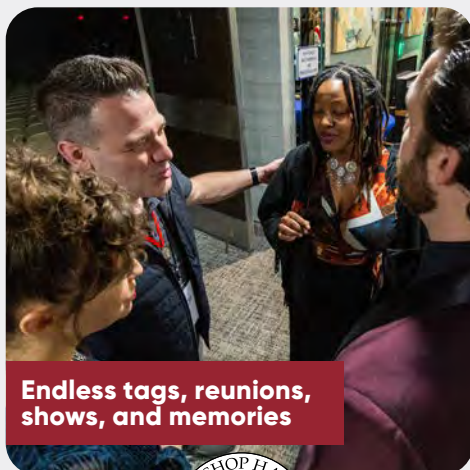
"During the 2007 Denver International, I and a few of my Music City Chorus friends ran into the infamous and incomparable Don Barnick (gold medalist with Keepsake and Grandma's Boys) and excitedly asked him to sing a tag with us. We sang the tag to *Mary is a Grand Old Name*, then Don said 'Let's back up and learn the previous line.' An hour later, he had taught us the entire song back to front! I can think of no other hobby where your heroes are so gracious and generous with their time."

Daniel Rushing

WHAT WILL YOUR STORY BE?



The sights and tastes of local Louisville attractions



Endless tags, reunions, shows, and memories



Incredible housing and performance venues

THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO IN LOUISVILLE

2023 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Mon
July 3

Tue
July 4

Wed
July 5

Thu
July 6

Fri
July 7

Sat
July 8

Registration and Harmony Marketplace



Education in Louisville

Quartet Quarterfinals Session 1

Quartet Quarterfinals Session 2

Opening Night Party



Education in Louisville

Quartet Quarterfinals Session 3

NextGen Varsity Quartet and Chorus Invitational

Afterglow

2nd Annual International Quartet and Chorus Festival

MegaSing

Gold Medal Hours: Quorum and Music City Chorus

Quartet Semifinals

Late Night Showcase

Chorus Contest Session 1

Chorus Contest Session 2

Association of International Champions Show

After Party

Chorus Contest Session 3

Quartet Finals and Finale

Chordatorium

REGISTER TODAY!
Starting at \$339/
\$249 for youth

“Barbershop has this ability to bring singers from different generations together in amazing ways, and it was in that moment we fully understood what that meant. I truly feel so much joy knowing I can preserve such a thriving artform and I can spend time once a year with people who feel that same way!”

BARBERSHOP.ORG/INTERNATIONAL

RESERVED SEATING IS BACK! THE SOONER YOU REGISTER, THE CLOSER YOU WILL BE TO ALL THE ACTION.



In This Issue

MAY/JUNE 2023 • VOLUME LXXXIII • NUMBER 3



Throughout the 2022 contest, a championship seemed inevitable for Quorum. But during their first six years, quartet members didn't believe that they were connecting with audiences at a championship level—not until a massive ovation during the 2019 Quartet Finals opened their eyes.

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12 Full strength in Daytona Beach

After a healing (but smaller) and not quite *post-Covid* 2022 event, "normal" never felt so good!

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After the 2013 International Convention in Toronto, an annual tag quartet evolved into a competing quartet. But author Mike Slamka says that even the two past champion members of Quorum had a lot of growing to do if they were to complete the nine-year journey from casual tag quartet to International Champion.

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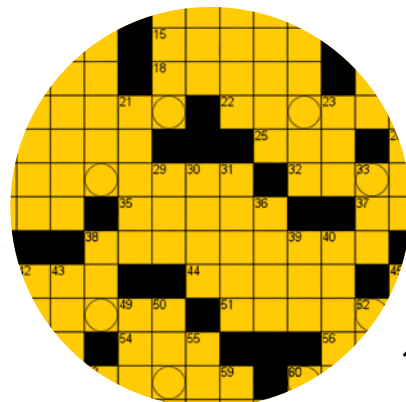
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"You Only Want Me When You're Lonesome"



On the cover: Combined Next Generation Festival Chorus at Midwinter 2023. *Photo by Lorin May*

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ALBUMS BY SCOTT ANDERSON

AND NEW CHARTS SUCH AS

BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN

SWEET PEA

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

BLUE SHADOWS ON THE TRAIL

(THEY LONG TO BE) CLOSE TO YOU

HAPPY TOGETHER

GOD BLESS AMERICA

SINCE I DON'T HAVE YOU

AND MANY, MANY MORE
SHOP.BARBERSHOP.ORG



The Harmonizer

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/EDITORIAL

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EDITOR

Lorin May

OUR VISION

Everyone in Harmony

OUR MISSION

To bring people together in harmony and fellowship
to enrich lives through singing.

OUR PURPOSES

To perpetuate the old American institution:
the barbershop quartet and barbershop harmony

To promote appreciation of barbershop harmony

To initiate and maintain a broad program
of musical education, contests, and appreciation
in support of barbershop harmony and
the allied arts

To establish and maintain foundations that
support our vision

To initiate, promote and participate in charitable
projects that support our vision

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (DBA
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the United States and Canada.

May/June 2023

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STARTING PITCH

A conversation with our President and CEO

Universal, International, Unmistakable

This summer's International Convention in Louisville will showcase more representation from more organizations and more people on stage in different ensembles than ever before. John & Marty discuss the ever-expanding global reach of barbershop.



BRIAN: Just how far have you personally gone to barbershop? And what did you find there?

JOHN: In 2014, I sang with the **Alexandria Harmonizers** in the Cologne Cathedral, when we participated in observances of the seventieth anniversary of D-Day. We got to sing with the local chapter of BING! The biggest impression is that barbershop is barbershop. No matter where you go, everybody has the joy of singing as well as the friendliness and the openness to just get four singers and find a corner and sing a tag, or sing a Polecat and really enjoy how far the culture of barbershop has spread.

MARTY: I traveled on an invitation from Barbershop Harmony New

Zealand (BHNZ) for their Youth Festival—a two-day festival, just spectacular, with schools from all over the country. And on the same trip, I continued on a little further for something a little smaller: I visited my brother in Hong Kong, and there I met this group of 10-12 people getting together and ringing some chords. It was so unexpected to be in such a very different setting, to meet this slice of people doing something so absolutely familiar to me.

JOHN: In North America, you can expect to walk into any chapter any night and find a few key elements that are universal. You're going to be welcomed like an old pal—one big barbershop family. You're going to

hear recognizable barbershop harmony. And you're going to be invited to sing along.

MARTY: That broadly welcoming tone is definitely universal in barbershop. I think it might be distinctive to the universal barbershop culture, compared with many other choral music cultures. My best friend from college is a very accomplished singer in highly professional community choirs, and it wasn't until he moved back to Minnesota that he actually said, "All right, I'm going to give this

Get in Touch

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Society Board of Directors societyboard@barbershop.org



"NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, EVERYBODY HAS THE JOY OF SINGING AS WELL AS THE FRIENDLINESS AND THE OPENNESS TO JUST GET FOUR SINGERS TO FIND A CORNER AND SING A TAG."

barbershop a try, Marty. I want to sing with you.” Over a few months, he observed the musical ability of the **Great Northern Union**, but there was another element that he had not experienced in all those other community choirs, and that is the social element of it.

JOHN: On a trip to Edinburgh, we did a stop with the Stockton club, and they put on a fabulous meal in this historic building where the concert was held. We all got to mix together at tables of 8-10 people, and it was great. You got a quiet chance to share the commonality and community among people.

MARTY: We’re seeing this becoming part of our district conventions. I know a few. Land O’ Lakes did a big Saturday evening dinner show last Fall at its convention, and I saw it up in Sunrise Division in Newfoundland last year. I hope we see more. It’s a different social entry point for people who are not driven to seek out other people in hospitality rooms or bump themselves into a tag circle.

JOHN: I’m an introvert, and one of the isolating techniques of an introvert is when you’re standing in a hotel lobby and you see a tag circle,

"... IT'S A DIFFERENT SOCIAL ENTRY POINT FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT DRIVEN TO SEEK OUT OTHER PEOPLE IN HOSPITALITY ROOMS OR BUMP THEMSELVES INTO A TAG CIRCLE."

you think to yourself, “Well, I can’t barge in on these famous big-time singers, I couldn’t hold my own.” But there are 300 other people walking through the lobby that you could just walk up to and say, “Hey, let’s sing and get it rolling. Even when it’s outside your comfort level, sometimes you find yourself rewarded for helping someone else along on this journey. Part of who I want to be in barbershop culture is being a catalyst for this joy.

