

The **Pitch Piper**

78 Years of Barbershop Harmony

Over 714,089 Square Miles

Volume 79 Number 5

A Bulletin for Barbershoppers in the LO'L District

September-October 2026

**2026
FALL CONVENTION**

Land O' Lakes
S.F.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

October
16th & 17th
Bloomington, MN
Airport Hilton

SK MB ON
MT ND MN WI
SD

**People Connecting
Through Harmony**


**Remembering
BOB DOWMA 1942 - 2026**

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Pitch Piper

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Land O' Lakes Chapters are in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Western Michigan Upper Peninsula, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Western Ontario, Canada.

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“Hello Land O’Lakes District!”

Submitted by Nate Peplinski, District President

It’s an exciting time to be a barbershopper, and I wanted to take a moment to share a few highlights from around the Barbershop Harmony Society.

First, congratulations to everyone who participated in and supported the 2026 International Convention in St. Louis! International Week once again reminded us what makes this hobby—and this organization—so special: extraordinary performances, inspiring education, friendships old and new, and enough ringing chords to make your ears happy for weeks afterward.

The Society also continues to look toward the future. The operational alignment between the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Foundation International is now underway, bringing fundraising and philanthropic efforts into closer alignment with the Society’s mission. The goal is simple: strengthen our ability to serve singers, chapters, communities, and future generations of barbershoppers.

Meanwhile, Harmony University wrapped up another exciting summer in Denver, featuring expanded opportunities for younger singers, quartetting experiences, leadership development, and—of course—more learning than anyone can possibly absorb without at least three cups of coffee. Ask Justin La!

The Society is also working through important strategic and organizational conversations, including long-term planning and the transition away from Harmony Hall in Nashville. These are significant changes, but they represent an opportunity to build a more focused, sustainable, and forward-looking organization

AND HERE IN LAND O’ LAKES, our most important work remains right where it has always been: in our chapters, quartets, rehearsals, contests, shows, youth programs, and communities. The board is putting together a strategic vision for transitioning out of the post-covid recovery period and looking for ways we can band together to pay it forward, progressively and sustainably.

SO there’s a lot going on, and a lot more to come. Many of the recent challenges have passed and now it’s (refreshingly) time to move our eye to the future. Let’s get together at the Hilton in October and chat!

Chapter Support Report

Submitted by Jim Rasmus, District VP of Chapter Support

Email: pjras20@gmail.com; Phone/Text: (920) 973-0010

As I write this, the Clipper City Chordsmen Chorus is very busy preparing for our Fall Fund Raiser. We have several guests who have been rehearsing with us who will join us stage. Our newly formed women's chorus, the Badger Belles Chorus, and two high school choirs will also perform. As a grand finale the eighty-some voices will join together to sing Doug Miller's 8-part arrangement of "Harmony." Our goal this year is to raise \$18,000 to be shared with the eight music education programs in Manitowoc County High Schools. As we used to say: it's gonna be a blast!

We are also deep into preparations to celebrate our own Schmitt Brothers Quartet at the District Convention on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of their having won gold at International. I am looking forward to singing in the All-Chapter Chorus at the Convention. My head is literally spinning with words, music and a little choreography that is just a bit outside my grasp right now.

I'm guessing your Chapter is also busy preparing for Shows, the Convention and other special performances, as we all move back into our fall schedules. The challenges of bringing some spots on a page to life as barbershop harmony for an audience is what makes our hobby so much fun!

Of course, this is also a time when Chapters are working on reorganizing their leadership teams. Be sure to get your Nominating Committee active, schedule your Chapter Annual Meeting before October 15th and submit your list of officers into the Membership Center before October 31st!

I wish you the wisdom and insight necessary to call out some new people to provide a spark for your Chapter to grow and develop in some new ways in the future. I look forward to joining with you – our larger Barbershop Family – in the Twin Cities next month!

It's GREAT to be a Barbershopper in the Land O'Lakes District!

Summer Next Gen Update: Building the Future of Barbershop

Submitted by Justin La, Vice President, Next Generation

The next generation of barbershoppers is not waiting somewhere in the future. They are already here...singing tags, attending festivals, forming quartets, becoming educators and directors, and discovering that barbershop can become a lifelong musical home.

Throughout the Land O' Lakes District, we are seeing growing enthusiasm for Next Gen opportunities. This summer brought exciting developments across Wisconsin, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. Young singers and educators connected through Harmony University, brought that energy home, and began creating new opportunities in their communities.

The momentum is real. Our responsibility now is to ensure that these singers have the opportunities, encouragement, and financial support they need to remain involved and eventually lead our barbershop community forward.

Land O' Lakes at Harmony University

Five singers from the Land O' Lakes District participated in the Next Gen Chorus at Harmony University this summer.

Representing the Madison, Wisconsin area were **Madeline Thompson** and **Elias Mettner**. Both are members of **What's New!**, a Next Gen quartet that competed at International. Madeline currently directs the Badgershop Chorus at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, while Elias also brings previous directing experience.

From Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, **Keinan Kendall** and **Roxanne Regier** participated. Both had an outstanding experience singing, learning, and building friendships with young barbershoppers from across the Society.

Our fifth participant was **Lizzie Rochon** from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her journey demonstrates how one personal connection can open the door to something much larger.

The Next Gen Chorus was directed by **Neyla Pekarek**, Queen of Harmony with Clever Girl Quartet. Its repertoire included Take on Me, using the After Hours arrangement by Dan Wessler, and an entertaining version of It's a Good Day featuring some creatively altered lyrics.

Feedback from our District participants was overwhelmingly positive. Harmony University continues to demonstrate what can happen when young singers are surrounded by exceptional educators, excellent ensembles, and others who share their excitement for barbershop harmony.

They return home as stronger musicians, but the impact goes far beyond musical growth. They also return as ambassadors, mentors, educators, directors, and future leaders.

One Tag Can Change a Life

I first met Lizzie Rochon somewhat by chance while visiting the Winnipeg Chapter. I sang with Lizzie and some of her siblings, taught them a tag, and began learning more about her musical background.

Lizzie recently completed a Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre. She had also explored barbershop academically, including through a university presentation. After we discussed Harmony University, I encouraged her to attend. With support from her grandfather and scholarship assistance including help from Sing Canada Harmony Lizzie was able to make the trip and participate in the Next Gen Chorus.

She has now very clearly been bitten by the barbershop bug!

Lizzie is actively interested in finding or forming a quartet, creating the possibility of new young quartet activity in Winnipeg. With her musical training, enthusiasm, and the relationships she developed at Harmony University, there is tremendous potential ahead.

Her journey began with a chapter visit.
Then came a tag.
Then a conversation.
Then help finding financial support.
Then Harmony University.

Now, we may have a new young quartet developing in Manitoba.

Summer Next Gen Update

(Continued)

That is Next Gen development. It does not always begin with a major program or a perfectly formed plan. Sometimes it begins when one member takes the time to welcome a young singer, teach a tag, extend an invitation, or simply say, “You belong here.”

Those individual connections matter. We never know when one tag or one encouraging conversation might help someone discover a lifelong place in barbershop.

Bringing Harmony University Home

Another exciting story from Harmony University involves **Allison Titus**, a high school music educator from Saskatoon.

Allison attended Harmony University this summer and quickly became immersed in the barbershop experience. Even more exciting is that she is now helping turn that experience into new opportunities for young singers back home.

Allison and **Patrick Ollenberger** will be directing **AVX—Acoustic Vocal Experiment**, a new select a cappella ensemble for singers ages 13-18.

