



Land O' Lakes District Association of  
Chapters of SPEBSQSA Inc.  
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**2020 LO'L Leadership Training Academy - Lakes Chord College  
January 17-18, 2020 - UW-River Falls**



# The Pitch Piper

71 YEARS OF BARBERSHOP HARMONY

OVER 714,089 SQUARE MILES

Volume 71, Number 6

A Bulletin for Barbershoppers in the LO'L District

November - December 2019

## 2019 District Hall of Fame Induction

See the January/February 2020 Pitch Piper issue for more details of the HOF inductees... "The Rest of the Story"



Norman Starks, Beloit, WI presented by  
Judd Orff & joined by his daughters



Road Runners Quartet - 1972 LO'L  
District Champion



Bob Gall Racine, WI presented by  
Judd Orff & accepted by Don Doss

## District Champions!



2019 LO'L District Chorus Champion — **Great Northern Union** - Hilltop, MN - Scott Kuygne, Director



**2019 District Quartet Champion - First Avenue**  
Eric Renz, Jay Fahl, Brent Haagenson, Paul Tabone



**2019 District Seniors Quartet  
Champion - Seasonal Blend**  
Steven Schnabel, Tim Noteboom,  
Stan Andrist, Larry Slater



**Stalemate** - Harry Hanson, Brad  
Charles, Jim Franklin, Dave Baxter  
LO'L District Representative at  
Senior's International Quartet contest  
at Midwinter in Jacksonville, FL

## Calendar

NOTE: Dates shown on this page are for those activities that have proper clearance through the District Secretary. Please DO NOT send show registrations to the editor, DO notify:

BOB BREY, Secretary  
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rbwrey1950@gmail.com

2019

December

- 6 St. Cloud Area, MN  
Christmas Show
- 7 St. Croix Valley, MN  
Christmas Show
- 7 Minneapolis, MN  
Christmas Show
- 14 Greendale, WI  
Christmas Show

- 14 West Allis, WI  
Christmas Show
- 14 Manitowoc County, WI  
Christmas Show - Vintage Mix

2020

- January
- 7-12 Jacksonville, FL  
Midwinter Convention
  - 17-18 UW-River Falls  
LO'L Leadership Academy

March

- 28 Sauk Rapids, MN  
Central Region Contest

April

- 4 Dunn County, WI
- 4 St. Cloud, MN
- 4 St. Croix Valley, MN
- 18 Manitowoc County, WI  
Instant Classic
- 18 Appleton, WI  
After Hours

- 18 Mankato, MN
- 18 Windom, MN
- 25 Minneapolis, MN

May

- 1-2 Fargo, ND  
LO'L Convention and Int'l Prelims
- 1-2 Fargo, ND  
Western Region Contest
- 9 Appleton, WI  
Eastern Region Contest
- 16 Green Bay, WI

June/July

- 28-5 Los Angeles, CA  
International Convention

October

- 23-24 Rochester, MN  
LO'L Fall Convention





# Pitch Piper

The Pitch Piper is published bi-monthly by the Land O' Lakes District Association of Chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartets Singing in America, Inc.

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LO'L Home Page on the Internet: <http://loldistrict.org>

## I Have a Song to Sing!

Submitted by Gordon Billows  
LO'L District President



A big THANK YOU to Del Ryberg and his Fall Convention organizers and volunteers for another successful convention and taking care of the 1000 + 1

details and glitches along the way. Congratulations to all the choruses and quartets for entertaining their greatest fans – Barbershoppers! Also, wasn't it exciting to have so many LOL'ers singing the Pole Cat songs throughout the weekend (thank you Commodores). Hope the Pole Cat program continues at LTA and the Spring convention.

Special recognition goes out to our three 70 Year LOL members - Harold Casselman (Winnipeg), Roger Eisenman (Wausau) and Don Lamont (Eau Claire). All three are BARITONES!

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LO'L has a Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/LOLDistrictBHS/](http://www.facebook.com/LOLDistrictBHS/)

Several District Officers are passing their "batons" and retiring at the end of December – Carl Grahn (52 years), Art Gross, Mike Peplinski, Chuck Olson, Dennis Haight, Tom Webber and George Trudeau. Your contributions to LOL over the years are sincerely appreciated. There are now opportunities for others to take up the challenge of serving their District – contact a Board Officer to discuss some possibilities.

Most Chapters have entered their 2020 Chapter Officers on the Society website and have sent their Officer information to the LOL District Directory editor – Bob Fricke. If there is a "changing of the guard" in your Chapter – we thank the outgoing officers for their services and leadership. Welcome aboard to the new and returning officers. The LOL Administrative Team looks forward to working and communicating with you.