MARTY: We get to mash up all these feelings and voices at Harmony University, which has really been growing into our big melting pot event. We’ve had more than 20 nations represented at HU in the past five years, including Brazil, Turkey, India, Japan—places outside our previous existing barbershop alliance footprints. With all honor and love due, it’s not even surprising for us anymore to host barbershoppers coming to HU from the UK or Germany or New Zealand. That’s how well established the global trade routes of barbershop have become.

JOHN: Probably many North American Barbershoppers don’t have a

GLOBAL REACH

The World Harmony Council is committed to encouraging and supporting barbershop harmony singing for its member organizations and to fostering an appreciation of barbershop-style music in the world community. As an exciting new initiative, the World Harmony Council is searching for and identifying new Barbershoppers, with a goal of expanding organized barbershopping everywhere.

Find barbershop organizations worldwide: see page 39 for websites of BHS Global Alliance members.

www.worldbarbershop.org



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John & Marty are attending

Apr 16, HFI Board of Trustees Mtg

May 10, Strategic Planning Committee monthly meeting

May 14, District Leadership monthly huddle (Marty)

May 21, Society Board Meeting

Jun 15-17, MAD Harmony College East (John)

Jun 20, Alexandria Harmonizers 75th Anniversary Charter Celebration Night (John)

Jul 2-9, International Convention, Louisville

July 15, Schmidt Brothers Stage dedication, Two Rivers, WI (Marty)

John is listening to

A Little Night Music,
The Gas House Gang

John is learning

“How High the Moon” arr. M. Hale

Marty is Learning

Louisville International All Voices Chorus Music

John is reading

Five Presidents, Clint Hill

Marty is Reading

Flourish - A Visionary New Understanding of Happiness and Well-being, Martin E.P. Seligman



STARTING PITCH

A conversation with our President and CEO

"WE'RE BUILDING BARBERSHOP MUSIC FROM THE GROUND UP IN MORE COUNTRIES. THEY WON'T DEPEND ON AMERICAN 1900S TIN PAN ALLEY MATERIAL FOR THEM TO HAVE THE FIRST TASTES OF OUR UNIQUE MUSICAL GENRE."

knowledge gap wondering what's happening with barbershop in Sweden these days, because they know the answer—it's fantastic, and they'll see some major star power to our stage this summer. The interesting part might be how our global community is evolving barbershop around us. It was a big deal when the **Musical Island Boys** (2014 champion) celebrated Maori culture in the setting of barbershop music, or when we hear **Ringmasters** (2012 champion) performing in Swedish, and so on. Now it all feels a part of the style.

MARTY: BHS has collaborated with our alliance partner in Spain to create a Music Educator Guide built on music of their own national heritages. We're looking to do that with other partners, and really build barbershop music from the ground up in more countries.

JOHN: They won't depend on American 1900s Tin Pan Alley material that is totally out of context for them to have the first tastes of our unique musical genre. They will be able to grow barbershop in their own culture on their own terms, which is a completely different story.

MARTY: We don't really "export" barber-shop anymore. That ship has long since sailed. Now we get to enjoy what has taken root worldwide and adapted to and evolved to new climates.

JOHN: But we'll all still recognize it because it will come backed up with a smile, and a welcome, and an invitation to come sing along. ■



Reader Feedback

Let us know what's on your mind: Harmonizer@barbershop.org

HU Takeover Issue filled with great resources



The *Harmonizer* article "Caring for your voice: Addressing 15 vocal health myths" (March/April 2023 issue) is the perfect thing to educate my singers on caring for their voices going into contest season, especially those who joined during lockdown and have never been to a contest before. Thanks!



Frances Lunder

Assistant director, Sound Harmony Chorus (Sweet Adelines),
Seattle



I was happy to see some stories by faculty members I'd learned from last year. It whets my appetite for going back for more of "the real thing." As a singer in two choruses and a quartet, I appreciated Boo de Bruin's tips on "Filling the memory banks"—lots of music to learn!

Dylan Keegan

Greendale, WI Chapter

More info on multi-chapter Christmas concert

Thank you for recognizing the value of our Northern Illinois Interchapter Christmas Concerts (March/April Issue, page 7). It would have been good to have named the cooperating chapters and e-mail addresses for those who want or need to try something similar.

Bill Miller

Combined Chapters Christmas Concert's Chairman
Elgin, IL Chapter President

Bill, you are so right. Here's more information: Bill Miller (bill42w264@aol.com), Syl Wetle, and Carl Missele (wcmurschel@yahoo.com) conceived the idea. The coordinating committee members were led by Bill and co-chairs Kevin Connell (kjconnell@yahoo.com) and Raymond Schwarzkopf (raymond@themusicalfirm.org), both of **Chorus of DuPage**. Other core team members were John Morrison, Bill Murschel, and John Noll (all of **Chorus of DuPage**); and Keith Rosborough, Ron Schulz, and Jack Wine (all from **Fox Valley Harmonizers**). ■



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RESOURCES FOR YOUR CHAPTER

WE ASKED. YOU SHARED.

After listening sessions were held with leaders from all types of BHS singing communities, Harmony Hall staff has compiled a summary of recurring challenges that our chapters are facing. This summary provides key resources for some of the most commonly heard challenges:



**Member
Center**



**Dues
Value**



**The Male-Only
Experience**



**Marketing
Assistance**



**Learning
New Music**



**Support and
Resources**

**Scan this QR code
to begin using these
free resources:**



barbershop.org/chapterresources



● 2023 CONVENTION

Louisville's biggest horse race in decades

A still-growing crop of strong newcomers will likely be competing against three past Silver Medalists and an unusually large number of past Finalists—and overseas groups will finally rejoin the reunion!

As of this writing in early April, the qualifying for the open quartet contest in Louisville still has a month to go, yet there are already a lot of incredible storylines that will play out at the KFC Yum! Center this July.

OPEN QUARTET CONTEST

It's not every year that we have three past Silver Medalists vying for gold, but that's what we'll see with **Midtown** (2022), **Throwback** (2019), and a group we've missed for seven years, Swedish phenoms **Lemon Squeezy** (2016). There's no guarantee any of those three will end up on top, with **GQ** (4th in 2022) and **First Take** (5th) coming back, crowd-favorite finalists like **Gimme Four** (7th) and **Clutch!** (8th) having the talent to leapfrog any of the above groups, and past Finalist **Pratt Street Power** returning, as well as ... can it be true? ... **The Newfangled Four** unretiring from the contest stage!

That's before we even get to the many new groups, headlined by high-scoring **Three and a Half Men**, featuring four-time gold medalist Tony De Rosa and his son Joe (at bari and tenor respectively), former **The Crush** lead Josh Szolomayer, and your soon-to-be bass crush Chris Keough. (Speaking of bass crushes, watch for Brian O'Dell's debut with **Mix Tape!**)

By the time you read this, we'll still be waiting on the results from some



(Clockwise from top left) Lemon Squeezy plans to qualify for Louisville in May; The Newfangled Four quartet, comedy kings of contests and YouTube; a snapshot of downtown Louisville; new mixed quartet MixTape.

overseas qualifying contests. We'll eat a whole tube of *smörgåskaviar* if SNOBS doesn't qualify a slew of great quartets in May.

CHORUS AND QUARTET FESTIVAL

As this is written, the entry deadlines are still weeks away, but if the inaugural event in Charlotte is any

guide, some of Louisville's most memorable performances might end up taking place on this stage.

NEXT GENERATION VARSITY QUARTETS

As usual, expect this year's lineup to be filled with huge names—that is, *future* huge names. For many years, it's been hard to find an International Champion or Medalist that *did not* have at least a couple, if not all, singers who previously made their international debut on this stage. Spot next year's big names this year.

It all takes place a short, air-conditioned walk between the headquarters hotel and the KFC Yum! Center in the vibrant heart of downtown Louisville.

We can't wait to see you there!



LEARN MORE AND REGISTER Keep up to date on the latest news about the 2023 International Convention at barbershop.org/louisville.