AVX will bring together young singers from multiple schools and introduce them to high-level contemporary a cappella and barbershop-style singing. Students will strengthen their ensemble and performance skills, sing challenging repertoire, and become connected to the wider barbershop community.

This is the ripple effect that makes an experience such as Harmony University so valuable.

We are not simply sending people away to become better singers. We are helping to develop educators, directors, mentors, and future leaders who return home and create opportunities for many more people.

One person attends Harmony University, becomes inspired, and helps establish an ensemble. That ensemble may introduce dozens of young singers to barbershop. Some of those singers may form quartets, become directors, join chapters, or eventually create opportunities of their own.

That is how sustainable growth begins.

More Opportunities Are Taking Shape

Demand for Next Gen programming continues to grow—and so does the number of initiatives developing across our District.

One exciting example is the **Harmony on the River Festival**, being offered in conjunction with **Harmony Academy**. Opportunities like this give young singers a place to learn, perform, connect, and experience the excitement of singing together at a high level.

New ensembles such as AVX and the **Badger Belles**, a developing treble chorus in the Manitowoc area, are also expanding the ways younger singers and emerging musicians can participate in barbershop.

Badger Belles will be directed by **Jennifer Kasten**, an educator with an extensive musical background that includes operatic training and advanced work in Estill Voice Training. Jennifer is one of several emerging educators whose specialized knowledge could become a tremendous resource for our District.

Part of our responsibility is to identify these educators, connect them with our membership, and give them meaningful opportunities to teach and lead.

We are also building stronger relationships with Next Gen leaders throughout the Barbershop Harmony Society as we explore future possibilities involving youth choruses, quartets, Midwinter, education, festivals, and other programming.

The interest is there. The ideas are there. Most importantly, the young singers are there.

Looking Ahead to the Parade of Checks

I am very much looking forward to this year's **Parade of Checks**, which will take place during our **House of Delegates meeting at the Land O' Lakes District Fall Convention**.

This important tradition gives our chapters and choruses an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to the future of barbershop harmony.

Summer Next Gen Update

(Continued)

To every chorus that has supported youth and Next Gen programming in the past... and to those preparing to participate this fall thank you.

Your contributions do much more than help pay registration or travel expenses. You are giving young people access to experiences that can change the direction of their musical lives.

Your support helps singers attend Harmony University and Midwinter, receive coaching, participate in festivals, meet future quartet partners, develop leadership skills, and discover a community in which they belong.

Every contribution matters. When the generosity of our chapters and choruses is combined, it gives the District the ability to reach more young singers and sustain more initiatives.

The Parade of Checks is more than a fundraising tradition. It is a visible declaration that the Land O' Lakes District believes in its young singers and is prepared to invest in them.

I encourage every chapter and chorus to consider how it can participate when we gather for the House of Delegates meeting this fall.

Your support could provide scholarships, coaching, festival experiences, Harmony University and Midwinter assistance, quartet development, educator training, outreach, and other youth initiatives throughout the District.

More importantly, it would allow us to plan proactively. Instead of discovering an opportunity and then asking whether we can afford to help, we could build opportunities knowing that our membership stands behind them.

To keep barbershop thriving for our next generation, we need your help.

Please consider making a contribution, encouraging your chorus to participate in the Parade of Checks, sponsoring a young singer, inviting students to a rehearsal, teaching someone a tag, or connecting a local music educator with our District.

There is a role for everyone, and every act of support matters.

To every chorus that has supported youth and Next Gen programming in the past... and to those preparing to participate this fall thank you.

The Future Is Already Singing

Next Gen activity across the Land O' Lakes District is moving in an extremely positive direction.

Young singers from Madison, Saskatoon, and Winnipeg are becoming more deeply involved. Potential quartet activity is developing in Manitoba. Educators are returning from Harmony University inspired to create new programs. AVX, the Badger Belles, and the Harmony on the River Festival are opening additional doors for participation and education.

Our responsibility now is to turn this momentum into lasting growth.

That will require funding, relationships, mentorship, and the continued support of our chapters, choruses, quartets, and individual members. It will require all of us to notice young singers, invite them in, and help remove the barriers standing between them and their next opportunity.

Sometimes that opportunity is a trip to Harmony University. Sometimes it is a scholarship, a festival, a new youth chorus, or a first quartet rehearsal.

Sometimes it is simply a tag and a conversation.

Together, we can ensure that the next generation does not merely discover barbershop harmony. We can give them the support they need to lead it forward.

Annual House of Delegates, Board of Directors Meeting

Submitted by Tyler T. Hall, District Secretary



REMINDERS: Annual House of Delegates / Board of Directors Meeting



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
2:00 PM**



MINNEAPOLIS AIRPORT HILTON HOTEL
3800 American Blvd E.,
Bloomington, MN 55425

during the **Land O'Lakes District
Fall Convention –**
“People Connecting Through Harmony”



FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

It is time to prepare for our Annual House of Delegates and Annual Board of Directors Meeting. Your timely reports and updates ensure accurate information for the Official Call and the continued strength of our District.



BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Please submit your
ANNUAL REPORTS.
Include highlights, accomplishments,
challenges, and plans for the future.



CHAPTER SECRETARIES

Please submit **CHAPTER ETERNALS**
(those who passed in your Chapter
over the last year) into the BHS
website or to the District Secretary.



ALL CHAPTERS

Please update the following
information:

- Chapter Officers & Contact Info
- Chorus Info (including Directors)
- Meeting Place and Times



**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION & REPORTS
BY END OF DAY ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

*So it can be compiled
for the Official Call.*



Please send all information, reports, and items to:

Tyler T. Hall, District Secretary
secretary@loldistrict.org

701-213-7636
loldistrict.org

Keep the whole world singing—one song at a time!

Contest & Judging Update

Submitted by James Estes, Vice President, Contest & Judging

WOW! With a little less than 2 weeks to register for this fall's contest, we already have THIRTY quartets entered! Most of you hopefully saw my message in LOL-Notes (Thank you, Tom Arneberg!) that with so many quartets, feedback sessions for quartets who don't advance to the Saturday Quartet Finals are going to be challenging. Some quartets will see shorter sessions, and a few (later entries) may not be able to get feedback. If you think there is *any chance that your entire quartet will not be in attendance at feedback, please consider opting out and letting another, complete quartet step in. I am already working with our Administrative Judging Panel on creative schedule ideas, but our judges need sleep too, so they can be at their best for the Saturday Chorus Contest and Quartet Finals.

"So you wanna be a judge?" This is not only a great class to take at Harmony University in the summer, but it's also a question you should answer soon if you're thinking about applying. Right now, the window is open for judges to apply to any of the judge categories: Singing, Musicality, Performance, or Administrative. Applications are due DECEMBER 15, 2026. The application window for judging is only open once every three years, so if you don't apply by December 15, you'll have to wait until August 1, 2029*.

Interested? Email me at dir-cj@loldistrict.org for the application package. I'd also love to chat with you and make sure you have all your questions answered about the application process, judge candidacy, and judging in general. I will reach my 20-year anniversary as a certified judge next year, and promise you that it's an incredible opportunity to work with barbershoppers around the *world, and give back to this amazing art form.

I can't wait to see you all in 6 weeks in Bloomington! The Land O' Lakes Convention is like no other. The camaraderie, the tags, the laughs, and just seeing everyone under the same roof for an entire weekend makes it something I look forward to every year. Even if you're not competing in a chorus or quartet, please consider joining us. It will be a phenomenal weekend!

Land O' Lakes 2026 Fall Convention

Submitted by Grant Warning Sr., District VP Events

Welcome to the 2026 LOL District Fall Convention!