The 2020 listing of Chapter Advocates is being completed and will be sent to all Chapters soon. Chapter Presidents can

make arrangements with their Chapter Advocate to "formally" install their Chapter Officers. If your Chapter distributes a newsletter regularly, please consider adding your Chapter Advocate, District President and Executive Vice President to your newsletter contact list. I presently receive several newsletters and look forward to reading them and getting more familiar with our LOL chapters!

Our Leadership Training Academy (Jan. 17/18) continues to improve, year after year! The variety and relevance of LOL's LTA sessions are probably the best in the Society. Every chapter should definitely support some of their members attending this event. They will return with broad smiles on their faces, songs in their heart, and bursting with their new found Barbershop knowledge! All Chapters have been sent information on the many sessions available, but you can also find it by going to the LOL website at <http://www.loldistrict.org/>. Share a ride to

continued on page 5...



## Youth in Harmony - Real Men Sing at UWM

Submitted by Richard Marcus



800 High School boys

There were 1,025 young men who came to the **University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee** Zelazo Center to sing for most of day representing 43 area High Schools and 19 area Middle Schools. The annual event, under the direction of **Dr.**

**Zachary Durlam**, Associate Professor at the UWM Peck School of the Arts continues to generate excitement and interest in choral music. September 20th was indeed a Real Men Sing day at UWM.

The featured guest quartet was **The Border Project**, the 2017 District Champions of the Land O' Lakes. Singing three songs to 800 High School boys, it was obvious that these students loved to hear chords being rung.



The Border Project sang for the High School boys

The **Border Project** then moved on the UWM Ballroom to sing for the Middle School boys, who were directed by **Tony Mudra**, the Director of the UWM Women's Chorus. After The Border Project sang, Tony Mudra asked the students great questions on what they heard, loved, and learned.

The **Border Project** then went to talk with the music teachers in a separate room. They taught them a tag and all joined in. What a great barbershop experience that both the students and their teachers had.

The students got to see several songs sung by the **UWM Men's Chorus**, demonstrating the love of singing continues in college. Perhaps some of the High School boys could see themselves joining college choirs.

They ended the day with all the middle school boys singing two



L-R: Paul Hultgren, Matthew Hall, Robb Thiel, & Patrick Boehm

songs they learned as well as two songs from high school boys. Both groups together closed by singing a tag and **One More Song** provided free from the BHS. Bravo to UWM, **Dr. Zack Durlam**, and **The Border Project** for filling everyone's hearts with song.

## Thank You For Another Great Convention!

Submitted by First Ave Quartet

We had an excellent time at the District Fall Convention in Rochester and hope you all did, too. First, a big note of thanks to the Rochester Chapter and District C&J leadership for the time and energy they invested in hosting another successful convention & contest.



Congratulations to Seasonal Blend and all of our friends in the Great Northern Union on your respective Seniors and Chorus Championships. Your performances were great. Kudos!

The highlights of our convention were numerous; sharing two sets of our music from the contest stage, watching all the great past Champs on the ADC show, enjoying all the chorus performances, singing around in hospitality rooms, and seeing so many wonderful friends old and new. Needless to say, our weekend was capped off with the thrill of being crowned your 2019 District Quartet Champions. We're proud to carry that honor over the next year and beyond. We would also like to thank you all for your support and kind words over the course of the weekend; we treasure that more than you know.

Now we look forward to learning our big queue of new music and ramping up for shows and contests in 2020. We would love the opportunity to visit your chapters, share our new material with your audiences, and meet or reconnect with all of you. We wish you all an enjoyable holiday season and hope to see you soon!

First Ave  
Eric, Jay, Brent, Paul  
2019 LO'L District Quartet Champions  
[www.facebook.com/firstaveqt](http://www.facebook.com/firstaveqt)





## Youth in Harmony Update!

Submitted by Jim Rasmus  
Chairman LO'L YIH Committee



**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY in support of Youth in Harmony efforts in our District through the annual Parade of Checks!**

- ☞ **\$3,732 was given for the LO'L Youth in Harmony Committee – THANK YOU!!**
- ☞ **\$1,300 came in for the Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival – THANK YOU!!**

### Two significant events with music educators took place this fall!

- Three Wisconsin music educators and Steve Scott from BHS presented a session for 87 (!) Music Educators at the **Wisconsin State Music Conference** on October 24-25. Penny Yanke, Gustavo Chaviano, and Shawn Gudmunsen described how they employ barbershop in their classrooms. Steve taught some tags and explained the resources available from BHS.
- A booth and workshop for 18 Music Directors was presented at the **Saskatchewan Music Educators Conference** in Regina, Nov. 1-2. Stewart Wilkinson provided the main instruction and his senior quartet demonstrated BBS singing with a few songs. The youth quartet that won the Division title in Winnipeg in 2018 also sang and described their barbershop experiences at the New Orleans, Costa Mesa and Nashville conventions.