● PHILANTHROPY

BHS/HFI suit ends

Society, Foundation announce agreement for fundraising efforts

On March 15, the following joint statement was issued by John Santora, President of the Barbershop Harmony Society Board of Directors, and Kendall Williams, Chair of the Harmony Foundation International Board of Trustees.

The Boards of the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Foundation International are pleased to announce the end of litigation between the organizations and will partner again to support the preservation, expansion, and future of barbershop singing.

All philanthropic giving to the Society and its programs will flow through the Foundation in a re-envisioned fundraising relationship outlined in an agreement completed last week. We, our boards and our staff members look forward to working together to enrich lives through singing.

We announce this agreement with a commitment to all barbershop singers and singing communities and with the intent of ensuring a strong, vibrant barbershop future.

The trust Agreement, HFI Bylaws and BHS Bylaws remain in place subject to modifications outlined in the Settlement Agreement.



READ THE AGREEMENT and catch up on other details at barbershop.org/keyissues.

● AN OFFER THEY COULDN'T REFUSE



TV STATION GIVES QUARTET A HUGE CONSOLATION PRIZE

The **Capital Four** quartet didn't get the Singing Valentines media coverage they asked for, but their local TV station gave them a seven-minute news segment instead!

The quartet, all members of New Hampshire's **Concord Coachmen Chorus**, contacted WMUR TV in late January to see if the station wanted to follow the quartet on a few rounds of Singing Valentines. The station replied that a crew would not be available that day, but would the quartet be available to be the subjects of a story for the station's nightly *NH Chronicle* show? The foursome, which calls itself an "average" quartet, was floored!

Indeed, the station showed up on Feb. 24 to interview each of the singers and to record the quartet's rehearsal. They then followed the foursome to St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua, where they sang a few love songs to Annah Harrigan, LNA, who was the hospital's Mission Champion of the Month for January 2023. The segment aired March 9. Above: Rick Hochsprung (T), Louis Jacob (L), Brian Riley (Br) Larry Dorr (Bs). thecapitalfour.wixsite.com/home

Link to the video at barbershop.org/harmonizer.



YOUTUBE'S HOTTEST QUARTET IS ... TIM

WAURICK? The weekly tag videos from the BHS Hall of Fame tenor of 2006 Champ **Vocal Spectrum** have racked up almost 6 million views in the past year alone. What's Tim's secret? Has he cracked YouTube's mysterious algorithm? Does he make better thumbnails? Better titles for his videos? Have superior production values? Or is it just that a lot of people enjoy watching one of the world's most gifted singers create otherworldly overtones with some of the best arrangements ever written? Yeah, it's definitely the cool thumbnails.

Check him out at youtube.com/@TimWaurickMusic.

EVERY 5TH THURSDAY

Does your chapter have any cast-in-concrete singout evenings? In addition to other gigs, the **Heart of Florida Chorus** in Central Florida cancels regular rehearsal every fifth Thursday and goes out into the community to spread the joy of barbershop.

heartoffloridachorus.org





“During some downtime, a group of us who only really gets to hang out maybe once a year at International, piled into some Ubers to check out a local landmark, ate questionably cheap surf ‘n turf, and had an unforgettable night of laughs.”

Michael Black

IT ONLY HAPPENS HERE



barbershop.org/international



NOTEWORTHY

The latest in the world of barbershop

● MAKING A DIFFERENCE

DR. KIM WATTERS HONORED AS BHS/NAFME MUSIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Kim Watters, director of Choral & Theatre Activities for Georgia's Gordon Central High School, received the award in a surprise school visit by CFO Erik Dove on Feb. 5 at the **Georgia Spirit** sendoff show.

Watters' impact on music students in the Gordon County Schools extends across multiple ensembles and programs. Colleagues praise her high quality of instruction and the breadth of opportunities she provides students through festivals and trips. She is a past District Teacher of the Year, Georgia Shuler Awards Best Director, and Georgia Outstanding Theatre Educator.

Watters has been a champion of barbershop in music education, with her students appearing at 12 International Midwinter Festivals and she helped create a seminar on the barbershop style for the Georgia Music Educators Association. Her doctoral dissertation was titled: *Improving Male Student Enrollments In The High School Choral Program Through The Use Of A Youth Barbershop Program*.



Dr. Watters is honored for her lifetime of accomplishments on-stage at Midwinter 2023.

“Barbershop is like glue that holds us together as singers,” says Watters. “The kids love it! It draws in new members and offers a platform of varied music styles for all. I continue to tell students that the Barbershop Harmony Society offers the opportunity for them to sing the rest of their lives.”

Watters holds a BME in Music Education from Shorter College, a MME in Music Education - Choral Conducting from Shenandoah University, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Management from Capella University.

PANDEMIC-ERA LOSSES RESULT IN STAFF REDUCTIONS

The Barbershop Harmony Society has announced a reduction in staff required to sustain the organization as it continues to rebound from pandemic-era revenue losses.

Five staff positions were eliminated, in addition to two positions previously vacated without being replaced. Out of respect for the privacy of the affected staff, their names are not disclosed at this time.

“While membership and engagement levels continue to grow, overall revenue recovery has not yet reached target levels for sustainable program growth,” said CEO

Marty Monson. “We honor the contributions of our dedicated colleagues, and know that our broad barbershop community will be there for them.”

Staff reductions involve multiple departments and levels. Job functions and responsibilities will be realigned to continue delivering impactful programs that serve and expand the barbershop community. “Working with the Society Board of Directors, we will continue to fulfill on our strategic goals, deliver on priorities, and shape the Society for success,” said Monson. ■



What's Happening

2023 International Louisville ▶ July 2-9, 2023

The party continues in a newly vibrant downtown setting
barbershop.org/international



Harmony University ▶ July 23-30, 2023 New Orleans

Back at Loyola for the second year!
barbershop.org/hu



◀ 2024 Midwinter New York City January 9-14

2024 International Cleveland
June 30-July 7

2025 International Denver
June 29-July 6

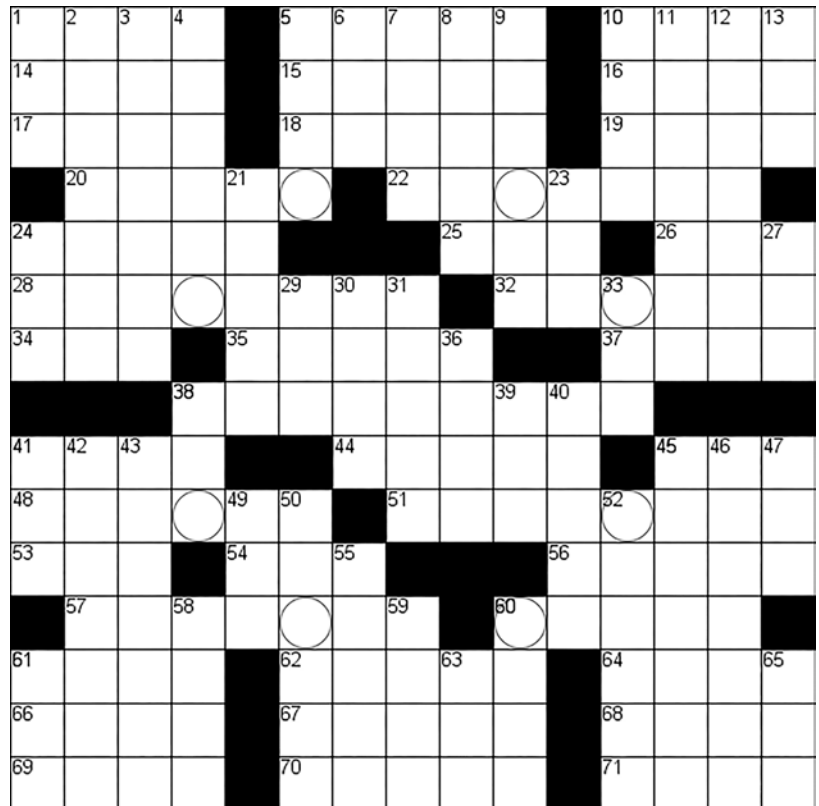
"Delivering the Keynote" by Michael Black. Answer key on page 36