Ok, I know this is a little early, but bear with me.

If you haven't done it already, it is time to get registered here:

www.loldistrict.org/conventions. Sign up ASAP for the Saturday Showcase and Dinner (filling up fast). Don't forget about the All-Chapter Chorus, Fun Squad, Tagatorium, and all the other Fun stuff we get to do all under one roof. OMG, how could we miss that!

Rooms at the Hilton are filling up fast, you can reserve your room on the LOL website too.

My experience has been that my Barbershop friends become "Life Long Friends". Let's get some of that....

- **REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION** — Register online with your credit card or download a mail-in registration order form and send it in with your check. You can also order a Saturday lunch, the Showcase dinner (chicken or pork), or get a ticket for the Saturday evening show. Once you register, your badges and meal and event tickets will be ready for you when you arrive.



- **RESERVE YOUR ROOM** — Reserve a room at the Headquarters Hotel - MSP Airport Hilton Hotel, 3800 American Blvd E., Bloomington, MN 55425. This can be done on the LOL District Web Site above. Our special rate is \$115/night plus taxes.
- **CONTEST AND FESTIVAL REGISTRATION** — There will be a link on the Contest and Festival section of the registration webpage which opens August 1st. You must click on this link to register your chorus or quartet if you plan to sing in the contest or festival. Remember that all members of your chorus or quartet must also purchase an All-Events registration badge (\$75) for the convention. Contest and Festival registrations must be completed no later than midnight September 15th!
- **QUARTET CLINICS** (Pending-more to come) - If your quartet is not competing, but would like coaching, the District is offering free Quartet Clinics on Friday morning and a chance to perform in the afternoon. All you need is a quartet, two songs, and an All Contest Events registration badge.
- **ALL-CHAPTER CHORUS** (Pending-more to come) – Once again, the Northern Pines Harmony Brigade is helping sponsor the All-Chapter Chorus. For just \$10 you will get the music and the learning tracks. (Chorus Director TBD). This is another great opportunity for you to sing with some of the best!

We look forward to seeing you, and over 800 more barbershoppers, at our Fall Convention. People Connecting Through Harmony.

See you all soon!

Convention Registration – Or On-line at: www.loldistrict.org/conventions
Land O'Lakes Fall Convention
October 16-17, 2026

Name (First/Last):

Phone:

Email:

2nd Attendee Name (if applicable):

3rd Attendee Name (if applicable):

4th Attendee Name (if applicable):

Group Name on Badge - Chapter/Chorus/Quartet:

Event	Cost/Person	Quantity	Amount
All Contest Events Registration	\$75		
Saturday Showcase Dinner and Show	\$45		
Saturday Box Lunch	\$20		
Complete Convention Registration Package **	\$140		
Jr. Contest Events Registration (12 and under)	\$30		
Jr. Complete Convention Registration Package (12 and under) **	\$95		
Total enclosed			

** Complete Convention Registration Package includes access to all contests, Saturday Lunch and Saturday Showcase Dinner and Show

Menu Options for Showcase Dinner

Entrée Choice	Quantity
Pork	
Chicken	

If there are special dietary needs, please provide specifics:

.....
Individual Contest tickets go on sale 30 days prior to Convention and may be purchased at the Registration Desk for Friday Quartet, Saturday Chorus, or Saturday Quartet Finals. Cost: \$30/event

Registrations/Badges will be held at the Barbershop Convention desk at the Hilton Hotel.

Make check payable to: Land O'Lakes District

Mail to: Grant Warning

9350 281st Ave NW

Zimmerman, MN 55398

Any questions: contact Grant at: gawwolf@yahoo.com or 763-226-1447

Registrations are transferable, but not refundable within 30 days of the Convention.

Mail-In Registrations must be postmarked No Later Than October 2.

Preliminary District Convention Schedule

Submitted by Grant Warning Sr., District VP Events

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

LAND O'LAKES DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION

Oct 16-17, 2026 – Minneapolis Airport Hilton Hotel,

Friday - Oct 16

8:30 - 7:00	Registration/Ticket desk	2nd Floor - Foyer
8:00 - 12:00	Coaching (non-contest quartets)	Mtg Rms I-VIII, XI
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:00 - 2:00	Performances (coached quartets)	Ballroom Stage
12:30 - 1:15	ADC Board Meeting	VII Pelican Bay
1:15 - 3:00	ADC Membership Meeting/Rehearsal	VII Pelican Bay
2:00 - 3:00	House of Delegates Meeting	Riverside Rm
2:00 - 3:45	Stage Open for Inspection	Ballroom Stage
3:00 - 4:00	All Chapter Chorus Rehearsal	VIII Wood Duck
4:00 - 9:50	Quartet Prelim Contest	Ballroom Stage
9:50 - 9:55	Barbershopper of the Year Award	Ballroom Stage
10:00 -12:00	Hospitality - Cash Bar	2nd Floor - Foyer
10:00 - 12:00	AHSOW	1 st Floor – Meadows
10:05 -12:00	Quartet Feedback Sessions	As Assigned

Saturday - Oct 17

8:00 - 1:30	Registration/Ticket desk	2nd Floor Foyer
7:30 - 8:45	Stage Open for Inspection	Ballroom Stage
9:00 -12:00	Chorus Contest	Ballroom Stage
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch break	Pre-order/A La Carte
1:00 - 2:50	Quartet Finals contest	Ballroom Stage
2:50 - 3:10	Hall Of Fame Award & Jukebox Swan	Ballroom Stage
3:10 - 3:30	Chorus/Quartet Contest Results	Ballroom Stage
3:30 - 6:30	Chorus/Quartet Feedback Sessions	Mtg Rms I-VIII
3:30 - 6:30	Fun Squad Activities	2nd Floor – Foyer
3:30 - 6:30	AHSOW	1st Floor – Meadows
4:00 - 5:00	BHS Listening Session	Riverside RM
4:15 - 5:00	ADC Chorus Rehearsal	Ballroom
6:30 - 7:15	Banquet Dinner	Ballroom
7:15 - 9:15	Showcase Show & Joe Liles Lifetime Achievement Award	Ballroom
9:15 - 1:00	Afterglow/Hospitality/AHSOW	Mtg Rms I-VIII, XI

District Convention Showcase

Submitted by Jay Althof

The Greatest Barbershop Show on Earth!

Okay, that might be a slight exaggeration—but the Showcase performance at our upcoming District Convention is truly a **not-to-be-missed event!**

This year's show will open with the **All-Chapter Chorus**, followed by the **Association of District Quartet Champions Chorus**, which will honor the legacy of our own **Bob Dowma**. Then, get ready for an incredible parade of barbershop talent as twelve—**yes, twelve—current and past District Champion quartets** take the stage to share their music!

One especially memorable highlight will be the celebration of the **50th anniversary of Talk Of The Town winning the District Quartet Contest**.

The Showcase is included with your **Complete Convention Registration**. You can also purchase a Banquet/Showcase ticket for \$45, or attend the Showcase only for \$20.

Be sure to register soon—we expect this to be a **sellout show!**

Here's the lineup!