**ANNOUNCING!** We'll have **2 quartets** from the LO'L participating in the 2020 Midwinter Junior Quartet Competition in Jacksonville, FL: **Best Sellers** from Onalaska, WI and **If And When** from Sartell, MN! We'll also have **2 choruses** in the Next Generation Barbershop Junior Chorus Invitational: **Prairie Chords** a Mixed Barbershop Chorus from Saskatoon and Regina, Saskatchewan and the **St. Louis Park (MN) Middle School Boys Chorus**.

The performances at the District Convention by our two YIH quartets – If And When and Unaccompanied Minors – were inspiring! Barbershop has a great future in the voices of young men like them!!

Have you used the BHS-produced **4-minute video** yet? It captures the enthusiasm of groups that performed at the 2019 Midwinter. It's very useful as you visit schools to generate interest among music educators and students to try out singing barbershop! See it on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkyJwOBFO\\_0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkyJwOBFO_0). Or, contact me and I'll send you the video on a flash-drive or DVD.

**Always promote Harmony University – July 26-Aug 2, 2020** – to your music educators!! Scholarships are available from BHS – all they need to do is get there!

**Sign up for the Youth in Harmony Round Table at the LTA, Jan. 17-18**, to join in the conversation about ways to encourage young people to sing for the rest of their lives.

## LOL LTA -LCC

...Continued from page 6

numbers, and classroom assignments. You also should make your motel reservations as soon as possible. Get this done before you take your Christmas – New Years holiday break.

### Our LO'L District Midwinter

The LTA-LCC has become the LO'L's Midwinter weekend. It may be a bit colder than the Society's Midwinter, but for anyone who asks we tell them, "It may be cold, but it's a dry cold." Besides it's a great time to enjoy the comradery of other Barbershoppers while learning more about your favorite hobby. And when you join with 200 other voices to learn two new songs in the Mass Sessions, it will send you home fired up to share everything that you learned and experienced during the weekend with your chapter. **See you in River Falls.**



**Congratulations**  
**2019 Chapter B.O.T.Y. Winner**  
Winnipeg, MB  
- Chris Magus



**Heart to Heart**  
*Mixed A Capella Quartet*  
Contact: Nancy Charles  
414-614-1894  
H2HQuartet@yahoo.com

*Brad & Nancy Charles  
Kirk & Barb Hyder*



**Benson Family Singers**  
**BensonFamilyMusic.com**  
info@bensonfamilymusic.com 612-210-5537

## Mixed and all Female Quartet Contest

Submitted by Steve Johnson  
District VP - Contest & Judging



In the spring of 2020 the LO'L will hold its first District Mixed Quartet and all Female Quartet championship at the Spring Prelims in Fargo, ND. The date is Saturday May 2nd. It will be a one round contest (2 songs) and will be held in conjunction with the finals of the Men's International Prelims.

For a mixed quartet, there must both male and female members, in any combination, registered as members of the Barbershop Harmony Society and must have a minimum of 2 members who reside within the District and/or whose primary membership is with a LO'L District Chapter or the LO'L Frank Thorne Chapter. Membership requirements for the Female Quartet is the same as the Mixed Quartets.

You must register your quartet though BHS. To register for the contest you must contact me directly so I can get you properly registered in Barberscore (the contest entry vehicle that we use). The deadline for registration in April 1st. Please don't wait that long to register with me.

My email is: stvjhnsn@att.net

Starting in 2021, the Spring Contest will also be the way that Mixed Quartets and Female Quartets qualify for the BHS International Contest. The first contest is being held in Cleveland in 2021.

The first Mixed Chorus and Female Chorus contest will be held in Rochester in October of 2020. Not only will that crown the District Champions but that will also be the qualification for Cleveland in 2021. That contest will be run in conjunction with the Men's Chorus Contest.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions.