Across

1. Missing, in the military
5. 38-Across brand
10. "Back In Black" group
14. Wrap worn in India
15. *Joker's Wild* lead Mark
16. The eldest Guyton brother
17. "A Bushel and a ___" (show-tune also sung by Doris Day)
18. Eight days a week is not enough to show ___
19. Dryer accumulation
20. Harvest bundle
22. Chief Medical Advisor to Pres. Biden until Dec. 31, 2022
24. Ponzi schemes, e.g.
25. BHS program aimed at young singers
26. Two-time loser to D.D.E.
28. Put in jeopardy
32. Fuss over minor details
34. ___ Xing
35. Ditto
37. See 59-Down
38. Barbershop device represented in this puzzle
41. Quartetmate of Kyle, Kohl, and Dave
44. Huey Lewis's "___ Be Square"
45. Place to relax
48. Second word of "Love Me and the World is Mine"
51. Get rid of
53. BHS URL ender
54. I Sang The Old Songs With ___ (frequently seen pin at International conventions)
56. Stadium features
57. The "M" in 2014 quartet champs MIB
60. Online source for historic contest scores, for short
61. Paper item in *Mills Brothers* song

Down

1. Cleopatra's killer
2. 2005 Society Hall of Fame inductee Ed
3. Johnny Appleseed District?
4. Friend ___ (Song in *Vocal Spectrum's* "Aladdin Medley")
5. Relieved end-of-week cry
6. The *Lord of the Rings* creature
7. Fermented honey drink
8. Jam ingredient
9. Five-dollar bill, slangily
10. Gp. that fights for the First Amendment
11. ___ News (1981 quartet champ)
12. Bass and lead of *Signature*
13. Summer setting in K.C.
21. Same here!
23. Pacific yellowfin tuna
24. Big advertiser at auto races
27. *I'm Beginning To ___ The Light* (album by *The Ritz*)
29. Asian New Year
30. Engrave on glass, say
31. Like a perfect game in baseball
33. Test for college srs.
36. Political dirt, in brief
38. Group of whales or dolphins
39. Say ___ only a paper moon ...
40. Specialties for Todd Kidder and Tim Waurick
41. Number of *Cheers* episodes



featuring *139th Street Quartet*
42. Pure ___ (tagline for *Vocal Majority*)
43. Swallows up
45. Like *Zero8* and *The Entertain-Men*, for example
46. Crisp a pie crust in the oven before filling, perhaps
47. Nautical assents

49. Whitney who invented the cotton gin
50. Stop up again, as a wine bottle
52. Targets, as with a squirt gun
55. Piggybank filler
58. Fruity gin flavoring
59. With 37-Across, song performed by the barbershop quartet in *The Music Man*

60. She's my ___ gal, my pal ("Redhead" lyric)
61. Barbershop music to unsympathetic ears, maybe
63. "Eine Kleine ___ Musik" (*Gas House Gang* song)
65. Web portal with a Bing search bar



Photos pages 12-27 by Lorin May,
editor of *The Harmonizer*
harmonizer@barbershop.org



GQ and First Take quartets



2023 Seniors Champion Let's Sing!

Midwinter was back in full force in Daytona Beach!

Midwinter's return to Florida after three years was a return to the kind of "normal" that we'd taken for granted all these decades. Midwinter 2020 Jacksonville came just before Covid shut the world down. The Omicron variant had resulted in a reduced-size Pasadena Midwinter in 2022—but we were back to full strength in Daytona Beach! With a full slate of Seniors quartets and Next Generation Junior Quartets, a full and vibrant Youth and Seniors Chorus Festival, the Combined Youth Chorus, world-class shows, we also enjoyed countless tags and beautiful reunions.



One Foot in the Stave (2022 Seniors champion) flew in from England to bask in the sun and then bask in the glory of singing away the Seniors trophy. Unfortunately, you'll have to take our word that their huge sound would have brought the audience to its feet the same way the foursome did last year. Due to a unfortunate illness, we never got to hear Brian Schofield's beautiful lead voice in Daytona Beach.



BarberCon

This was a completely new barbershop education experiment in Daytona Beach. Director of Education Steve Scott chose to eliminate the sit-down classes at Midwinter in favor of hands-on, participatory opportunities—with stations functioning like a booth at a trade show or a ComiCon. Expect the event to expand even more next year in New York City!



There was some great chord ringing among the Junior Chorus Festival participants, but the song of the contest was Blue Valley High School's one non-contestable song: a highly-moving rendition of Radiohead's "Creep." Director and Barbershopper Sam Dollins commissioned the song from arranger Melody Hine, resulting in overwhelming applause and a repeat Saturday Night performance as the "Audience Favorite" group.



All-Chapter Chorus

Barbershoppers from all over North America sang with All-Chapter chorus, learning the songs ahead of time, practicing at Daytona Beach, and singing for the full Midwinter audience on Saturday Night. Tony Colosimo and Katy Dane directed, with members of **GQ**, **The Ladies**, **Take 4**, and **Vocal Spectrum** serving as section leaders.



Hound Avenue quartet from eastern New Mexico discovered barbershop via YouTube. Daytona Beach was their first barbershop gathering EVER.





The Ladies



Throwback



GQ



First Take

Midwinter Shows

The Thursday Night Show was all Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons by tribute band/quartet **Let's Hang On!**, which sounded like the real thing singing "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man" We also heard from the Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions (AISQC), **Take 4** (2022 Harmony, Inc. champ), **The Ladies** (2022 BHS Finalist, 2023 Sweet Adelines champ), **First Take** (2022 5th-place bronze medalist), **Throwback** (2022 International 3rd-Place Bronze medalist), **GQ** with Michaela Johnston subbing at tenor (2022 4th-Place Bronze Medalist), **Let's Sing!** (2023 Senior Quartet champ); **Vocal Spectrum** (2006 quartet champ); **Quorum** with Mike Slamka subbing at lead (2022 quartet champ); and **YTBN** (2023 Next Generation Junior Quartet Champ).



Let's Hang On!



Take 4

Vocal Spectrum



Quorum



YTBN wins with big entertainment values

It's not often that you get an announcement reaction shot like this one. But it's also not every contest that the winner is so obvious in advance ... and the foursome happens to be sitting in the front row. **YTBN** (short for "Yet To Be Named") sang to perfection and delivered some hilarious visual storytelling in its performance of "Dream a Little Dream of Me." They are juniors and seniors at Burlington High School in Burlington, WI.



72% of youth attendees surveyed said they planned to keep singing barbershop after high school. Some of their reasons:

- "Barbershop has a great community."
- "I enjoy the family aspect and music."
- "I had the most fun I've ever had performing as a big group!"
- "It's such a wonderful community to be a part of, and I would be honored to sing with these people for the rest of my life."
- "I love the community that it provides!"
- "The barbershop community is incredibly encouraging and fun to be around, and I would love to be a part of it after high school."
- "Barbershop carries me through hardships in life."
- "I enjoy the style of singing and the emotion that is portrayed with the music."
- "Singing barbershop truly helps me to connect with my peers and myself. It instigates a euphoric feeling I hope to continue, even after high school."



