

# Timbre

NEWS OF THE EVERGREEN DISTRICT



Salem Senate-Aires  
Director: Steve Morin

## Great Performances in Denver!



Flipside



Jet Set



3 Outa Four



The Dean's List





## Silver Moon Quartet Attends HX and HCNW

They arrived from a distance, but instantly they were not strangers. The "Silver Moon Quartet" showed up for registration early on Friday - just a short trip from their homes which are centered around Helsinki..... as in Finland. The quartet members are: Chris Carlson (tenor,bari,lead), Kurt-Eric Forstrom (bari,lead), Juha Aunola (lead,bari) and Dani Lindroos (bass,tenor). Their trip would be funded in part through the Swedish Cultural Fund and the Friends of the Swedish Peoples School.

Ties to Evergreen District: Dani was a host for Friendly Advice when the quartet went to Finland a few years ago; as a result, Forrest Lamotte has assisted with their travel details to HCNW. Also Mike Menefee, who met Dani when Vocal Magic traveled to Finland, has been suggesting (and tweaking) arrangements for them.

Part of their purpose was to bring a youth program to their local kids, so they arrived at HCNW on Wednesday where arrangements had been made for them to stay and observe our Harmony Explosion. Silver Moon finished out the weekend by attending various HCNW classes and several quartet coaching sessions.

They made it home safely - energized for starting a Youth-In-Harmony program in their local area, and excited for more barbershopping in the years to come. These guys set a new travel record for HCNW. We look forward to long and pleasurable acquaintance with our Finnish friends.

Tom Condon, HCNW Director

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED

We are currently looking for a legal advisor for each state/province with knowledge in tort law and insurance. If you know of a member or someone willing to assist our organization, please send contact information to Carl Van Hoff ([Carlvanhoff@aol.com](mailto:Carlvanhoff@aol.com)) by early September. We are currently working on some urgent issues requiring legal advice. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Gerry Borden, District President



## Our Future!

Show your support for educational programs and our youth programs by giving to the Evergreen District's Bud Leabo Memorial Fund and to the Harmony Foundation. Contact Dick Solberg (chair for the BLMF) or Bruce Foreman (HF).

## DENVER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Evergreen District competitors placed very respectably at the Barber-shop Harmony Society (BHS) International Contest recently held in Denver, CO.

The competition gets more challenging each year and the Salem Senate-Aires (19<sup>th</sup>), Flipside (5<sup>th</sup>), Jet Set (28<sup>th</sup>), 3 Outa Four (37<sup>th</sup>), and The Dean's List (40<sup>th</sup>) did great performances.

Next year the BHS Contest will be in Nashville, TN so make your plans now to attend.

If you have moved, please let the Barber-shop Harmony Society know your new address. **1-800-876-7464 (SING)**

## 2007 DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS (DBOD)

**Gerry Borden**, President  
26941 - 27B Ave.  
Aldergrove, BC V4W 3E5  
CANADA  
(H) 604-857-0789  
(W) 604-513-4783  
[gborden@uniserve.com](mailto:gborden@uniserve.com)  
[president@evg.org](mailto:president@evg.org)

**Kevin Kelly**, EVP & CFO  
19601 NE 133<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Woodinville, WA 98077  
(H) 425-556-9156  
(W) 425-463-1367  
[kkellycpa@yahoo.com](mailto:kkellycpa@yahoo.com)  
[treasurer@evg.org](mailto:treasurer@evg.org)

**Ken Galloway, Jr.**, Secretary  
2520 Montello  
Hood River, OR 97031-1021  
(H) 541-386-1580  
(C) 541-490-6680  
[kengalloway@gorge.net](mailto:kengalloway@gorge.net)  
[secretary@evg.org](mailto:secretary@evg.org)

**Kendall Williams**, IPP  
14501 254<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Monroe, WA 98272-9333  
(H) 360-805-1508  
(W) 206-621-9270  
[kendall.a.williams@verizon.net](mailto:kendall.a.williams@verizon.net)  
[ipp@evg.org](mailto:ipp@evg.org)