- All-Chapter Chorus
- Association of District Quartet Champions Chorus
- 2026 District Quartet Champion
- **Talk Of The Town** - 1976 District Champion (50th Anniversary)
- **Checkmate** - 1996 District Champion (30th Anniversary)
- **Bravo** - 2001 District Champion (25th Anniversary)
- **Vocality** - 2007 District Champion
- **GQ** - 2011 District Champion
- **Kordal Kombat** - 2013 District Champion
- **Chord Smash!** - 2015 District Champion
- **Coulee Classic** - 2021 District Champion
- **Chill Factor** - 2023 District Champion
- **Spice** - 2024 District Champion
- **Jukebox** - 2025 District Champion

It's going to be an extraordinary celebration of the Land O' Lakes District's barbershop history, talent, and tradition. **We hope to see you there!**

District Convention All-Chapter Chorus

Submitted by Randy Rogers, All-Chapter Chorus Coordinator

All-Chapter Chorus Gaining District-Wide Momentum

The All-Chapter Chorus continues to grow, bringing singers together from across the LOL District. As of this week, **38 singers** have registered — **8 women** and **30 men** — representing a wide range of chapters across our 36-chapter district.

Participation continues to rise, with singers stepping forward from every corner of the district. The goal remains simple: **every chapter represented by at least one singer**.

The All-Chapter Chorus is designed to be **low-pressure and fully accessible**. Music and learning tracks are available instantly, and singers may join rehearsals if they wish — but participation in the performance is open to all.

This year also features an additional singing opportunity: the **Mic Tester Chorus** for Saturday morning's chorus contest. No rehearsals, no pressure — just a quick warm-up and two familiar songs to kick off the event with district-wide spirit. It's open to **everyone**, whether or not they're part of the All-Chapter Chorus.

Registration closes October 1, 2026, and all singers — chapter members, directors, district leaders, and quartet champions — are invited to join the celebration.

Register at:

<https://www.tunesfor4.com/shop/lol-district-all-chapter-chorus>

Fall Convention Volunteer Opportunities

Submitted by Terry Wheeler, 2026 Convention Backstage Coordinator

Thank you to all the volunteers that have agreed to help as ushers, ready room coordinators, runners and riser crew for this year's fall convention. We still need a few more volunteers to fill out all the shifts. Here is a description of each position and the time commitments.

Usher:

Location of doors:

- Doors 1 & 2 (near registration): Audience entry/exit
- Door 3: Judges only
- Door 4: Performers/backstage personnel exit

Duties:

- Open doors before each contest begins.
- Close doors promptly when the emcee says, "Ushers, please close the doors."
- Remain inside to keep doors closed until applause signals the end of each performance.

Ready Room Coordinator:

Purpose: Manage performer movement from dressing rooms to Ready Room, ensuring groups are on time and informed.

Responsibilities:

- Post contest schedules in dressing rooms (provided by BSM/Contest Manager).
- Greet groups in dressing rooms in advance, explain the process, and keep them informed.
- Escort each group to Ready Room at scheduled time.
- Notify backstage staff via radio which group is in the Ready Room.
- Coordinate with BSM, who signals when a group leaves Ready Room.
- Keep next group prepared once Ready Room is occupied.

Runner:

Purpose: Manage performer belongings and guide them after performances. This is the most physically active role.

Responsibilities:

- Provide carts for performer belongings.
- At stage entrance: performers place personal items on cart.
- Move cart around auditorium to stage exit.
- At exit: return belongings to quartets, or escort choruses to stairs for group photos (placing items on table/cart at stairs if needed).
- Ensure carts are in correct location:
 - Quartets: Stage entrance.
 - Choruses: Outside Ready Room.

Riser Crew:

Move risers from trailer to stage or ready room on Thursday afternoon/Friday morning. On Saturday afternoon, relocate risers to ballroom in time for the ADC Chorus rehearsal.

Shifts available for Ushers, Ready Room Coordinators and Runners:

- Friday, October 16: 3:30-5:30; 5:30-7:45; 7:45-9:45 (Quartets)
- Saturday, October 17: 8:30-10:45; 10:45-12:00 (Choruses) 12:30-3:30 (Quartets)

Riser Crew:

- Thursday afternoon (exact time TBD)
- Friday morning (exact time TBD)
- Saturday, October 17: 1:00

Please e-mail or text Terry Wheeler your availability. Thank you for your consideration.

ttwheeler55413@gmail.com
605-321-1607

Bob Dowma enDowment

Submitted by LOL ADC Project Team (Jay, Jay, Rick, Dan, and Marty)

May the Overtone Linger On!

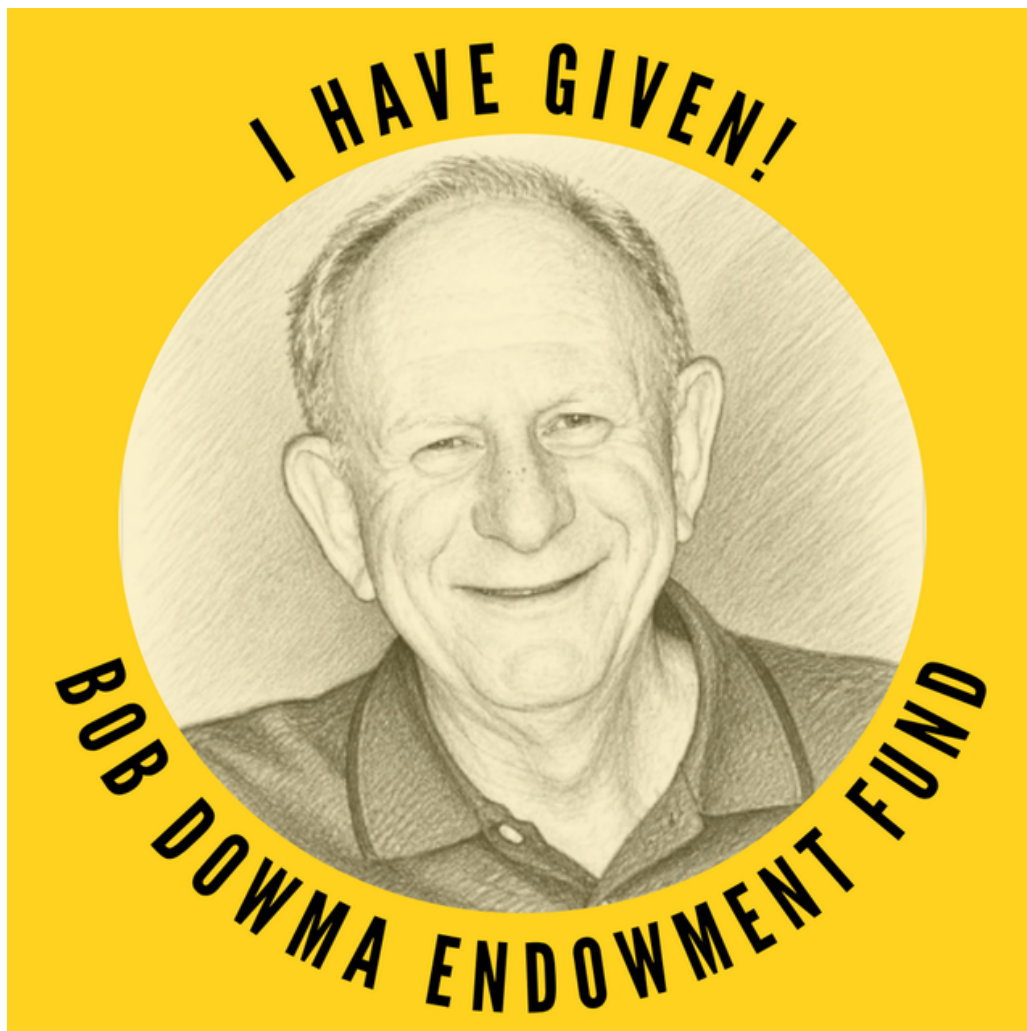
The Land O'Lakes Association of District Champions and LOL District are pleased to announce the establishment of the **Bob Dowma enDowment**, with an initial goal of \$50,000.