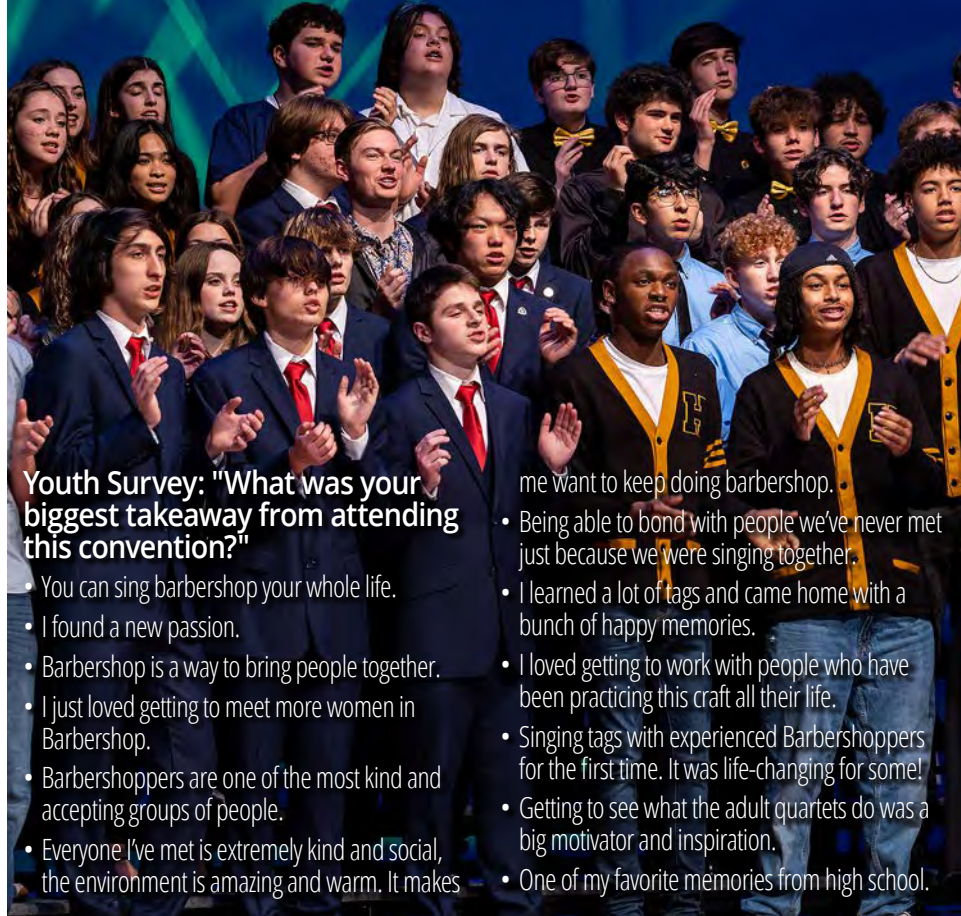
"We brought our 5-month old son Dean to Charlotte International where he got to meet his extended family from all over the world. He even appeared on the Live Stream three times!"

Matt, Joe, and Dean Suellentrop

IT ONLY HAPPENS HERE



barbershop.org/international



Youth Survey: "What was your biggest takeaway from attending this convention?"

- You can sing barbershop your whole life.
- I found a new passion.
- Barbershop is a way to bring people together.
- I just loved getting to meet more women in Barbershop.
- Barbershoppers are one of the most kind and accepting groups of people.
- Everyone I've met is extremely kind and social, the environment is amazing and warm. It makes me want to keep doing barbershop.
- Being able to bond with people we've never met just because we were singing together.
- I learned a lot of tags and came home with a bunch of happy memories.
- I loved getting to work with people who have been practicing this craft all their life.
- Singing tags with experienced Barbershoppers for the first time. It was life-changing for some!
- Getting to see what the adult quartets do was a big motivator and inspiration.
- One of my favorite memories from high school.



Seniors Quartet Contest

"I would like to know how my group could sound more like the senior performers."

— from the NextGen post-convention survey

How did the Seniors groups get so good? Most are very experienced performers, and the top Senior groups (including the past champs performing all weekend) can often out-entertain almost anybody at any age. Close your eyes, and you wouldn't know that nobody

under age 55 was singing or that every group averaged at least 60 years in age. It's no wonder the top three Seniors groups in Daytona Beach posted International open contest-level scores—all have been there recently, and all could possibly be competing in Louisville.

Up All Night came very close to a championship in a slam-dunk set of all-new comedy material, and they've never sung better. And if there were a score for costuming, **Whistle Junction** would have stolen the show!

All singers listed as tenor, lead, bari, bass regardless of standing order



1. Let's Sing! (NSC) 78.7

Steven Tremper, Mark Chandler, William Doub, Gregory Zinke



2. Up All Night (JAD) 77.9

John Ward, Cecil Brown, Joe Hunter, Dan Rowland



3. cityScape (CAR) 77.4

Allen Reynolds, Howard McAdory, Paul Gilman, Jay Hawkins



4. Raise The Roof (JAD) 75.9

Steven Shiveley, Marco Crager, Thomas Rouse, Nathan Comisar



5. Nostalgia Express (ONT) 74.6

Larry Maw, Brad Brown, Rod Harris, James Doyle



6. ReRouted (JAD) 73.5

Keith Shuck, Donald Pullins, Doug Smeltz, Tim Kalb



7. Silver Ring (DIX) 72.8

Bob Davenport, Jimmy Tompkins, Paul Wietlisbach, Nick Daley



8. Jazz! (CSD) 72.7

Pamela Mallard, Diane Durham, Tawny Brown, Diana Schweitzer



9. Aspire (NSC) **72.5**

Ted Leinbach, Wally Miles, Robert Hopkins, Thomas Parker



10. Quadraphonics (DIX) **71.9**

James Olson, Maury Morris, Neil Hutcheson, Ray Taylor



11. Checkmate (LOL) **71.1**

David Baxter, Brad Charles, Harry Hanson, James Franklin



12. The Grayhounds (SLD) **70.9**

Michael Glazier, Robert Fuest, Adam Surasky, Steven Fanning



13. Full Circle (SLD) **70.7**

Michael McLoughlin, Donald Drake, Robert Feldman, Steve Feldman



14. The World According to AARP (SUN) **70.5**

David Jacobs, Roger Smeds, Steven Culpepper, Paul Agnew



15. Sounds Appealing (RMD) **69.8**

Tracy Lockhart, James McClelland, Bruce Sellnow, Ronald Black



16. 7th Heaven (EVG) **69.1**

Todd Dignan, Chris Gabel, Chris Watkins, Kevin Bier

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17. Crown Derby (BABS) **68.9**

Dick Knight, Karen Searson, Delyth Knight, P A Searson



18. Back On Track (SNOBS) **68.8**

Bengt Thaysen, Dan Lindqwister, Lars-Erik Bonnedahl, Lennart Gullberg



19. Social Insecurity (EVG) **68.8**

Gary Raze, Robert Martindale, Kevin Stephens, Martin Anderson



20. Hastily Assembled (NSC) **67.4**

Gerry Davis, Nathanael Pendley, Richard Franklin, Robert Alexander



21. Brotherhood Of The RING (EVG) **67.4**

Dennis Pengilly, James Kirschner, Coby Foster, Loren Corner



22. Joyride (NED) **66.8**

James White, Maureen Cohen, Barbara Moores, Terry Johnson



23. Deep Water (DIX) **65.6**

Dan Bullock, James Frank, Charles Wilson, Paul Blazek



24. Whistle Junction (LOL) **64.7**

Susan Neuls, Jo Coehoorn, Mary Ann Suprenant, Cathie Zimmerman



25. **Opus 4** (MAD) **64.5**

Patrick Casey, Michael Challman, Christopher Hunt, Andrew Gensey, Jr.



26. **Quatresonics** (PIO) **62.3**

David Goff, Eugene Hanover, Bruce Nurton, Mark Schwinkendorf

Let's Sing!

2023 International Seniors Quartet Champion—third time's the charm!

Let's Sing! formed in 2007, and in 2009 was both an International competitor and Dixie District Quartet Champion. At the Carolinas District's first-ever Quartet Contest, we became the 2010 champion, only the second BHS quartet, after **Classic Collection** (FWD/RMD), to win championships in two districts.

Let's Sing! represented the Carolinas District at International six times between 2010-2018, finishing as high as 33rd in 2011. Family weddings and work conflicts caused us to sit out for several years, but we kept expanding our repertoire and singing on shows and at Youth in Harmony camps. While waiting for Mark and Greg to "grow up" and reach Seniors eligibility, Steve and Joe competed at the Seniors level in **You Kids Get Off My Lawn!**, **BLackJack** and **Harmony Grits** from 2013-2018.

With the help of several fabulous coaches, most notably Mark Stock and George Gipp, we won silver at the 2019 International Seniors contest, missing gold by 6 points! In 2020 we finished third. Covid canceled the 2021 contests and we sat out in 2022, but we decided to give it one last shot at Daytona Beach.

George helped us hone "At Last" and "One For My Baby," discovering new meaning in each phrase and pulling the best from each singer. Contest day was electric. The cheers and standing Os seemed to go by in a flash before we watched the remaining 21 quartets compete. As the results were read, we clutched



hands and prayed for those magical words, "Your 2023 International Seniors Quartet Champions ... Let's Sing!" The rest was a blur... receiving our gold medals from 2022 champs **One Foot In The Stave**, pictures taken with the massive trophy, joining the AISQC for a champagne toast and reception afterward, and the many congratulations from friends far and near! What a hobby!

