

71 YEARS OF BARBERSHOP HARMONY

OVER 714,089 SQUARE MILES

Volume 71, Number 5

A Bulletin for Barbershoppers in the LO'L District

September – October 2019

# Score 65 and You Get a Bye

Submitted by Steve Johnson, LO'L VP Contest Judging



Last May at the Spring Convention in Stillwater many new items were passed. The one that affects the LO'L the soonest is the new Contest Bye process that will begin this fall in Rochester.

If your quartet and/or chorus scores a 65% or better you will automatically qualify for a spot in the next fall convention. You will not have to compete at your Spring Division Contest.

The two Spring Division Contests not hosting the Spring Prelims will be single panel of judges. Only new quartets, quartets and choruses not scoring 65% or better at the previous Fall District Contest and quartets and choruses that did not compete at the previous Fall District Contest are required to compete.

The same holds true for the Spring Prelim Contest. That contest will be a double panel of judges because of the Spring Prelims and the Mixed Quartet Contest (more on that in another article).

If your quartet and/or chorus scores a 65% or better at the previous fall contest and still wants to compete at your Division Contest you are more than welcome to compete.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at: stvjhnsn@att.net



# 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.

Land O' Lakes Chapters are situated in the states of Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and the Provinces of Saskatchewan Manitoba and Ontario.

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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



We are pleased to announce that Marty Monson, Society CEO, will be attending LOL's Fall Convention, Oct 25/26, in Rochester. District members will

have an opportunity to interact with Marty that weekend and learn about some of the latest BHS initiatives. We are looking forward to his visit and participation in the convention's program.

Brian Nelson, Harmony Foundation's representative, will be attending the Fall Convention to update LOL on the Foundation. Whether you are an LOL member who has donated to Harmony Foundation in the past or are considering becoming a donor, we encourage you to talk with Brian at some time that weekend.

The Parade of Checks will take place at the

Fall Convention's House of Delegates meeting. All Chapters are encouraged to recommit to supporting the LOL Youth in Harmony programs by having their Chapter delegate present their Chapter's check at that meeting. If a Chapter is not sending a representative, you may send your check direct to the District Treasurer.

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DANIEL TRUE

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<u>Treasurer:</u>

**BOB BREY** 

A warm LOL welcome Jay Althof, LOL's new EVP. He is a member of the LaCrosse Chapter and sings Tenor with Vocality. Jay is replacing Arv Zenk, who will focus on heading up the District's Events Committee. Thank you Arv for your continued service to LOL.

Slowly but surely, members from all generations are getting "in tune" to living in a digital world and most of us now use the internet daily to connect with others via phones, emails, texting, websites, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, etc. Your District Officers are striving to improve communications within our District and are always looking at ways to impart and exchange information more efficiently and

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LO'L has a Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/LOLDistrictBHS/

effectively. Board Members and District Committees, like the Chapter Advocate and LOL's 21st Century Communication teams, are getting familiar with Basecamp 3 ("Google" it) - a real-time organizational tool that helps teams (committees) to communicate, share ideas, resources and documents, and basically stay on the same page.Zoom ("Google" it) is a video conferencing program also being tested by a group of District Officers. There is a free version available and it is relatively easy to This communication tool is used use. extensively by Society and the District Presidents Council for "face to face" meetings over the internet. Many of us are fairly new to Basecamp and Zoom, but can see potential for their use within our District and Chapters. We are never too old to learn, eh!

Good to be busy again learning new songs, polishing our repertoires for the upcoming Fall and Christmas shows and planning some special chapter events. For members involved in preparing for the Fall contests, set your goals high and enjoy the ride!



### Pole Cat Singing Fun in Rochester!

#### Submitted by Steve Grady

To encourage singing between the members of all the Land O' Lakes District chapters at our Rochester District Convention, the Minneapolis Commodores are introducing a Pole Cat Dance Card that has 10 songs from the Barberpole Cat Songbook.