## All Chapter Chorus

Submitted by Steve Zorn

The fourth annual All Chapter Chorus at the 2019 LO'L District Rochester Convention attracted 74 men and women from 23 chapters! If you weren't there, you missed the performance of *Between You and the Birds* and *the Bees and Cupid* and *Ride the Chariot*. The Northern Pines Harmony Brigade (NPHB) hosted the performance. Twenty seven singers from NPHB anchored the chorus and 47 Chapter guys and gals learned the music before the performance. Check out the picture of people from many choruses singing together.



Each person was given the paper music and his part-specific learning track in plenty of time to learn the songs. Two rehearsals were held during the District Convention weekend before performing on stage. David Speidel, president of the NPHB, directed the chorus.

The participants all stated they enjoyed the event and look forward to next year. Can we get 100 men on stage? One from each of the 45 choruses plus a few more!




**CHORD SMASH!**  
*a Barbershop Quartet*  
James Scott Erle Sam  
Contact: info@chordsmash.com 650-686-1080  
Visit us on the Web! www.chordsmash.com www.facebook.com/chordsmash



**Sound Image**  
Jon Schmidt, Baritone • William Lorenz, Lead  
Robert Starz, Bass • Todd Mattison, Tenor  
Contact: Robert Starz  
Phone: 320-894-0433  
Email: starzr@frontiernet.net www.soundimagequartet.com





## Minneapolis Commodores Welcome Jamye Casperson

Submitted by Blake Wanger

The Minneapolis Commodores are extremely excited at this time to introduce our next director, Jamye Casperson. Jamye taught music in Iowa after graduating from Luther College (where she met her husband and fellow Commodore, Dave). She came to Lakeville and taught middle school choir for a few years, taught at Lakeville South (with Peter Benson!), and when Paul Wigley retired from teaching, she took over his choral position at Lakeville North HS.

She has put together some excellent girls' quartets during her time at Lakeville North. She has also directed (both staging and musical direction) musicals at Lakeville North and Lakeville South. Her Now and Then Singers have also appeared on many Commodores' shows. She was the accompanist for combined Christmas shows between the Commodores and Twin City Show Chorus. Jamye has also been very active in Minnesota Choral Directors Association, and provided administrative and musical leadership in that organization as the Middle School Girls' Honor Choir Chair. She has also been very active as a musical leader at St Johns Lutheran church in Lakeville. Jamye brings a strong work ethic, love of choral singing, and extensive directing experience to the Commodores. December 10, 2019 will mark Jamye's first rehearsal as the director of the Minneapolis Commodores and the chorus is very excited to start working with her.

Welcome to the Commodores, Jamye!



## Paul Wigley Retires From Directing The Minneapolis Commodores

Submitted by Blake Wanger

Those in attendance at the Land O' Lakes District Convention at the end of October who saw the Minneapolis Commodores perform might have noticed more than a few Commodores singers getting emotional during our ballad. The song, Something Good from The Sound of Music, was moving in and of itself, but the real emotion came from the knowledge that our fantastic director Paul Wigley was in front of the Commodores as our director for the last time. To be clear, Paul is not leaving the Commodores. He will remain a chapter member and will stay on with the chorus in a new capacity that may include some assistant directing, coaching, and of course singing.

Paul Wigley has been the director of the Commodores for nearly twenty years. In that time he has helped the chorus grow immensely as musicians while remaining steadfastly committed to our inclusive and fun-focused philosophy. The Commodores have performed at the International Convention twice under his direction, and have maintained a high level of singing in all of our performances. Paul was also recently inducted into the Land O' Lakes District Hall of fame. All of us who have had the privilege of singing under Paul's direction feel extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to share music and friendship with a man who is a gifted director and teacher, a warm, funny and caring friend, and the living embodiment of the joy of music. The chapter as a whole and each of us members as individuals will be eternally grateful for all that Paul has done for us and given to us over the last two decades. I recently asked Paul to reflect on his years as Commodores director. Here are Paul's thoughts:

*Thoughts from a soon-to-be retired barbershop chorus director:*

*When I think about directing the*

*Commodores for almost 20 years, it simply doesn't seem possible! But my best memories are about people- Jim Richards, Joe Houser, Mark Sathe, Loren Wuttke, Hardin Olson, Dave Bayer, Wes Hattlestad, John Hansen, Brooks Bergerson, and on and on- so many others that had barbershop in their blood. These men were friends through barbershop, and that's the thing that will always be at the top of my memories as a director- my very best friends were all found through this hobby.*