Steve Tremper (T) is a 42-year BHS member, placed in the International top 20 with bass Greg Zinke in **The CrackerJacks** (1991), and has sung lead and tenor in many choruses and quartets. Steve has been a certified Administrative Judge since 2004. Steve and his wife Pam recently relocated from North Carolina to Greenville, SC, where Steve works from home as a technical writer.

Mark Chandler (L) and his wife Lisa, both North Carolina natives, live in Old Salem in an historic home that they have lovingly restored. Mark has been with the **Winston-Salem Chapter** since 1983 and sang with 2001 Dixie Champ **Crescendo** and 2004 International

competitor **Genesis**. Mark is a partner in a CPA firm in Kernersville, NC.

Joe Doub (Br) has been singing with the Society since 1974 on multiple voice parts, including tenor with 1983 Dixie Champ and two-time International competitor **Blue Ribbon Edition**. Joe and his wife Juli are enjoying retirement in Lewisville, NC, with their kids and grandkids, Juli from teaching elementary school and Joe from Deere-Hitachi Corp.

Greg Zinke (Bs) has been singing for over 40 years, and is a District quartet champion in MAD (1987), DIX, and NSC districts. He is the son of 50-year member Bob Zinke. Greg and his wife Kim live in Greensboro, NC, where Greg directed the **Tarheel Chorus** for many years. Greg competed at International with four quartets, placing in the Semifinals in 1987 with the **Northeast Extension** (MAD) and in 1991 with Steve in **The CrackerJacks** (DIX) and with Mark with **Genesis** in 2004. Greg currently works as a tooling coordinator.

— Steve Tremper, Tenor of Let's Sing!
stevetremper@gmail.com



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All singers listed as tenor, lead, bari, bass regardless of standing order



1. YTBN • Burlington High School - Burlington, WI
Zoe Lipor, Madeline Thompson, Genevieve Hauser, Megan Fitch



2. Class Act • Mt. Zion High School - Mt. Zion, IL / Illinois District
Alex Current, Gabe Johnson, Mason Jones, Aidan Seitz



3. Blue Valley Quartet • Blue Valley High School - Overland Park, KS
Allie Heidemann, Clara Thompson, Trevor Lewis, Cole Evans



4. Premium Blend • Mt. Zion High School - Mt. Zion, IL / Illinois District
Kolbi Allen, Allison Bradford, Isaiah Johnson, Daniel Soares



5. Blue 4 U • Gordon Central High School - Calhoun, GA
Tyler Waits, Addison Baker, Jude Clance, Seth Hare



6. Daphodyls • Montverde Academy - Montverde, FL
Scarlett Gunasekera, Hanan Geda, Daphne Gunasekera, Olivia Fontana



7. Just Two Brain Sells • Burlington High School - Burlington, WI
Thomas Fitch, Julian Ivkovich, Samuel Wallace, Benjamin Stork



8. Dyna-Mixed • Burlington High School - Burlington, WI
Kylee Zigler, Julayne Morby, Evan Deans, Giovannii Grippe

2023 Junior Chorus Festival



Back for the first time since 2020, most of the hundreds of young singers that performed in Daytona Beach, had never performed barbershop before. Most of them left Daytona Beach saying that they hope to continue barbershopping after high school.

Sharing the stage with the Seniors Chorus Invitational, each of the Junior choruses performed two barbershop songs and one from any style. This contest is adjudicated using standards and rankings familiar to high school musicians, and in a first for the Festival, all ensembles achieved at least an "Excellent" rating!

Reigning Men (A) (rating: **EXCELLENT**), Burlington High School, Burlington, WI - directed by Penny Yanke



Blue Valley High School Chorale (AA) (rating: **SUPERIOR**), Blue Valley High School, Overland Park, KS - directed by Sam Dollins



Wade Hampton Singers (AA) (rating: **OUTSTANDING**), Wade Hampton High School, Greenville, SC - directed by Amy Moyer





2023 Seniors Chorus Invitational



First introduced in 2019, the event took a couple of years off for Covid but came back again in Daytona Beach. The rules are kind of the same as any other chorus contest, with the exception that all singers must be at least 55 years old, and, rather than being affiliated with a chapter, all of the singers belong to the same district. The Dixie District Seniors Chorus came out on top after also winning in 2019, finishing just ahead of 2020 champion Ozark Overtones. However, some would argue that the comedy of the Carolina Statesmen stole the show!

1. Dixie District Seniors Chorus (DIX) Directed by Jimmy Tompkins 73.5



2. Ozark Overtones (CSD) Directed by Jeff Veteto 71.9



3. Carolina Statesmen (NSC) Larry Triplett 71.6





4. Pioneer Spirit (PIO) Directed by James Carey & Al Fisk 71.1



5. Seneca Statesmen (SLD) Directed by Todd Horton 64.5

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IES

QUORUM'S ORIGIN STORY



The three-year Covid detour somehow helped them grow from "perpetual finalist" to "International Champion"

For many years, an improv quartet of AIC members—Chris Vaughn, Gary Lewis, Tim Waurick, and Tony DeRosa—would gather at conventions to sing tags. Inevitably, after a sizable crowd had gathered, they would end with the tag to “Blue Skies.” These tag sessions eventually led to Chris and Gary discussing the formation of a new quartet. Puck Ross, Gary’s brother-in-law, was a natural choice to sing tenor, and they enlisted one of Gary’s former students, Nick Gordon, to sing baritone.

They named the new quartet **Quorum**, and won the Johnny Appleseed District contest and competed in three International competitions, winning a 5th-place bronze medal in 2017. When Nick left the quartet, the search was on for his replacement. After seeing a video of Nathan Johnston filling in on baritone with eventual 2018 champ **After Hours**, Chris’ wife Loren told the guys they should give him a shot. Fred Farrell (2009 Champ **Crossroads**) gave Nathan a glowing endorsement, and Nathan nailed his audition just in time. His first official rehearsal with the quartet was the weekend they would be competing in the 2018 JAD prelims!

Breaking Down Walls

During every quartet’s journey, there are adjustments to be made and obstacles to overcome, both for the quartet and the individual members. For Quorum, their evolution took them from a quartet of exciting arrangements



Mike Slamka is lead of 2003 International Champion **Power Play** and 2009 International Champion **Crossroads**
michael.slamka@gmail.com

LORIN MAY

2013

- After tagging on Saturday night in Toronto, Gary, Chris and Puck discuss the idea of forming a quartet
- Got together a foursome in the fall and following spring

2014

- Gary decided he'd like to try bass; Nick Gordon joined as baritone in the fall



2015

- JAD Prelims: 85.3%
- International: 86.4% (9th)
- JAD Champion: 87.1%

2016

- JAD Prelim: 85.8%
- International: 88.3% (7th)

2017

- MAD Prelims: 88.1%
- International: 89.5% (5th)



2018

- Nathan joins quartet
- JAD Prelims: 87.0% (also first rehearsal with Nathan)
- International: 90.2% (4th)

2019

- MAD Prelims: 89.7%
- International: 92.3% (3rd–4th in Quarterfinals, 2nd in Semifinals, 1st in Finals)

2020-21

- Pandemic

2022

- PIO Prelims: 94.0%
- International: 94.0% (Gold Medals, five of their six songs were the highest scoring songs of the contest)

EVEN THOUGH THEY'D BEEN COMPETING SINCE 2015, WITH A STEADY UPWARD TRAJECTORY, THIS MOMENT WAS THE FIRST TIME THEY ACTUALLY THOUGHT THEY COULD WIN.

and epic tags to a passionate, vulnerable quartet that invites you into their performances and moves you emotionally. (Still with epic tags, though!)

For tenor Puck Ross, this manifested itself during the final round in Charlotte when they sang, "Do I Love You?" He said he had always heard coaches say that you need to "find the emotional line, but don't go over it." Well, he came really close to the line that night, and found himself struggling not to cross it. That performance was a great example of how far the quartet had progressed. They'd been singing that song for years, but it just hit different that night, and the audience felt it.