Here is how it works. Find three or more men with at least one man from another chapter to sing one of the Barberpole Cat songs listed on the back of the Dance Card. After you sing the song, you will write down the abbreviation of the chapter names for each voice part on your card.

It does not have to be a quartet. You can have 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or more men singing at a time. Your ideal score for each song would be 4 different chapter names. There is a possibility that you could sing with guys from 30 other chapters!

The Pole Cat Dance Cards will be available at the Convention Registration Desk and at the front desk of the Convention Hotels. All the Commodores will have extra cards. Seek us out to sing and fill your card. Bring your completed card to the Northern Pine Harmony Brigade hospitality suite Saturday night for a free cold beverage. See you there!

# 2020 Slate of Officers

The nominating committee has finished it's work and is pleased to present the Slate of Officers for 2020 which is as follows:

President – Gordon Billows Executive Vice President – Jay Althof Immediate Past President – Dan True Secretary – Bob Brey Treasurer – Jack Edgerton Vice President East Region (Currently Packerland and Division One) - Scott Finley Vice President Central Region (Currently Southwest and 10,000 Lakes) - Steve Zorn Vice President West Region (Currently Northern Plains) - Art Gross

Respectfully submitted,

Nominating Committee Bob Fricke, Chairman Steve Zorn Carl Grahn Dan True



# 2019 Pole Cat Dance Card

Singing with our barbershop brothers at the Convention!

To encourage singing and camaraderie between all the members of the Land O' Lakes District chapters, the Commodores have introduced this Pole Cat Dance Card with 10 songs from the Barberpole Cat Songbook. Find 3, 4, 5, 6 or more men with at least one man from another chapter to sing one of the listed songs. You will write the chapter abbreviations on the card. Have fun filling all 10 rows and singing with many LoL members.

The Pole Cat Dance Cards will be available at Convention Registration and hotel front desks. Commodores will be carrying extra cards. Seek us out and let's have fun ringing some chords. See you in Rochester.

Song	Т	L	Br	Bs
Wild Irish Rose - Bb				
Wait till The Sun Shines Nellie - Ab				
Sweet and Lovely - F				
Down our Way- Bb				
Honey Little 'Lize Medley- Bb				
Let me Call You Sweetheart - Bb				
Sweet Roses of Morn - Bb				
Shine On Me - Bb				
Heart of My Heart - Ab				
Sweet Adeline - Bb				

It's Great to be a Barbershopper!



#### LO'L Youth in Harmony Update! Submitted by Jim Rasmus Chairman, LO'L YIH Committee

On Sept. 20th Dr. Zack Durlam hosted his 5th Annual Real Men Sing! event at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Imagine 800 high school and 220 junior high BOYS together for a morning of learning three songs (one being Joe Lile's "One More Song")! It was FANTASTIC!! The Border Project (2017 LO'L District Champs) was the guest quartet. Paul, Robb, Patrick and Matt did a great job of entertaining the boys and assisted Penny Yanke (choral director at Burlington High School) and I introducing barbershop to 40 of the 60 music educators present.



Real Men Sing: Junior High Chorus



Real Men Sing: High School Chorus

Have you used the 4-minute video to introduce barbershop singing to your music educators yet? It's available on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkyJwOBF0\_0. Or, contact me and I'll send you the video downloaded onto a flash-drive. This quick hitting resource, produced by the Barbershop Harmony Society at our insistence, captures the enthusiasm of groups that performed at the 2019 Midwinter. It's useful as you visit schools to generate interest among music educators and students to try out singing barbershop!

DON'T FORGET: the annual Parade of Checks at the District Convention enables your Chapter to designate their donations to go to:

a) LO'L District's Youth in Harmony Committee, and/or

b) Harmony Foundation International and/or Sing Canada! PLEASE, encourage your Chapter members to contribute! Our youth deserve our support!!