*Even today, when I see younger guys in quartets and small ensembles, I see that they grow to be best friends through the music, and realize those friendships would never have happened without their being a part of the Minneapolis Commodores. The pride in being part of the Minneapolis Commodores (and previously in Mason City, who shares the same philosophy), stems from the attitude of "if you want to sing, want to improve, and want to be part of a musical group bigger than yourself, we will help you!"*

*My great memories are always about people, and the unique personalities we all share. Amidst all those different personalities, political leanings, philosophies, etc, only one thing matters- singing together and making music on Tuesday nights (oh sure...some other times, too.)*

*It's been an incredibly fast 20 years. But I've got 200 years' worth of memories jammed into these past 20.*

*Paul Wigley*

The Commodores and the greater barbershop community are so grateful for all you have done for us, Paul. While we will certainly miss having you in front of us at every rehearsal, we look forward to having you beside us on the risers.

Thank you, Paul!

## Mo Field Named Great Northern Union's New Director

Submitted by Kyle Weaver



Great Northern Union is thrilled to announce the hiring of Mo Field as GNU's next Artistic and Musical Director.

A former director of the internationally acclaimed Stockholm City Voices, a 42-voice women's a cappella ensemble, from Stockholm, Sweden, Field brings to the GNU a wealth of experience as a choral director and music educator. She is an accomplished musician and a

sought-after vocal performance coach, arranger, workshop facilitator, life coach and mentor.

Field also recently became certified as a Performance Judge for the Barbershop Harmony Society and is a frequent lecturer/faculty member at BHS's Harmony University.

Originally from Canada and coming from a family of musicians, Field has always had music in her spirit. From orchestral performances on French horn, to theatre and music production, to her passion for playing electric bass in the funk, soul, Motown, and R&B genres, Field has enjoyed a vast musical career as a professional musician across the board.

Field becomes GNU's fifth musical director in the organization's 34-year history, succeeding Douglas Carnes (2015-2018), Peter Benson (2002-2014), Dean Haagenson (1994-1997), and Roger Williams (1985-1994, 1997-2002).

Great Northern Union is the upper Midwest's premier male-identifying a cappella chorus, dedicated to the performance, encouragement and education of high quality vocal music, particularly in the barbershop style.

The GNU was founded in 1985 with the goal of becoming one of top men's barbershop choruses in the world, competing in the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Chorus Contest more than 20 times and earning top five medalist honors 11 times.

GNU members hail from nearly every corner of the Twin Cities, out-state Minnesota and a few places in Wisconsin, too.

CONTACT: Kyle Weaver, GNU board member/media representative (317-965-3578; swsman28@yahoo.com)



## IN MEMORIAM Submitted by Carl A. Grahn

**Leigh "Sherm" Sherman** of Foley Alabama pass away 10/5/19 at the age of 88. Leigh was well known throughout the Land O'Lakes District, singing and entertaining with the Chord Chums and Bits & Pieces Quartets for 25 years. He had a passion for Barbershop Singing and was a member of the



International Champion " West Town Chorus of Lombard, Illinois"

Before moving to Foley Alabama he enjoyed many winters in Gulf Shores, AL where he continued entertaining and singing Barbershop with the "Four Winds Barbershop Chorus" the Snowbird Barbershop Chorus in Gulf Shores and also found another passion as an actor of the South Baldwin Community Theater.



## Chapter Parade of Checks!



A total of \$8860.00 was brought in for Youth in Harmony, Harmony Foundation, and Sing Canada. Thank you to all those chapters who donated!





## Say Farewell to a Legend

Submitted by Bob Dykstra

The Land O' Lakes District and barbershopping in general lost one of its most popular, most entertaining and most recognizable bass singers with the recent passing of John Hansen. I lost a close friend with whom I shared the quartet stage for 37 years. John (most appropriately) was born in Harmony, Minnesota a few months more than ninety years ago and was a 67-year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He spent all 67 years singing bass although he had a wide vocal range that permitted him to post the high tenor note on "German Band" and to sing "Pennies from Heaven" in two octaves. (You LOLers will know what I mean).

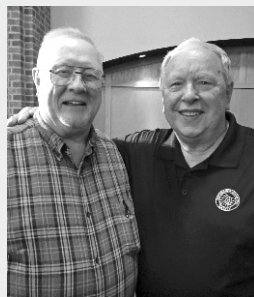
John's first quartet experience was with a Macalester-based quartet called the Par Four which performed widely in the Twin Cities and surrounding area and culminated their activity by appearing on the popular Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts television show. Shortly thereafter, in late 1952, John was drafted and assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was assigned to Special Services. He immediately scheduled an evening of barbershop singing which led to his forming a quartet, which he named the Hut Four in deference to the army marching cadence....hut, two, three, four. I auditioned to join the quartet as lead singer and John selected me along with tenor Herb Fane and bari Bob Moksnes.