Anyone who has heard Chris sing lead knows that he has another gear that most

of us mere mortals don't have. But Quorum was different—there he had to learn to "sing with a maturing voice" and to "know when to idle and not always step on the gas." This came into sharp focus for me when I recently filled in for him at the Midwinter convention in Daytona Beach. I texted him after the performance and said, "Your songs are high, loud, and tough!" He replied, "Welcome to my world." I really think Chris' learning to sing within the quartet's sound and using that extra gear more judiciously had a profound effect on their success.

Gary's path with Quorum was one of discovery and trust. Having sung tenor and baritone in his previous championship quartets, bass was a brand-new challenge. Initially, Gary said he "tried to use a voice that would make him sound like a bass." Many judges explained to him that he didn't need to do that, but Gary credits Scott Kitzmiller, Steve Scott, and Anthony Colosimo for saying it in a way that really made sense to him. After a lot of listening and soul searching, he was able to trust that using his natural voice, and bringing the sound forward and bright, was enough.

The test for Nathan was to fill the shoes of a top-flight baritone who'd been a vital part of the quartet's rapid

Barbershop is family

There are many barbershop connections within Quorum's families. Gary Lewis and Puck Ross are brothers-in-law, having married into the same barbershop family. Chris Vaughn's wife, Loren (who is a former student of Gary's), is a long-time Sweet Adeline who sings with Top 10 quartet **Lucille**. Nathan Johnston's wife Michaela is tenor of 2019 Queens of Harmony **ClassRing**.





Jacob "Puck" Ross (T) joined the Society in 2004 after discovering barbershop in the **Bowling Green State University Men's Chorus**. He graduated from BGSU with a bachelor's degree in music education and moved to Columbus, OH, where he sang with **The Alliance Chorus** and helped form **The Allies** quartet, which competed at International for eight consecutive years and finished fifth in 2010. Puck now resides in Brecksville, Ohio and sings with **The Men of Independence**. He lives with his wife Jackie and their children Julian and Savannah. Puck is a music teacher in North Olmsted, OH.

Nathan Johnston (Br)

joined the Society in 2011, won gold with the **Ambassadors of Harmony** in 2012, and two bronze medals in collegiate quartets. He holds bachelor's degrees in music education and information technology from the University of Missouri St. Louis, a certification in audio engineering, and is finishing a master's degree in cybersecurity. He sings with his wife in **Double Date**, 2014 and 2016 BinG! World Mixed Champion. He works as a senior IT assurance analyst and lives in Canton, GA, with his wife Michaela and children Miles and Jenevieve.



Chris Vaughn (L) joined the **Inland Cities Chorus** in Riverside, CA in 1991 at age 13. In 1995, Chris joined the **Masters of Harmony**, winning two gold medals with the chorus. He sang with father, Dale, in **Mothers Favorite** quartet in 1996, and later that year Chris formed **Gotchal**, later the 2004 International Champion. Chris moved to Denver in 2001 and later formed **Redline**, which placed 4th at the 2008 International Contest. He moved out to Somerville, NJ in 2013, where he currently resides with his wife Loren and their daughter, Raeleigh.

upward trajectory. How would Nathan be accepted? Could he live up to the others' expectations? Well, it didn't take long for Nathan to endear himself to the guys in the quartet and to thousands of Quorum fans. At the Orlando convention in 2018, Nathan's first with Quorum, he made quite a debut with a high, full-voiced B-natural on the tag to Brent Graham's fantastic arrangement of "This Heart of Mine," which helped the quartet win a 4th place bronze medal.

Crossing the Covid divide

It was the night of the 2019 Quartet Finals in Salt Lake City, and Quorum just finished its first song, "As Long as

You're Mine." It was the first time they had ever performed it on any stage, and the audience was on its feet, going wild. Overwhelmed by the crowd's reaction, it took a bit longer than expected to remember they needed to sing another song! Gary called it, "one

QUORUM WAS DIFFERENT—HE HAD TO LEARN TO "SING WITH A MATURING VOICE" AND TO "KNOW WHEN TO IDLE AND NOT ALWAYS STEP ON THE GAS."

of the most compelling experiences of my barbershop career." They were able to compose themselves and then delivered a fantastic performance of "All About Love."

Even though they'd been competing since 2015, with a steady upward trajectory into the medals, this was the first time they actually thought they could win. Their feeling was confirmed after they got the scores. While they finished third that year, they had the highest score in the final round—an amazing accomplishment, and something upon which they thought they could build for the following year in Los Angeles. Momentum was on their side, and they felt they had as good a chance as any quartet to win in 2020.



Gary Lewis (Bs) joined the Society in 1992 and is the only singer to win three gold medals on three different voice parts: tenor with **PLATINUM** in 2000, baritone with **Max Q** in 2007, and bass with **Quorum** in 2022. His college quartet, **The Real Deal**, won gold in 1994. Gary is a former member of Disney's acclaimed **Voices of Liberty** and is an accomplished choral music educator, currently teaching at Solon High School in Solon, Ohio. Gary lives with his wife Joy in Independence, Ohio, and is the director of **The Men of Independence Chorus**. He has four children: Adam, Jenna, Scarlett, and Bobby.

Well, as we all know, the Los Angeles convention didn't happen in 2020, nor did the 2021 Convention in Puck and Gary's hometown of Cleveland. So, how did Quorum bridge a three-year gap with nowhere to perform and the inability to rehearse in person? Since all four singers had good recording equipment at home, they made an album—without ever being together. They also created videos of the Aaron Dale and David Wright charts they couldn't sing live (yet)

and distributed them on social media.

When the long wait was over in 2022, Quorum competed in the Pioneer District prelims due to scheduling issues. Almost three years since their last contest, and a stretch of over a year without seeing each other in person, they had no idea how they would perform or what the scores might be. The Pioneer District crowd was fantastic, and after two solid sets they waited for the results.

It was hard to hear the emcee from

THEY EARNED THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY SCORING AVERAGE IN HISTORY—AFTER YEARS AND MONTHS OF PRACTICING AWAY FROM EACH OTHER IN THEIR OWN HOMES. IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PROCESS.



backstage, so when he announced their score, Puck asked, "Did he just say a 94?" Yes, Puck, he did indeed say 94—not just Quorum's highest score ever, but the highest International Preliminary scoring average in history. After years and months of practicing away from each other in their own homes. It was difficult to process.

But that score brought them to Charlotte with sky-high expectations. Scott Kitzmiller and I got a front row

Quorum stayed active during Covid lockdowns via remote practices, and stayed in contact with fans by releasing YouTube videos of songs they'd prepared for the canceled 2020 and 2021 contests.



Scan here to watch all six winning performances on YouTube!

Winning arrangements

Barbershop trivia expert Patrick McAlexander believes Quorum may be the only quartet in the last 30 years (maybe ever?) to win the championship with six custom arrangements by six different arrangers:

- "As Long as You're Mine" (Theo Hicks)
- "All About Love" (Kohl Kitzmiller)
- "Happy/Sad" (Adam Reimnitz)
- "It's a Good Day" (David Wright)
- "Do I Love You?" (Brent Graham)
- "Them There Eyes" (Aaron Dale)

put in over the previous few years.

Gold medals for Puck and Nathan, a second gold medal for Chris (only the fourth lead to win multiple championships), and a history-making third gold medal for Gary on his third different voice part. Quorum had successfully "crossed the Covid divide" and came out on top. ■

seat at each Quorum rehearsal in Charlotte, and witnessed how calm and focused they were all week. Even though the next highest qualifier was three percentage points lower, there were no guarantees. I heard no talk of

winning, only discussions of how to make the music more impactful for the audience. When they heard their name called as champions on Saturday night, with a familiar score of 94, it was a validation of all the hard work they had



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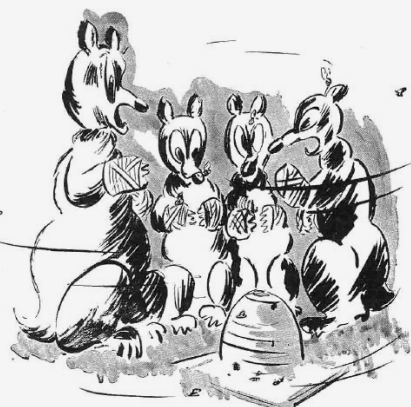
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From page 11



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OR
"WHEN THE BEES ARE IN THE HIVE"

Barbershop comic strips were once a staple in many old magazines, including *The Harmonizer*, which featured this adorable toon in the December 1949 issue.

