

# Land O'Lakes District

## *Lifetime Achievement Award*

### 2022

I am very pleased that this year we have a new District Level Award - The Joe Liles Lifetime Achievement Award. This was created to recognize those individuals who have made very significant positive contributions to our District over a long-period of time. The award is named in honor a long-time member of our District, Joe Liles whose positive impact on the District and Society was tremendous.

In this inaugural year of the award, we have two recipients.

Our first is awarded posthumously to: Jim Richards. Jim joined the society in 1953. Was the 1971 District Quartet Champ with the Red Barons and the 1991 International Seniors Quartet Champ with Grandma's Beaus. The list of administrative positions Jim held is both long and impressive. He held all the chapter offices with the Minneapolis Commodores. Was an area counselor, division VP, District Secretary, District President, International Board Member and Society President. He was also the consummate coach and teacher, as a contest judge, category specialist and harmony college faculty. He clearly loved making music and helping others enjoy barbershop, teaching tags and also playing bass fiddle.

Andy, please join me to accept this award on behalf of your father for all of the significant contributions he made to our District over so many years.

Our second recipient is: Del Ryberg. Del is a 64 year member of the society. Like Jim, Del has held every office with the Rochester chapter as well as several committee chairs. He has been an area counselor, Division VP, District Secretary, Executive VP, Events VP, and District President. Many of us will think of Del as the District Convention Chair and the person who developed the approach and templates we continue to use today. He has participated and chaired many, many District Committees. And he was also very active at the International Level leadership as a Board Member, International Planning Committee member, Chapter Officer Training School faculty and coordinator and several additional committees. One interesting item is that in 1985, as an International Board Member, Del voted "yea" when Joe Liles was hired as a Music Field Man. You may wonder who got Del started taking on all of these leadership roles – that person was, Jim Richards!

Please join me in congratulating one of my mentors, Del Ryberg!