So began nearly two years of service at Fort Riley where our primary role was that of army recruiters. We sang around the base and throughout Kansas and John also lined us up with live national TV appearances on the Ed Sullivan Show, the Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts Show and a pair of army recruiting shows hosted by Arlene Francis. We also attended the 1954 International barbershop

convention in Washington, D.C. as the official army quartet. In all appearances we were expected to "sing" the praises of the U.S. Army.

Following our discharge from service in late 1954, John reorganized the quartet in the Minneapolis area the following summer. Bob Spong took over as tenor (after a short tenure by Johnnie Wheeler) and Don Sundt as bari and with John and me earned the LOL quartet championship in 1958. In 1962 Dan Howard replaced Sundt as baritone and the Hut Four continued performing for another ten years. During the period 1958 to 1969 the Hut Four competed ten times in international quartet competition, earning semi-final status seven times. We also sang throughout the United States and Canada and were one of a select few quartets chosen to take USO tours in 1968 and 1970 to entertain wounded soldiers from the Viet Nam conflict who were hospitalized in Japan, Okinawa, and the Philippines. During the latter years John showed his musical versatility by adding a bass fiddle to Dan Howard's guitar as the Hut Four expanded its musical repertoire.

John and the Hut Four retired in 1972 and he took a 12-year break from singing in a quartet. He did, during this hiatus, however, organize and sing with a trio called "Them." This musical venture became the impetus for John's next quartet activity.



## Barbershop Friends

Submitted by Gordon Billows

On September 27th & 28th, Great Plains Harmony took to the stage to showcase their chorus and quartets. This was a good opportunity to cross the Cdn-US border, enjoy Fargo's fine performance and afterglow, and do some business (no, it never stops). At intermission, I spotted a few very familiar faces from the past - Chuck and Bonnie Koerner! Chuck was the LOL President in 2007 and 2008. After catching up on our health circumstances (a Senior's thing), we reminisced about some LOL events and "icons", and then it was "On with the Show!" Thank you

Fargo for your great hospitality - it was "worth the trip".

Chuck and Bonnie send regards and best wishes to all their LOL friends!

## Land O'Lakes 2020 Spring Convention Fargo, ND May 1-2, 2020

### Western Division Chorus & Quartet Contests

### LO'L Quartet Prelims

# Fargo

More information is available on the LO'L district website [www.loldistrict.org](http://www.loldistrict.org) and will be printed in the January/February 2020 Pitch Piper issue.

### Need a Quartet?

Consider one of our LO'L advertiser quartets from this great district to entertain at your next show or event.



## What a Great District Convention!

Submitted by Jay Althof

The District Convention in Rochester, October 25-26, 2019 was a blast! First, a huge thank you to Del Ryberg and the Rochester Chapter for hosting the event. We know it is a tremendous amount of work to make everything run smoothly so the rest of us can just enjoy the events. Thanks!!

We really enjoyed that the event truly had a convention vibe, where we also had contests. A shout out to the Minneapolis Commodores for their leadership in helping create that vibe. Their encouragement of all the choruses and quartets and the Polecat Dance Card was appreciated by everyone. Great job guys! The Showcase performances before the Saturday Night finals was a special treat. It was great to hear the All Chapter chorus, the two Next Generation quartets and Mixed Company chorus. And congratulations to First Ave and The Great Northern Union on winning the quartet and chorus contests, respectively.