Bob was a **LOL District** and 1975 International Quartet Champion with **Happiness Emporium**, renowned barbershop arranger, longtime volunteer treasurer, and joyful champion of great singing. Few things made Bob smile bigger than hearing that magical overtone created when voices lock in perfect harmony.

Managed in partnership with the Barbershop Harmony Society, the enDowment will **preserve gifts in perpetuity, generating annual support** for quartet development, artistic leadership, arranging, coaching, and barbershop education throughout LOL.

And there's a new tag to learn before our October 16–17 Minneapolis convention: **"May the Overtone Linger On!"** You can find the track on the Convention web page: <https://loldistrict.org/conventions>

Join us in honoring Bob and helping his legacy—and the harmony he loved—ring on for generations.



Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony

Submitted by Jay Althof

Are You Qualified to Receive the Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony Degree?

Have you spent time learning tags, ringing chords, volunteering for chapter duties, attending rehearsals, serving in leadership, or generally finding new ways to fall deeper into this wonderfully addictive hobby we call barbershop harmony? If so... you might already be working toward a degree — no student loans required!

The **Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony Degree (BBHD)** is an honorary recognition awarded to Land O' Lakes District Barbershoppers who have shown dedication to improving themselves, helping others, and strengthening our Society. It celebrates members who have enthusiastically jumped into the many areas of barbershopping — singing, learning, teaching, organizing, supporting, and occasionally helping carry risers or stack chairs.

Recipients of this prestigious (and completely tuition-free) degree demonstrate a commitment to growing their musical knowledge, expanding their skills, and helping make barbershop harmony more enjoyable for everyone. Even better, their efforts help bring the joy of our craft to audiences and communities throughout our district.

So... How Do You Earn This Coveted (and Frame-Worthy) Degree?

No finals. No term papers. No dorm life. Just barbershop!

Using the application form below as your roadmap, calculate your total points based on your involvement in barbershop activities over the years. If your grand total reaches 300 points or more, congratulations! You are eligible to receive the Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony Degree and an official certificate signed by the current Land O' Lakes District President — suitable for framing, bragging rights, or displaying prominently near your pitch pipe collection.

Here's What To Do Next

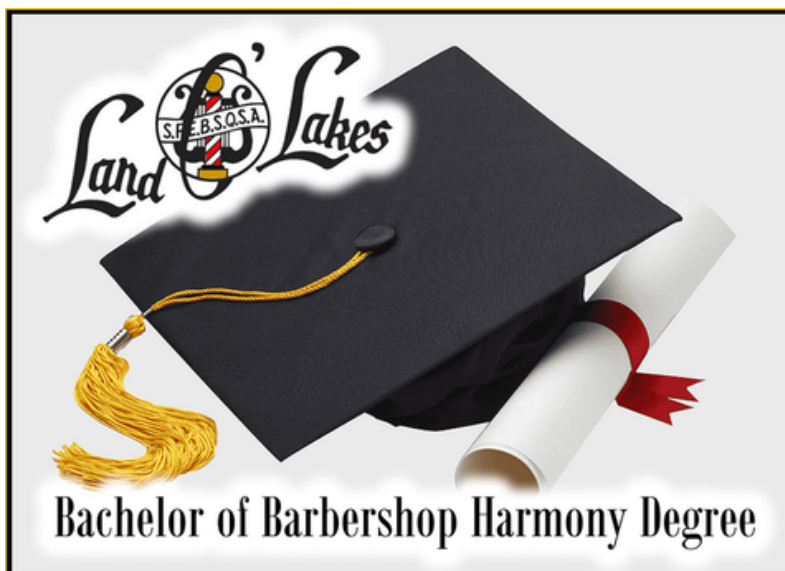
1. Complete the application form (on the next page — or on our District Website)
2. Have it verified by your Chapter President or a District Officer
3. Send it to Todd Smith who will work with the Dean of Admissions, John Plazek and his team to confirm your application:

Todd Smith

✉ Email: tgsemail@gmail.com

✉ Mail: 611 S Holcombe St., Stillwater, MN 55082

☎ Questions? Call Todd at (651) 202-6056





Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony Degree



Congratulations! You've done REALLY WELL. You are applying for the LO'L District Bachelor of Barbershop Harmony Degree. Complete this form once you have reached a score of 300 or higher. The completed form MUST be authenticated and forwarded by the chapter president or a district officer. Submit form to Todd Smith: EMAIL - tgsemail@gmail.com or DIRECT MAIL - 611 So. Holcombe St. Stillwater, MN 55082

ACHIEVEMENT

POINTS

Personal Involvement:

Years of Society Membership – 5 per year (max 50)

Registered Quartet Member – 25 (max 25)

Quartet Contestant – 10 each (max 30)

Pole Cat Songs Learned – 2 each (max 50)

Chorus or Quartet Coach – 20 each (max 20)

Man-of-Note – 2 per each member brought in (max 20)

Attendance at District Harmony Education Schools (COTS, LTA, Harmony Academy, Mini-Hep – 20 each (max 60)

Attendance at International Harmony Education Schools – 25 each (max 75)

Chapter Involvement:

Chapter BOTY – 30 (max 30)

Chapter Officer – 20 per office held (max 60)

Chorus Director – 50 (max 50)

Chorus Assistant Director or Section Leader – 20 (max 20)

Chorus Contestant – 10 each (max 30)

Committee Chair, Show Committee, Bulletin Editor – 10 per year (max 30)

District Involvement:

District BOTY – 40 (max 40)

District Mentor, Liaison, Area Counselor – 20 (max 20)

District Officer or District Committee Member – 30 (max 30)

International Involvement:

International Board or Committee Member – 20 each (max 40)

Candidate judge – 25 (max 25)

Certified Judge – 50 (max 50)

TOTAL POINTS (300 or above required)

AUTHETICATION (by Chapter President or District Officer) | Date Signed _____

Member (print): _____ Chapter: _____

Member Address: _____

Authenticator's Name (print): _____ Signature: _____

Harmony Academy 2027

Submitted by Brian Schultz

SAVE THE DATE



There will be a wide range of elective class topics for all barbershoppers, as well as core classes for chapter officers. You will have several opportunities to sing and socialize with old friends and make some new ones.

The Harmony Academy faculty will include:

Dan Wessler – Director of The Westminster Chorus and 2018 Gold Medalist with After Hours Quartet

Don Fuson – Past BHS International President

Bob Cox – BHS Certified Training Facilitator

Scott Kvigne – Visual Performance Coach/Clinician

Watch for more details (and a few surprises) at the L'OL District Convention and in future issues of the Pitch Piper.

Rudy Zarling Memories

Submitted by John Plazek

Rudolph Henry Milton Zarling Jr., affectionately known as "Rudy," peacefully passed away on August 1, 2026, in Cedarburg, Wisconsin at the age of 95! He was born on May 31, 1931, in Kirchhayn, Wisconsin and graduated from Cedarburg High School. Rudy served his country with honor in the Air Force, assisted in the development of jet propulsion system. It was during this time, the 1950's, that he also discovered his passion for singing, joining barbershop quartets that brought joy and entertainment to many.

Rudy was one of those special individuals whose love for barbershop harmony was matched only by his love for people. Throughout his life, he served as an ambassador for our hobby, sharing his remarkable talent, warm friendship, and infectious enthusiasm wherever he went. Rudy had a passion for promoting Youth in Harmony efforts throughout the district. In recognition of his extraordinary service and dedication to the Land O' Lakes District and the Barbershop Harmony Society, Rudy was honored as our **2011 Land O' Lakes District Hall of Fame** recipient and **2019 LO'L District Barbershopper of the Year**.