**Carl Van Hoff**, Member-at-Large  
2129 Crestview Ave.  
Richland, WA 99354  
(H) 509-375-1450  
[carlvanhoff@aol.com](mailto:carlvanhoff@aol.com)  
[bmal@evg.org](mailto:bmal@evg.org)

**Tom Giering**, Member-at-Large  
4612 NE 45<sup>th</sup> Pl.  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
(H) 360-750-9796  
(C) 360-635-7878  
[tgiering@comcast.net](mailto:tgiering@comcast.net)  
[bmal@evg.org](mailto:bmal@evg.org)

**Con Hobson**, Member-at-Large  
3003 Cherry Lane,  
Boise, ID 83705-4010  
(H) 208-345-4799  
[con@dalesservice.com](mailto:con@dalesservice.com)  
[bmal@evg.org](mailto:bmal@evg.org)

**Frank Johnson**, Member-at-Large  
6410 Buffaloberry Lane,  
Bozeman, MT 59718-9593  
(H) 406-586-1857  
[flewisj@hotmail.com](mailto:flewisj@hotmail.com)  
[bmal@evg.org](mailto:bmal@evg.org)

**Lou Benedict**, Society Board Member  
121 Upas  
Escondido, CA 92025  
(H) 760-747-3736  
[lbenedict@cox.net](mailto:lbenedict@cox.net)

# ACTIONS OF YOUR DISTRICT BOARD

## EVERGREEN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

The Evergreen District Board of Directors met during Harmony College Northwest and has determined two important dates for chapters. The first is the District Board of Directors meeting will be held on Saturday, September 22, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM, in Bellevue, WA. This meeting will be to review the 2008 Budget, changes to the Operations Manual, and other issues to be submitted to the House of Delegates. For more information or to add items to the agenda (submit before September 8<sup>th</sup>), please contact Ken Galloway (kengalloway@gorge.net), District Secretary.

## EVERGREEN DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING CHANGED

The second important date is the Evergreen District House of Delegates meeting will be held on Sunday, October 21, following the Evergreen District Convention in Bellevue, WA. The meeting will be held from 9:30 -11:00 AM. The House of Delegates serves as the official District corporate body, approving minutes, policies, budgets, programs and financial reports. The funds and programs of the District are to be used for the betterment of our members and serve the needs of our community. Every chapter has the right and responsibility to attend and participate. To add items to the House of Delegates agenda (submit items before September 21<sup>st</sup>), please contact Gerry Borden (gborden@uniserve.com), District President.

## COTS, CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

The Evergreen District Board of Directors, after much discussion, has accepted the recommendation of the District Director of Events, Bob Cox, and will not hold a major Chapter Operations Training Seminar (COTS) in 2007 for the 2008 officers. Rather, the District will look at holding regional mini-COTS, bringing this school/training closer to the chapters. Expect changes from the traditional experience received at past COTS.

Also, the Evergreen District Board of Directors would like to encourage all Chapters to move their Officer Elections deadline ahead to October 1<sup>st</sup>. This means that the chapter will need to announce their Annual Meeting, and the slate of 2008 Officers, about two (2) weeks earlier than normal. This will allow all chapter officers to be registered with the Society in a timely manner and better plan for officer training at local mini-COTS.

We continue to look to our representatives at the House of Delegates meeting for issues, concerns and program needs that better serve our membership. Please make every effort to have your official delegate at the House of Delegates meeting to work with your District Board in making the decisions necessary to efficiently and effectively build a stronger Evergreen District.

Gerry Borden, District President

## Harmony Xperience (BC Style)

Eric Janzen

Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, brought together thirty five young people for a crash course in a cappella singing. The Youth in Harmony committee in British Columbia organized its first ever "Harmony Explosion " type camp. The one day event was held in the Latter Day Saints church in Langley. The venue was generously donated to us through the efforts of Dave Coleman and proved to be ideal for our needs.

Twenty girls and fifteen boys gathered in the sanctuary at nine a.m. for some opening remarks by Dave Vincent. They were then introduced to Elaine and David Cotton who generously donated their time to work with the students. David and Elaine then demonstrated four part barbershop harmony with the help of Over The Moon, a Sweet Adeline quartet and TNBT a barbershop quartet. Both had agreed to be our teaching quartets for the event.