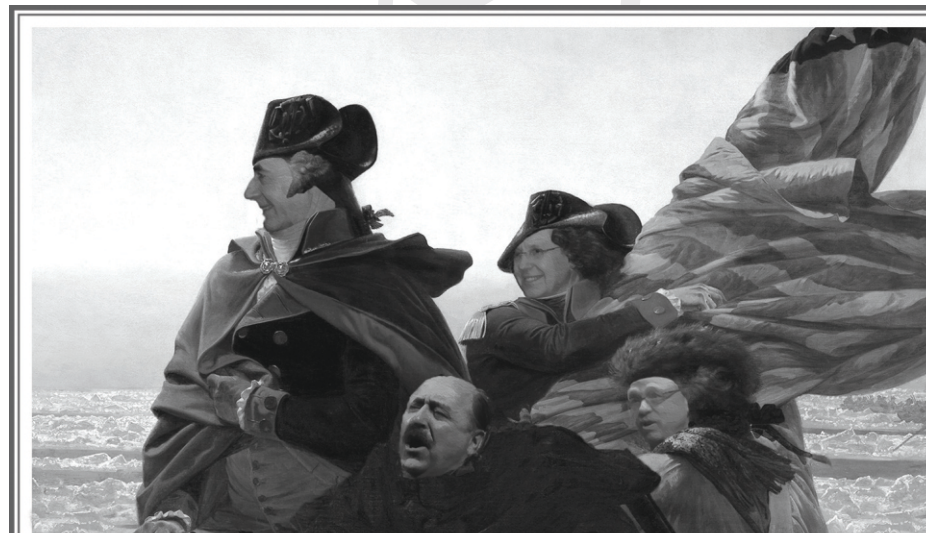
Vocality had a great time as emcees, participating in the Associate of District Champs show, Hall of Fame induction of Norm Starks and the Roadrunners quartet, singing with the Croix Chordsmen chorus and hosting our hospitality room. It truly is "Great To Be A Barbershopper!"

As a quartet we continue to learn new charts and have several performances lined up for 2020. That said, we'd love to share some of our new arrangements with your audiences. Please let us know if your chapter is interested so we can get your show on our schedule.

Hope to see you soon!

Vocality

Jay Althof, David Boyd, Tom Matchinsky, Tony Blackwood  
2007 LO'L District Quartet Champions



## ST. CROIX CROSSING

Contact Dan Heike  
[dan@prettygoodquartet.com](mailto:dan@prettygoodquartet.com)  
715-495-4523

## I Have a Song to Sing

...Continued from page 2

Black River Falls in January for another really great Barbershopping experience.

Your District dues support the many programs and initiatives that are intended to benefit all LOL members and their Chapters now and into the future. The 2020 proposed budget (balanced!) provides for improved and continuing opportunities for education, outreach, communication, interaction and participation in the many facets of our Barbershopping life style. Some specifics include:

Leadership Training Academy programs  
Pitch Piper newsletters and District Directory  
Coaching for choruses and quartets  
Standing Ovation evaluations of chapter shows

Chapter Advocate visitations and services to chapters

Division and District contests/festivals/conventions

District Youth in Harmony promotions, outreach and events

Training for District Officers, judges and coaches

Support for District and YIH choruses and quartets to representation LOL at International Conventions.

And so much more!

BTW - Jacksonville, FL will be a tad warmer in January than it will be up here! Looking forward to seeing many LOL'ers getting together at the Midwinter Convention on January 7-12.



JAY TONY DAVID TOM  
**VOCALITY**  
classic a cappella sound

[www.vocalityquartet.com](http://www.vocalityquartet.com)

651.206.2686





**Join Everyone in Harmony at the LO'L Leadership Training Academy – Lakes Chord College – Jan. 17 & 18, 2020**

Submitted by Dave Sylte  
LO'L District Education Team

These are exciting times in The Barbershop Harmony Society with all the changes going on as part of the **Everyone in Harmony** initiative. Even though "Preservation" is still part of the legal name of our organization (The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America Incorporated), these days we are focusing more on innovation and experimentation rather than preservation. Frankly change has always been part of what we've done, if nothing else just to improve our singing and performance skills. But with **Everyone in Harmony** we're finding new ways to find a home in barbershop and to bring more communities together in harmony.

That's why you and your chapter members should plan on registering to be part of the **Leadership Training Academy – Lakes Chord College (LTA-LCC) on Jan. 17-18, 2020 at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls**. As usual, there is something on the class schedule for every person in your chapter. In the last two issues of the Pitch Piper, we have highlighted some of the new classes and elsewhere in this issue you will find an ad that lists all the classes offered. Here are some other things you need to know.

**Focus on Membership**

This continues to be an area for special emphasis. As a result, we have invited **Bob Cox** back from the Evergreen District to lead the Core Class on Membership/Chapter Development as well as several elective classes on membership and leadership. His classes last year were awesome. He also will present a keynote address at the Friday night Mass Session that should get you fired up about membership. There are several other elective classes that deal with membership.

**Focus on Marketing/PR**

Closely related to membership is marketing/PR and simply getting the word out on who we are and what we do. To cover this area, we will have **Brian Lynch**, the Society's Public Relations Manager, who will lead the Core Class for Marketing/PR VPs and an elective class on Social Media – Round Table Discussion. Brian will be able to share how to fold the Everyone in Harmony initiative into your marketing.