Two important events for music educators take place this fall:

• With a grant from BHS, we co-sponsor a booth and session with the Wisconsin Youth Harmon Festival, led by 3 music educators and Steve Scott from BHS at the Wisconsin Music Educators Association Conference, October 24-25.

• A workshop will also be presented by a respected educator and barbershopper at the Saskatchewan Music Educators Conference in Regina, Nov. 1-2. A Senior quartet and a Junior quartet will demonstrate BBS music and model it as a lifelong hobby.

The application period ended Oct. 1st for high school quartets for the 2020 Midwinter Junior Quartet Competition in Jacksonville, FL. We're awaiting word of LO'L quartets who qualified.

Auditions are open until Feb. 1, 2020 for the Next Generation Barbershop Junior Chorus Invitational in New York City Jan. 20-24, 2021 Your music educators will drool over this way of providing their chorus a trip subsidized by BHS! Go to https://www.barbershop.org/next-gen/junior-quartetschoruses/junior-choruses for the details.

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 my 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 life.

#### IN MEMORIAM

On Sept. 5th, our dear partner, father, and friend, **Rich Kirwin**, departed this world. The only child of Carl and Alice Kirwin, Rich is survived by his daughter Margaret and her husband Pete, their two children Ava and Chase, his daughters, Anne and Carolyn, his reward in life and partner of 18 years, Lorrie Zinda, her daughter, Kristen, her son, Steve and his wife Shelly, and their two children, Jake and Cole.

Rich was raised in Cedar Rapids, IA. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Spanish from UW-Madison. After thirty-one years of service, he retired as a Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He was a business owner, a proud father, a proud Badger, and world traveler.

Above all, singing and music unlocked the beauty of the world for Rich, which he often expressed as tears of joy. He was deeply involved in the Sourth East Wisconsin Super Sing and the Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival Board. History, poetry, and literature contextualized it for him, something he would often remind you of. Having family and good friends near made it all worthwhile, something he will never let us forget.

A celebration of Rich's full life was held at the Shorewood River Club on September 22nd.

In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to the Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival. Donations can be made online through PayPal at: youthharmonyfest.org.



#### Harmony Foundation "Chapter Challenge" Initiative Submitted by Richard Staedt

I spoke with Kyle Snook of Harmony Foundation recently and he gave me an update on their Chapter Challenge initiative.

What is the Chapter Challenge initiative? Harmony Foundation has challenged chapters throughout the Barbershop Harmony Society to encourage the most members to donate to Harmony Foundation at any level. The five chapters with the highest percentage of Participation in Giving will be recognized on the BHS Midwinter Jacksonville 2020 stage with a Gold, Silver or Bronze level of recognition.

Where does LOL rank? LOL has 1448 members with 228 of them donating to Harmony Foundation. That puts LOL at 16% participation overall with an average gift per district member at \$76.79. These figures are individual member gifts and have nothing to do with what LOL does as a District.

Harmony Foundation supports singing opportunities and educational programs for youth quartets, youth choruses, music educators, chorus directors and the Society. Hundreds of men and women showcase their skills, compete and receive singing education at International and Midwinter conventions as well as Harmony University, all supported by Harmony Foundation.

Where does your chapter stand?

Do you have members donating to Harmony Foundation?

To donate, go to www.HarmonyFoundation.org. There you will find many ways to donate.