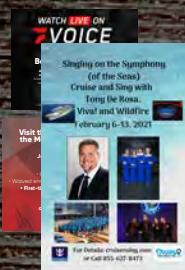
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DIRECTORS WANTED

Need a director? First 50 words are free for BHS chapters. marketing@barbershop.org. See the most current postings at barbershop.org/directorsearch.

Sing Niagara is a well established Harmony Inc. Chapter. We are a dynamic, inclusive women's chorus of 30+ members located in the Niagara, Ontario region. We are a performance and competition chorus that is very community and civic-minded. We are looking for an experienced, motivated director to take us to the next level. Contact Sing Niagara at info@singniagara.com or Margaret Cain at 905-380-5668, margaret.cain12@gmail.com.

The Coastal Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus seeks a dynamic director for weekly rehearsals, sing-outs and shows. We are a chorus

of 20 members, regrouping after Covid-19. We are located in coastal Brunswick North Carolina, just minutes from the beach. Contact William Clegg at nccelebil@aol.com or go to www.coastalharmonizers.org.

Roof Garden Barbershop Chorus/ Somerset County, PA. 40-year old chorus with an annual show each fall. 20-40 sing-outs each year, including Memorial Day, sporting events, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, summer picnics, church events, patriotic tributes and holiday caroling. We have a strong repertoire and often introduce new songs. Our director

of over 10 years recently had to step down. We typically have practices on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm. Contact Lee Hoffman 814-279-1733 or lee.hoffman81@yahoo.com

Commodore Chorus of Norfolk/Virginia Beach is searching to replace our departing director. We number about 25 active members and were recently named District Most Improved Chorus for two consecutive years—would love to keep the momentum. Contact us at VP_MUSIC@Commodorechorus.groupanizer.com or David Edgington, (757) 270-9025 or dedgington77@gmail.com.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Members reported as deceased between January 15 and March 15, 2023. Send updates to membership@barbershop.org

CARDINAL

Paul Lange
Marion, IN
Ernest Nickoson
Lexington, KY

CAROLINAS

David Luck
Grand Strand, SC

CENTRAL STATES

Dwight Ellis
Des Moines, IA
Edward Guzis
Davenport, IA
Donald Lif
Kearney, NE
Mark McGovern
Cedar Rapids, IA
Clyde Mickelsen
Kearney, NE
James Porter
Kansas City, MO

DIXIE

William James Adam
Augusta, GA
Dale Huff
Nashville, TN

EVERGREEN

James Thomas Smith
Seattle, WA

FAR WESTERN

Dean Clark
Fresno, CA
Robert Cossentine
South Orange County, CA
Greater Los Angeles
Orange Quartet
Frank Fliszar
Fullerton, CA
Orange Quartet
Joseph Teresi
Folsom, CA
Grady Williams
Central California

ILLINOIS

Bob Abbott
Macomb, IL
Lawrence Cralley
Carbondale, IL
Carl Follin
Springfield, IL

JOHNNY

APPLESEED
George Fritsch
Pittsburgh South Hills, PA
George Hennig
Black Swamp, OH

LAND O' LAKES

Dale Mowbray
Mankato, MN

MID-ATLANTIC

Michael Bell
District of Columbia
Renato Gasperini
Red Bank Area, NJ
Ralph McGregor
York, PA
Hanover, PA
William Obier
Milford, DE
William Seufert
Cape May County, NJ
Milford, DE
Goose Stauffer
Hunterdon County, NJ
Pat Tracey
Teaneck, NJ

NORTHEASTERN

Dana Dorsey
Bangor, ME
Richard Johnston
South Shore, QC
Harris Moore
Cape Cod, MA

ONTARIO

Orval Allen
Strathroy, ON
Don Ferris
Scarborough, ON
James Lyon
Oshawa, ON
Douglas Millikin
Huntsville, ON
Guelph, ON
Robert Torpey
East York, ON

PIONEER

Allan McGregor
Windsor, ON

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

George Franklin
Albuquerque, NM

William Jones
Denver Mile High, CO
Curt Kimball
Denver Mile High, CO
Ashton Smith
Salt Lake City, UT

SENECA LAND

David Luck
Mohawk Valley, NY
James Ober
Painted Post, NY

SOUTHWESTERN

Marlin David Griffith
Houston, TX
James Rudd
Arlington, TX
William Smith
Arlington, TX
Louis Steve Taylor
Marble Falls, TX

SUNSHINE

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Naples/Fort Myers, FL
Joseph Beauregard, MD
Naples/Fort Myers, FL

Richard Blanchard
Naples/Fort Myers, FL
Robert Boyd
Naples/Fort Myers, FL
Kenneth Campbell
Gainesville, FL
Renato Gasperini
Naples/Fort Myers, FL
Michael Joynt
Everglades, FL
Edward Meissner
Everglades, FL
Lloyd Mummert
Naples/Fort Myers, FL
Gerald Smith
Charlotte County, FL

NO DISTRICT

J Douglas Campbell
Terry Ermoian
Charles Legge

Steve Wilde of the Asheville, NC Chapter was erroneously listed in the March/April Chapter Eternal. He is very much alive!



Terry Aramian
1992 BHS President



Dale Fetick
Tenor of 1995
quartet champion
Marquis



Ernie Nickoson
1993-94 BHS
President

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THE TAG

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Honoring Lou Perry

The commentary about last issue's Earl Moon tag mentioned his dear friend Lou Perry. It's only fitting to give you one of Lou's outstanding tags now.

Lou Perry (1910-2001) is considered one of the giants of the barbershop world. Arranger, coach, judge, teacher, mentor, guru—Lou was a wonderfully unique human being.

A jazz trumpeter in New York during the 1930s, Lou later studied classical music at Tufts University. He discovered barbershop in 1950 when his wife's brother-in-law took him to a **Needham, MA, Chapter** meeting. He was impressed by the harmonies, especially the way the chords were voiced.

For the next four decades, Lou became a master of our art form. He taught arranging and coached quartets in the Northeastern District from the 1960s onward and was an Arrangement Judge from 1972 until 1990.

Like Earl, Lou was a fixture at Harmony College/University during the '70s and '80s. His arranging style was "elegantly simple," and he urged other arrangers to "respect the song." For top quartets such as the **Four Rascals**, **Four Statesmen** and **Boston Common**, Lou created these gems (and more): "Little Pal," "I'm Alone Because I Love You," and "That Old Quartet of Mine."

What you see before you isn't really a tag; rather, it is the last phrase of the song plus the tag. The tag itself—already well-known, thus not in need of publication—begins at the pickup to measure 9. But the final phrase is elegant, too, and leads into the tag beautifully.

So whether you are singing or teaching the longer or shorter version, have a happy thought about the "Tucson Troll" and how much he gave, and continues to give, to us most fortunate Barbershoppers! ■

You Only Want Me When You're Lonesome

freely *TTBB voicing* Lou Perry (1965)

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

You on - ly want me when you're lone - some and no - bod - y

else — wants you, — when no - bod - y else wants you. —

freely *SSAA voicing* Lou Perry (1965)

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

You on - ly want me when you're lone - some and no - bod - y

else — wants you, — when no - bod - y else wants you. —

freely *SATB voicing* Lou Perry (1965)

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

You on - ly want me when you're lone - some and no - bod - y

else — wants you, — when no - bod - y else wants you. —

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1 The Bells of Notre Dame w/Out There	A. Dale
2 When I'm Sixty-Four	Gentry
3 The Longest Time	Gentry
4 You've Got A Friend in Me	Wessler
5 Go the Distance	A. Dale

SSAA	ARRANGER
1 I'm Into Something Good/Happy Together	A. Dale
2 Come Fly With Me	Keller
3 Deed I Do	A. Dale
4 Seven Bridges Road	Johnson
5 Somebody To Love	A. Dale

SATB	ARRANGER
1 Africa	Morris
2 You've Got A Friend in Me	Wessler
3 Seven Bridges Road	Johnson
4 A Whole New World	Hicks
5 Hooked On A Feeling	Nicholas



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ONCE UPON A TIME

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(ARR. ROB CAMPBELL)

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(ARR. BHS)

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INDIGO GIRLS
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