After his military service, Rudy transitioned into the world of finance as a financial planner, founding his own business and making a meaningful impact in the lives of his clients. In June of 1957, he married the love of his life, Carol, their marriage was blessed with two daughters, Denise Zarling and Nola (Brian) Zemlicka. Rudy's commitment to family was unwavering, and he cherished every moment spent with them, especially his grandson, Ethan Zemlicka.

Rudy's thirst for knowledge and education led him to help establish the Northern Cross Science Foundation, where he contributed to the pursuit of scientific inquiry and discovery. Additionally, Rudy took on the role of Ronald McDonald in the Green Bay area, bringing smiles and laughter to many. His love for music remained a cornerstone of his life, participating in many barbershop quartets throughout his life. His talents culminating in his quartet, **"Harmony"**, winning the title of **International Seniors Quartet Champions** in 2001, a testament to his dedication and passion for the craft.

Rudy was a member of the Milwaukee Festival City Chorus until his eyesight became very bad. Driving from Cedarburg to Milwaukee was a challenge.

Rudy touched so many people's lives during his 95 years. If you crossed paths with him, you immediately knew he was a special person.

Rest in peace, my friend...



Social Media Success

Submitted by Loring Harrop

What We Learned on Our Way to 25,000 Followers...

Part 2 — The Real Competition Is the Screen

When you first start out, it's easy to fall into the trap of viewing other local singing groups as your biggest rivals. With so many incredible groups right here in our backyard—like the **Minneapolis Commodores**, **Croix Chordsmen**, **Great Northern Union**, and **The Journeymen**, alongside wonderful unaffiliated groups like **Mixed Company Singers** and the brilliant ensembles under the **SingUnited** umbrella including **Lake Country Chorus**, **Vallee de Croix**, **Twin Cities Show Chorus**, and **City of Lakes**—you might think we're all fighting over the same pool of prospective members.

We decided that mindset is entirely wrong.

The Real Rival: The Glowing Rectangle

We aren't competing with the chorus down the street for singers or audience members. **Our actual competition—and yours—is the screen.**

Television, streaming binges, and smartphones command hours of people's attention every single day. If we want people to step away from their living rooms, leave their phones behind, and come out to a live performance or join a rehearsal, we have to fight for their time. And you simply cannot win that battle by fighting each other.

That realization completely changed how we approach our local music community. Instead of treating other groups like competitors, we realized we need to work together to keep live vocal music alive and visible.

Putting Collaboration Into Action

We wanted to turn that philosophy into reality. At events like the Como Chorus Cascade, we welcome amazing visiting choruses who travel in from across central Minnesota and NW Wisconsin—including the Polk County Indianhead Chorus, St. Cloud Singing Saints, and Mankato Riverblenders—to share the stage with us. Meanwhile, our local metro counterparts and the SingUnited groups set up informational tables in the wings, giving audience members a chance to explore all the local

options in one place, discover where they might want to sing next, and learn about the wider community.

If you're curious about all the options right here in our backyard, you can check out our local directory over on our [Find Your Harmony](#) page.

That spirit of connection even brought out local online friends like **@MindylInMinne** and **@BryannaMidwest**, who stopped by and shared the experience with their own online communities afterward.

Finding Our Allies

You can't build a community in a vacuum. A huge part of our growth came from connecting with people who share our exact values—down-to-earth, local, and family-friendly.

Take creators like [Yoooper Janet](#), for example. Based in Alexandria, Minnesota, she creates fun, relatable content that leans hard into the humorous side of the Minnesota identity. Because our brands spoke the same language, collaborating felt completely natural. When your online presence reflects who you actually are in real life, finding your people—and your partners—becomes a whole lot easier.

How This Actually Gets You to 25,000 Followers

So, how does a down-to-earth identity and a spirit of collaboration translate into numbers on a screen—like growing to over 25,000 followers on Facebook and building a community of 5,000+ on TikTok?

It happens because when you stop trying to be a generic "chorus" and start acting like a distinct local performer, people want to share what you do. When you team up with other groups instead of guarding your territory, you stop shouting into a void and start building a collective megaphone.

And we're just getting started. All of this collaboration is laying the groundwork for the **#MarchToMinneapolis2027** campaign, leading up to the big international convention coming right here to the Twin Cities next July.

Social Media Success

(Continued)

Signs You're on the Right Track

You don't need fancy spreadsheets or corporate buzzwords to know your foundation is working. Look for these everyday signs in your own community:

- **People recognize your flavor:** Strangers start repeating your tagline or recognizing your specific brand/personality before they've even heard you sing a note.
- **Other groups wave and collaborate:** When peer organizations share your posts, invite you to share space in their wings, or happily send a singer your way because they're a better fit elsewhere, you know the local ecosystem is thriving.

- **The comment section feels like a neighborhood:** Instead of just getting random thumbs-up from ghosts, your posts spark actual conversations between locals who care about your area.
- **Digital curiosity turns into real-world seats:** You notice that people who found you through a quick video online are actually showing up to your parking lot concerts, local parks, and community shows.

Don't forget to follow a new group or two regularly on social media to show support. Liking, sharing and **commenting** on their posts can be a real shot in the arm as well. This is the sort of public relations that's entirely in our hands and requires no \$\$\$\$. We'll see you in October!

#MarchToMinneapolis2027 Campaign

Submitted by Loring Harrop

Leading up to International in Minneapolis-St. Paul in 2027, we're telling the barbershop world about our home.

If you, your members or supporters have social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram or TikTok, please look for our posts each Wednesday at 1:00 when a different chorus or quartet delivers a warm welcome to our friends from around the world. Please like, share and, most importantly, comment in support (mention a favorite competitor or your own chapter or just post an emoji).

If you'd care to take part, record a video from a phone in portrait mode of your group shouting "Welcome to ____ ... we're ____!" giving your town or region and your chorus or quartet name. If you'd care can record in your group's uniform, or in front of a local landmark, even better.

For those coming to the LOL convention in October, we'll try to have a videographer on hand when group pictures are taken at the competition in case that's more convenient.

Contact Marketing@NorthStarChorus.org with questions or to share video.

Online, look for the hashtag [#MarchToMinneapolis2027](https://twitter.com/MarchToMinneapolis2027) or follow us [@NorthStarChorus](https://twitter.com/NorthStarChorus).

Let's make this the best attended international in recent years.

A Homecoming for Harmony: The Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival Returns to Its Roots

Submitted by Amanda Purvis

What happens when a 30-member chapter decides to invest heavily in the future of vocal music? Magic, momentum, and a whole lot of ringing chords.

For the past decade, the Stevens Point Chapter's Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival has served as a cornerstone of youth outreach, connecting high school singers across the state with the unique joy of four-part close harmony. But as the festival prepares for its 2027 contest, it's not just building on past success—it's heading back to where it all began. Our new home will be at the Franciscan Center for Music Education and Performance in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Following an in-depth review of participant logistics, festival leadership discovered that returning "home" offered a major win-win for almost everyone involved. Travel data and feedback revealed that moving to Manitowoc significantly eases travel logistics for nearly all participating school programs while streamlining operations for the dedicated volunteers who make the event possible.

The venue change represents a full-circle moment for a festival that started with a simple dream. Founded in 2015 through the vision of Bill Schmitt and regional barbershop leaders, the event—originally named the Wisconsin High School Barbershop Quartet Festival—was designed to give young musicians a warm, encouraging environment to perform for certified judges and receive high-level coaching.