**More on New Classes and New Instructors**

Regarding out-of-District instructors, we also will have two coming from the Illinois District. In a prior issue, we introduced you to **Carrie Marcotte** who will be leading the Chorus Directors and Assistant Directors Core Class and elective classes on Vocal Warmups and Vocal Techniques. Besides her impressive music resume, this is the lady who plays organ for the

Chicago Blackhawks home games. Our other Illinois instructor is **Syl Wetle** who will lead the Music & Performance VP Core Class and elective classes on So You Want to Have a Holiday Show and Ticket Sales (Butts in the Seats).

We also have some new instructors from the District. **Bill and Kathleen Albrecht** will serve up three new elective classes. Bill will lead What You Should Know About Chords and Sight Singing Made Easy while Kathleen will lead Whose Line is It Anyway? Another new class with a District instructor is The Barbershop Paradox – Building a Thriving Barbershop Community led by **Jay Althof**. The class will focus on how do we balance "fun" and "good singing"?

**Other Classes and Registration Materials**

As you look over the classes listed in the ad elsewhere in this issue, you will see popular classes that we have offered in the past. But these classes do change in content from year to year with a new instructor or just a new group of students to be part of the conversations. In the registration materials that were sent to your chapter President and Secretary, there is a Class Description List that gives details on all of the classes. In addition, all of the LTA-LCC registration materials are posted on the LO'L website at [www.loldistrict.org](http://www.loldistrict.org). Just click on the LTA-LCC graphic on the home page. Also, this is where you can find motel information, a River Falls map and parking lot information.

**Promoting the LTA-LCC to Your Members and Others**

Make certain that all your members have access to this class information as well as the list of motels that are available in River Falls and Hudson. In addition, your chapter should be doing whatever is possible to pay for your members to attend. In particular, you should focus on encouraging your newer members to attend. When they're exposed to the fun and fellowship of the larger Barbershop world, they will be more motivated to be long time active members of your chapter.

Also, as part of our Everyone in Harmony outreach, anyone can register for the LTA-LCC. This can include female members of the Sweet Adelines and Harmony Incorporated. One chapter has already signed up several Sweet Adelines who were impressed by what the LTA-LCC has to offer at a reasonable cost.

**Tuition and Registration Deadline – Tuition Special**

Speaking of cost, tuition this year is still a bargain at **\$95 for 2 days of classes and 5 meals!** And you know how ample the food is at UW-River Falls. Also, because of our continued emphasis on membership, we have a **tuition special for chapter Membership/Chapter Development VPs of \$50.**

**Most importantly, we need to have your registrations by January 10, 2020.**

This is necessary so we have sufficient time for planning things like meal headcounts, hand-outs

*continued on page 10...*



**2020 LO'L Leadership Training Academy – Lakes Chord College – January 17 & 18, 2020 University of Wisconsin – River Falls**

- Tuition only \$95 for 2 days of classes & 5 meals
- **SPECIAL** - \$50 tuition for Membership/Chapter Development VP's
- Reasonable hotel rates
- Classes for every person in your chapter



**Learn about your officer's job – Office Core Classes**

- President Class
- Secretary Class
- Treasurer Class
- Membership/ Chapter Development VP Class
- Music & Performance VP Class
- Marketing & PR VP Class

**Learn how to sing better**

- Better Chorus & Quartet Singing
- Fundamentals of Better Singing
- Sight Singing Made Easy
- Vocal Techniques
- Vocal Warmups

**Learn how to perform better**

- Painting a Musical Picture for Your Audience
- Showmanship - How to Grab an Audience
- Simple Gestures to Enhance Performances
- So You Want to Have a Holiday Show
- Whose Line is It Anyway?

**Learn some new skills – Sharpen some old ones**

- Become a Change-able Leader
- Healthy Chapter Initiative
- Leadership in Volunteer Organizations
- Recruiting with New Ideas
- Social Media - Round Table Discussion
- Ticket Sales (Butts in Seats)
- What You Should Know About Chords
- Youth in Harmony Round Table

**Develop your music leadership skills**

- Chorus Directors & Assistant Directors
- Generational Differences - An Update
- Successful Directing for the Novice
- The Barbershop Paradox

**Just plain fun stuff**

- Barbershop Smorgasbord
- Two General Sessions with two new songs

**How to Register:**

- Go to the District website at [www.loldistrict.org](http://www.loldistrict.org) and download the registration booklet OR
- Check with your chapter President or Secretary for the registration booklet mailings they received