#### Give it a try, you'll like it.





Contact Dan Heike dan@prettygoodquartet.com 715-495-4523

#### A Recap of Some of the New Stuff Coming to the Leadership Training Academy Lakes Chord College January 17-18, 2020 Submitted by Dave Sylte

Here is a peek at some of the new classes coming to the 2020 LTA-LCC on January 17-18 at UW-River Falls from which you can choose to expand your Barbershop knowledge and skills:

- Sight Singing Made Easy
- The Barbershop Paradox
- So You Want to Have a Holiday Show
- Whose Line is it Anyway
- Butts in Seats
- Vocal Warm-ups
- What You Should Know About Chords
- Vocal Techniques

Stay tuned to learn more about each of these classes. In addition, there will a rerun of many other popular classes from which to choose. For now, just **mark your calendar for January 17-18, 2020 for the LTA-LCC at UW-River Falls.** 





#### Fall District Convention Rochester, Minnesota October 25-26, 2019

#### Submitted by Del Ryberg

Just weeks to go until the Fall Convention and contests will be here.. See the Schedule of Events on page 7 as well as the floor plan below for Mayo Civic Ctr. We have 23 Quartets Friday night and 15 Choruses on Saturday in the contests.

Please note the District Board Meeting as well as the District House of Delegates meetings will be held at Mayo Civic Ctr in room 101.. (As you enter Mayo Civic Ctr from the skyway, down the stairs room 101 is right there).

New this year we have added a segment on Saturday at 7:00 pm SHOWCASE.. This is a performance type event ahead of the Quartet Finals contest where we will showcase the All Chapter Chorus, a Mixed Harmony Chorus and YIH Quartets.





## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### LAND O LAKES DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION Oct 25-26, 2019 - Rochester, MN

District Decad of Directory Mts. Marco Circle Ctr. 101

#### Fri - Oct 25

0.00 114

11.00 AM

9:00 AM -	11:00 AM	District Board of Directors Mtg	Mayo Civic Ctr - 101
9:00 AM -	8:00 PM	Registration/Ticket desk	Mayo Civic Ctr
1:00 PM -	3:00 PM	House of Delegates Mtg	Mayo Civic Ctr - 101
1:30 PM -	5:00 PM	Quartet on-stage times	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
2:00 PM -	3:00 PM	ADC Board meeting	Mayo Civic McDonnell
3:00 PM -	4:00 PM	ADC Membership meeting	Mayo Civic McDonnell
3:00 PM -	3:30 PM	Strategic Vision Update	Mayo Civic Ctr - 101
3:00 PM -	5:00 PM	All Chapter Chorus Rehearsal	Mayo Civic RvrVw A
<u>5:30 PM -</u>	9:30 PM	Quartet Preliminary Contest	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
10:00 PM -	11:45 PM	ADC Show of Champions	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
10:30 PM -	12:30 AM	Quartet Evaluations	Doubletree Judges rms
Sat - Oct 26			
8:00 AM -	8:00 PM	Registration/Ticket desk	Mayo Civic Ctr
8:00 AM -	10:00 AM	Stage open for inspection	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
10:00 AM -	10:30 AM	Brigade Chorus rehearsal	Mayo Civic Ctr - 106
<u> 10:30 AM -</u>	2:30 PM	Chorus Contest	<b>Mayo Civic Pres Hall</b>
3:00 PM -	4:30 PM	Chorus Evaluations	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
5:00 PM -	7:00 PM	ADC & HOF Dinner	Mayo Civic Ctr - 106
5:00 PM -	7:00 PM	Banquet Dinners	Mayo Civic Ctr - 109
6:00 PM -	7:00 PM	All Chapter Chorus Rehearsal	Mayo Civic Ctr - 101
7:00 PM -	7:30 PM	Showcase - YIH & Mixed	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
<u>7:30 PM -</u>	10:00 PM	Quartet Finals Contest	Mayo Civic Pres Hall
10:30 PM -	11:30 PM	Finalist Quartet Evaluations	Doubletree Judges rms
10:30 PM -	1:00 AM	Afterglow/Hospitality	Mayo Civic Ctr



#### Vocality - The Fun Continues! Submitted by Jay Althof

First, thanks to all those who braved the rain and attended our 4th Annual Concert From The Porch on August 10th. We had a great time, and with your generosity we raised over \$600 for the Haitian Relief Organization. Now we start planning our 5th Annual concert for next year!