Over the years, that initial concept expanded into a vibrant educational weekend featuring tag-singing clinics, vocal instruction, and masterclasses in world-class performance spaces like the Endries Concert Hall. The impact speaks for itself:

- **Elevating Young Performers:** Dozens of treble, treble/bass, and mixed quartets have graced the festival stage. Quartets such as Vintage Mix and YTBN demonstrate the Festival's ability to launch young singers into broader opportunities within the barbershop community. Standouts like YTBN vaulted from the Wisconsin youth stage to winning the international Next Generation Junior Quartet Championship in 2023.

- **Empowering Music Educators:** The festival offers directors direct access to barbershop techniques, helping them integrate a cappella and close-harmony singing straight into their school curricula.
- **Building Practical Skills:** "We always teach 'The Star-Spangled Banner' so the quartets can perform back at their schools for assemblies and sporting events," says Festival Chair Ken Bester. "We want to help them make close harmony an ongoing part of their lives."

The enthusiasm surrounding the event is infectious. "Barbershop teaches a great deal of independence for the students," notes Gustavo Chaviano, choir director at Arrowhead High School. "The quartets take ownership by learning independently, then come back to work on style. It trains their ears remarkably well."

Shawn Goodmanson, director at St. Croix Falls High School and a Wisconsin state music judge, agrees: "Can middle and high school students handle barbershop music? A resounding 'yes.' It's an accessible, enriching art form for our students."

Coming off a banner 2026 event that featured 17 quartet entries, a worldwide YouTube livestream, and guest coaching from Lakefront and Sweet Addiction quartet, the stage is set for an unforgettable homecoming at the Franciscan Center for Music Education and Performance in 2027.

At its heart, the Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival isn't just about trophies or scores—it's about confidence, camaraderie, and community. By returning to its original roots, the festival is ensuring that the next generation of singers will have an even stronger foundation to find their voice, ring standard chords, and carry the tradition forward.

<https://Youthharmonyfest.org>

Northern Pines Harmony Brigade 2027

Submitted by Dave 'Spider' Speidel

Have you ever gone to the district convention and come away wishing that you could have done more quartetting? Or – perhaps that you wanted to sing more than just a tag and polecats? I'm guessing you're not alone. We'll be looking for guys thirsting to enrich their barbershop souls and get involved with a fun-filled, nonstop quartet singing experience at our 2027 Northern Pines Rally. We've already got the music preparation completed so that registrants will have more than enough time to learn the 10 great charts for this year's Rally.

There will be plenty of Brigade members at the convention who can provide you with more details – but most importantly how much fun you'll have when you attend.

We will plan on having a hotel room for guys to come and do some singing and talk to us more about our Rally at the fabulous Crowne Plaza Hotel & Convention Center in Plymouth, MN. The songs are great. The food is great. The school singout program is fabulous. The quartet contests are fun. But most importantly, you'll come away with a great quartet experience and new barbershop buddies from all over the country. Stay tuned for an announcement on our registration launch date. I hope to sing a song or two with you at LO'L Convention.

Heart o' Lakes Harmony Chorus in the News

Shared by Brent Gerber, Vice President, West Division

Keep the whole world singing!

What does a Monday night with the Heart O' Lakes Harmony Chorus look like from the back row?

Local columnist Sue Wilken has had a front-row... well, back-row... seat to nearly 20 years of rehearsals, performances, church sing-outs, bus rides and barbershop camaraderie.

In a recent Fergus Falls Journal column, she shares a warm, personal look at the men behind the music, why they keep showing up, and why she keeps coming along.

Read the full article in the [Fergus Falls Journal](#)

2027 LOL Quartet Boot Camp

Submitted by Josh Umhoefer, Quartet Boot Camp Coordinator

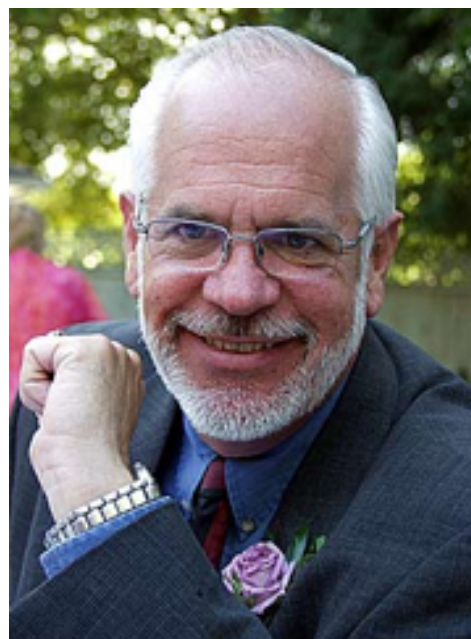
In 2026, the LOL District and the LOL Association of District Champions were so generous in pledging their financial support to resurrect LOL Quartet Boot Camp (formerly Top Gun) - a weekend of intensive quartet coaching.

We had such a successful event that we decided to plan farther ahead this year. The date for 2027 is March 5th to 7th, at the Sheraton Minneapolis West in Minnetonka, MN.

Our coaches for 2027 will be Darin Drown (singing), Steve Armstrong (musicality), and Marty Lovick (performance).

We are fortunate to have all quartet spots filled already – with Jukebox, Spice, Triple Threat, Kordal Kombat, and Sweet Addiction!

More information to come – but we're looking forward to an amazing weekend of coaching in March!



Jukebox Swan Song

Submitted by Jukebox

A quick Jukebox update... 🎵

Last year, we were fortunate to have come home with the LOL Quartet Champion trophy, and we shared how important it was for us to be a part of the LOL District by coming to contest each year, and assisting the district in any way we can.



However, due to a very important scheduling conflict—Ian's best friend getting married the same weekend as our LOL District Contest—we WILL be at LOL Contest in Minneapolis, but we'll have a special guest joining us on lead! We're excited to welcome Don Hettinga, lead of LOL District Champion Grand Design, to the Jukebox lineup for the weekend.

For this reason, we will not be competing for prelims – however we will be Mic Testing, and singing away the LOL Trophy and performing on the ADC Show/Showcase.

A huge thank you to Don for stepping in and singing with us! We're looking forward to a great contest weekend and seeing all of you in Minneapolis! 🎤🎵

Your 2025 LOL Quartet Champion,
-Jukebox

Terry, Ian, Josh, Jeremy – and Don 😊



Northwoods Quartet Takes Second Place at the Great Minnesota Get-Together

Submitted by Tom Arneberg

Quartet shines at State Fair Talent Contest semifinals and on live country radio

We had a blast singing at the nation's best state fair! After the auditions in July, the Northwoods Quartet earned a spot at the semifinals of the Minnesota State Fair Talent Contest on Friday, August 28. We performed our "Auction Medley" to the delight of about 1,500 people at the Luther Auto Bandshell near the Space Tower. (That song is a combination of "Grundy County Auction" and "The Auctioneer," taking advantage of our lead Dan Heike's profession as a real-life auctioneer.)

According to my extremely unbiased wife Beth, Northwoods was the clear audience favorite. Alas, we were narrowly edged out by a powerhouse vocal performance of a song from Wicked, just missing a spot in Sunday's Grandstand finals.

But we were still pretty happy with second place – we got a cash prize! Not quite the \$10,000 grand prize that attracts a lot of great acts, but enough for some of that classic fair food, and gas money for our 100-mile journey from the Eau Claire area.

Earlier in the day we also got to sing live on the air at BOB-FM, a country radio station broadcasting near the Horse Barn whose personality, Jim Erickson, said he loves a cappella harmony and that "The world needs more barbershop!"