We are very much looking forward to the District Convention in Rochester on October 25th and 26th. We will have the opportunity to help with some emcee spots, participate in the Association of District Quartet Champions show on Friday and once again host a Hospitality Room on Saturday night. This year our Hospitality Room will be in the convention center, so make sure to stop by after the Quartet Finals for some camaraderie and to hear many of our District quartets. Maybe we can even sing a few tags and polecats together this year!

We have several performances lined up yet this year and a few for 2020. 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



Kirk & Bart Huder

Heart to Heart Mixed A Capella Quartee

> Contact: Nancy Charles 414-614-1894 H2HQuartet@yahoo.com





Phone: 320-894-0433 Email: starzr@frontiernet.net www.soundimagequartet.com



#### Harmony University 2019 Attendees!

#### Submitted by John Plazek

It was another week for a Barbershop High! 11 countries descended upon Belmont University this year. Quartets and choruses were coached, a ton of classes and electives, and oh ya, Ice Cream! During this week you get a chance to meet new friends and rekindle old friends. People that you may only see at HU but soon become lifelong friends. Be sure to make plans for next year!







LO'L Chorus Director's at 2019 Harmony University Back Row L to R: Craig LaPoint, Larry Hunter, John Plazek Front L to R: Eric Sorenson, Brandon Galbraith, Tyler Stromquist-LeVoir

### Submitted by Steve Zorn LOL 10,000 Lakes Division VP You most likely have read the Harmonizer, the PitchPiper ar

You most likely have read the many articles in the Harmonizer, the PitchPiper and in the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) LiveWire Newsletter that explains the changes related to "Everyone In Harmony." Everyone is welcome to participate as a full member in the Barbershop Harmony Society.

So what does this all mean for you, a chapter member? First as a member of the Barbershop

Harmony Society you will be joined by other people, not just men as in the past. You will continue to get all the benefits of BHS membership and you will read and hear about how BHS is expanding to include "everyone."

Everyone in Harmony.... What Does This Mean?

Second, as a Land O' Lakes District member you will continue to experience conventions, contests, education sessions, and singing training and support. Your district is committed to giving you the best experience possible. The district leaders will support efforts to build all male choruses as well as all female and mixed choruses. Education efforts will continue and will include support for all choruses. If new Chapters are formed, the District is ready to help get them up and running.

Third, as a Chapter member you will continue to enjoy your chapter and chorus activities. You now have the option to add female members to your Chapter. You can choose if your Chapter will include a mixed chorus or remain an all male chorus. You can even add a female chorus and/or a mixed chorus to your Chapter. Your Chapter has more options now that Everyone In Harmony is in place.

The LO'L District leadership will support you as in the past and also support the likely expansion of our membership in the future. Mixed Quartets have competed (for score only) at our International Preliminary Qualification event. Ladies joined in the All Chapter Chorus and a mixed ensemble entertained us. These opportunities will expand and your District leadership is ready.

At the Cleveland BHS Convention in July of 2021, there will be six competitions plus the youth Next Generation Varsity competition. Men, Women, and Mixed quartets and choruses will each have a full fledged contest. LO'L will offer opportunities for all of these groups to compete and qualify for International. LO'L will try to continue support for competitors despite the likely increase in competitors. Because of the increase in potential candidates, BHS has raised the qualifying scores for both quartets and choruses so that competitions can be completed during the Convention week. Keep up to date with Society publications and contribute through surveys as the Board decides how awards will be given.

As you can see, LO'L district has changes to manage and challenges to confront. Your District board is committed to meet these challenges and to give you the best singing experience. Give us your input and support. Keep the whole world singing!





Harmony College Midwest

February 14 -15, 2020

DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington, IL

Learn from our head clinician, Royce Ferguson  $\,$  , and our guest quartet, Instant Classic  $\,$  !

Enjoy a full day of coaching (for individuals and for quartets) and classes, taught by an esteemed faculty that includes David Wright, Sandi Wright, Rik Johnson, Scott Kitzmiller, Terry Ludwig , and more!

Participate in a pickup "Harmony Brigade"-style quartet contest , and sing in a full-student-body chorus under the direction of Royce Ferguson

Individual registration: \$35 earlybird (up to September 29), \$40 regular

Quartet registration: \$100 earlybird (up to September 29), \$120 regular

(in addition to hotel cost)

More information available on Facebook (search "Harmony College Midwest") Earlybird tickets available NOW on <u>Eventbrite.com</u> (search for "Harmony College Midwest")







#### We Never Know the Impact Our Music Will Have! Submitted by Ken Purdy

The Bismarck-Mandan Chapter, Northern Lights Chorus, spent the weekend of August 23-25 participating in Harmony Happening in the Hills with the Shrine of Democracy Chorus from Rapid City, SD and others from around the region. Fifty singers sang, socialized, workshopped, and performed. Guest Clinician, Richard Lapp, led a great day working on mass chorus music for the finale performance at the Crazy Horse Monument near Hill City, SD (the usual venue at Mt. Rushmore is under renovation).

After the day-long rehearsal, the great performance at the Crazy Horse Monument, a super meal and after-glow back in Hill City, our chorus and a few other hard-cores gathered at the 'Mangy Moose' and continued singing for a few more hours. In addition to a birthday serenade, we were approached by a couple celebrating their 30th anniversary. We sang several love songs for them and they stuck around listening while we sang just about everything we know (& maybe a few we didn't know!).

A big surprise came the next day via the following message to our Northern Lights Chorus Facebook page:

I just wanted to thank you all so much for helping to make our 30 year anniversary so special. We live about 5 hours from Hill City and had made a reservation at 6 am on Saturday morning to stay in Spearfish. It was last minute because my husband and I had both been having a hard time with leaving home. A week earlier a friend of our daughters was killed in a car accident. Two of our best friends kids and our neighbor boy were also injured in the accident. But our oldest daughter and her husband said go and celebrate your 30 years and we will come stay with Ellie. I struggled the whole way out there and then God led us to Hill City. It was such a blessing. I can't even begin to put into words how beautiful it was to be able to listen to your group sing. Thank you so much for sharing your talents. My husband and I were having a hard time finding joy in a week that was filled with so much sadness. We are both still amazed that God sent us to Hill City that night! May god continue to bless you all. Amy W

We, as Barbershoppers, never know when our music will touch someone deeply in a way we could not anticipate!



# Instructions for Submitting 2020 Directory Information

To all Land O' Lakes chapter presidents & secretaries:

The gathering of the 2020 district directory information will be handled in the same manner as it was in 2019 **except this year we are requesting an email address** for each officer. See the instructions below and submit by November 1st. Per district bylaws, chapter officer elections are to be held on or before October 15. <u>Chapters still have to submit</u> <u>officer information to the Society as this form is for District</u> <u>Directory use only.</u>

1. Start an email.

2. Enter districtdirectory@frickeprinting.com in the "To" addressEnter District Directory info in the subject line.

3. Reference your current 2019 LOL District Directory, and fill in the appropriate information below to update the 2020 directory. You can copy and paste the information below into an email.

4. If there is no change to any item, indicate "NC" but an email address is requested for each.

5. Indicate "NA", if not applicable to your chapter

6. If you have any questions completing this form, you may contact Bob Fricke via the e-mail above or at 920.684.6866

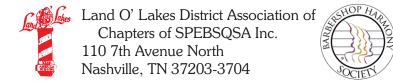
8. Once complete, click "Send"

Chapter/Chorus Name Meeting time and place Chapter Email Website

NOTE: For each position listed below: **Name, mailing** address, city/st/zip, <u>email</u> & Phone number

President Secretary Treasurer Chapter Manager Music Director





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