We filled our time between the 1:00 pm radio slot and the 5:00 pm contest call with other performances around the fair, including a serenade under the Grandstand ramp to my former intern and her fiancé the day before their wedding. (She chose "Dream a Little Dream of Me.")

We got a little warm that day wearing our black pants and vests and our brand-new black cowboy hats, and navigating the streets was tough with the record-setting crowd of 204,065 people. But we agree with the radio host – we can never have too much barbershop in this world!



Northwoods Quartet sang in the semifinals of the Minnesota State Fair Talent Contest on Friday, August 28, 2026. Left to right: Tom Arneberg (baritone), Dan Heike (lead), Steve Hein (bass), Randy Lieble (tenor)

Vocality in Action!

Submitted by Vocality

Vocality Is Busy!

If you ever wonder whether Vocality is still performing after 19 years, the answer is an emphatic **absolutely!** So far, we have completed 10 of the 15 shows booked for 2026—and there is still plenty more to come.

Our upcoming performances include the **Chordhustlers' Annual Show** in Windom on September 12 and the **North Star Chorus Annual Show** in Arden Hills on September 26. Both shows begin at 3:00 p.m. A little later, we look forward to performing at our District Convention in October and at **The Journeymen Chorus Show** on November 7, also in Arden Hills. TWO shows at 3:00 p.m and 7:00 p.m.

A special thank-you to everyone who joined us in White Bear Lake on August 15th for our **11th Annual Concert From the Porch**. More than 200 people came out on what turned into a beautiful afternoon! We had a wonderful time and were delighted to welcome **CHORD SMASH!** as our guest quartet.

We continue to be proud and grateful to represent the **Land O' Lakes District**, and we would love the opportunity to perform for your chapter in the future!

Vocality

Jay, Tony, Tom, Ben
2007 District Champs
2016 LO'L Hall of Fame Quartet



Indianhead Barbershop Chorus 68th Harvest of Harmony Show

Submitted by Dan Valentine

The Indianhead Chorus, Polk County WI Chapter will be performing it's 68th annual fall Harvest of Harmony show in two locations- Barron WI and Amery WI.

This will be our 3rd year doing a fall show in Barron. We are expanding our audience and recruitment effort in Barron County. Barron had a very strong chapter back in the day (1966-2001) and featured a gold medal champion quartet on the vast majority of it's shows. The Barron Chapter had 70 men on stage in 1991 for its 25th anniversary show. A big hat tip to BHS 50+ year member Ken Gonske for his work in setting up our Barron shows. Ken was a member of the Barron Chapter and now sings with the Indianhead Chorus.

For the past seven springs the Indianhead Chorus has prepared and performed a free - will offering gospel show. All proceeds of the free-will offerings go to the hosting church charity of choice. The chapter bears all expenses . We feature a guest gospel quartet or group. We invite members of our local community to join us learning the music and performing with no strings attached. In the spring of 2026 we did two shows one in Luck WI and the other in Rice Lake WI two weeks apart. By any measure, the spring gospel shows have been our most successful recruitment vehicle for both audience and men who want to sing in the barbershop style.

Mark your calendar and join us on Saturday September 19th for our 68th Harvest of Harmony show in Barron WI at the Barron Area Community Center. Show time is 2 pm. Tickets available online at Indianheadchorus.org Our headliner quartet is Sunday Night Social from Denver. They were this year's 5th place medalist at international. Joining them is a local quartet Loose Change.

If you can't make that show join us at the Amery WI high school Saturday October 3rd for one or both of two shows. Our featured quartets are Vintage Blend, the 3rd place medalist at the 2026 Senior Quartet contest. Also joining us is another senior quartet Northwoods. Show times are 2 pm and 7 pm. Afterglow is at the Amery Community Center. Tickets are available online at Indianheadchorus.org.

The Indianhead Chorus sends a BIG THANK YOU to the Land O Lakes District for all of their support to our chorus over the years and for the work the LoL board does to support all the chapters. We have a pretty good thing going here.

IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER!



Minneapolis Commodores Show

Submitted by Steve Grady

The  *Minneapolis
Commodores* *Present*



Four Seasons of Singing in One Unforgettable Show

Commodores, MCX & Quartets
Featuring Just One More & Frostbite

Saturday September 12, 2026
3:02 PM

Minnehaha Academy
3100 West River Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55406



Scan for Tickets or
<https://bit.ly/4330Lhz>

Indianhead Chorus Show

Submitted by Dan Valentine and Dan Smith

Annual Harvest Of Harmony

The Best Of Broadway



Sunday Night Social



Loose Change

Performance Date:

Saturday Sept. 19th 2 PM

Location: Barron Area Community Center

Tickets: \$10 in Advance, \$15 At The Door

Tickets Call 715-234-4309

info@indianheadchorus.org

Indianhead Chorus Show

Submitted by Dan Valentine and Dan Smith

68th Annual Harvest Of Harmony

The Best Of Broadway



Performance Date:

Saturday Oct 3rd 2PM & 7PM

Location: Amery High School Auditorium

Tickets: \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door

Tickets available at Chet's Pharmacy in Amery, any chorus member or
Dan Smith (715) 268-2835. info@indianheadchorus.org

Quartets



ADC Scholarships Available

Did you know that the Association of District Champions has scholarships available for quartets or individuals?

Scholarships for what, you ask?
Contact Dave Baxter
(dbaxter9@att.net)

Calendar

September

- 12 Minneapolis | Commodores, MCX
Minnehaha Academy, Minneapolis, MN
-
- 12 Windom | Chordhustlers
The American Lutheran Church, Windom, MN
-
- Manitowoc | Clipper City Chordsmen
19 Franciscan Center for Music Education and
Performance, Manitowoc, WI
-
- 19 Stevens Point | Northern Gateway
Pacelli Catholic High School, Stevens Point, WI
-
- 19 Polk County | Indianhead Chorus
Barron Area Community Center, Barron, WI
-
- Lake Geneva | Lakes Area Country Gentlemen &
20 Ladies
Christian Arts Center, Lake Geneva, WI
-
- Greater St. Paul | North Star Chorus
26 3 p.m. Show: Northern Heights Church, Arden Hills, MN
6:30 p.m. Cabaret: VFW Roseville, MN

October

- 3 Polk County | Indianhead Chorus
Amery High School, Amery WI

November

- 7 The Journeymen Chorus
North Heights Church, Arden Hills, MN
-
- 12 Fargo - Moorhead | Great Plains Harmony
United Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND
-
- 21 Fargo - Moorhead | Great Plains Harmony
Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, MN
-
- 22 Fargo - Moorhead | Great Plains Harmony
Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, MN

December

- 2 Appleton | Fox Valleyaires
DoubleTree, Neenah, WI
-
- Lake Geneva | Lakes Area Country Gentlemen &
6 Ladies
Horticulture Hall, Lake Geneva, WI
-
- 8 Appleton | Fox Valleyaires
Neenah High School, Neenah, WI
-
- Manitowoc | Clipper City Chordsmen
19 Franciscan Center for Music Education and
Performance, Manitowoc, WI

For more Information on Chapter Shows, visit:
<https://loldistrict.org/chapter-shows>

Send show registrations to:

District Secretary, Tyler Hall
603 6th St NE
Mandan, ND 58554
(701) 213-7636
secretary@loldistrict.org

Future District & BHS Conventions

2026	October 16-17	LOL District Convention, Minneapolis Airport Hilton
2027	February 3-7	Midwinter, Virginia Beach, VA
2027	July 4-11	International Convention, Minneapolis, MN
2027	October 14-17	LOL District Convention, Location TBD
2028	July 2- 9	International Convention, Chicago, IL
2028	October 12-15	LOL District Convention, Location TBD