They then broke into two groups, with the girls retreating to one rehearsal room and the boys to another. After voice placing everyone they worked for several hours during which time each group was taught two songs. Then it was snack time. The time wasn't wasted however, the students were taught several tags and soon the halls were filled with people ringing chords. Work continued in sectionals and in chorus formation until lunch time. During the lunch break the halls again reverberated with the singing of tags.

The afternoon consisted of polishing the numbers, adding some choreography and putting the two groups together to sing one of the songs as a combined chorus. At 4:30, parents, friends and other interested parties gathered to savor the results of the day's hard work. By the smiles on their faces and their enthusiastic applause we determined they were pleased with our efforts. The students were also excited and pleased with themselves and confronted us with comments such as: "When can we do this again?", "Next time can we have more quartering?", etc.

The committee members of course were ecstatic as well and eager to convene at the next regular meeting in order to start planning for next year. A special thanks for the hard work of all involved.



# FOLLOWING IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

## A New Barbershop Chorus for a New Generation

by: Kevin M. Kelly, Evergreen District Executive Vice President

On a quiet Saturday afternoon in August, a remarkable new sound emerged from Bellevue, WA. Some thought it was the roar of the hydroplanes racing across Lake Washington. Others thought it was the car horns from frustrated drivers stuck in the largest repaving project that the state has ever seen.

However, those in the “know” recognized the pure, ringing chords of barbershop music. Imagine the surprise when the same few poked their heads into the rehearsal and observed the group. No, this was not your average mixture of 50-70 year olds trying to recreate a sound they heard years ago. It was not even a bunch of 30 and 40 year olds reviewing a repertoire song. No this was something new – a group of kids from 9 to 30 years old, ringing those chords like a bunch of pros. And this, only after a couple of hours together at this, their first rehearsal.

Thus, the Northwest Vocal Project was born. Don't forget the name – you'll be hearing from them soon.

The first rehearsal was conducted from 2:00 to 6:00 PM with a barbeque afterwards. The youthful organizers (Ian Kelly, Matt Schoonmaker-Gates and Sam Booth – all sons of barbershoppers) were realizing a dream. Fifteen singers hailing from Kitsap, Bellevue, Bellingham and elsewhere were on the risers. Donny Rose, current director of the Bellevue chapter's Northwest Sound chorus, was leading them. Among the onlookers, listening in amazement, were several members of Northwest Sound's music team, acting as advisors, and one crotchety old guy.



Northwest Vocal Project, Bellevue

I had a chance to speak with each of them, and this is what they said:

### How did this get going?

- **Youth leaders (Ian, Matt, Sam)** – I had a dream about singing with guys my age. I didn't think it was possible until I heard and saw Westminster Chorus (the current Barbershop Harmony Society chorus champions). Then I knew what I wanted to do.
- **Singers (the kids)** – At Harmony Explosion, some guys were talking about a new chorus. I didn't think much about it until I started seeing e-mails and comments in the Evernet. Seemed cool, so I thought I'd give it a shot.
- **Director (Donny)** – The kids asked if I could help – who's going to say “no” to that?
- **Chapter sponsors (Bellevue chapter guys)** – As an exercise for our Youth in Harmony activity, I challenged some kids to do something new. Look what happened!
- **Crotchety old guy (name withheld)** – Who knows, I heard there was food, so I showed up early.

### Can you describe the sound, and what's different from a typical barbershop chorus?

- **Youth leaders** – It's just what I envisioned. We sound really good – and we learn really fast. It's more fun to make the music than to waste rehearsal time on learning notes.
- **Singers** – I was once asked to fill in at tenor for a senior quartet. I mean, I love those older guys, but really – this is a WHOLE different sound.
- **Director** – The sound was incredible. Only a few minutes into the rehearsal and chords were locking, one after another. Only a precious few needed to be blocked. I've never had that experience in a chorus before. They miss the richness of the mature bass voices, but they make up for it in clear, pure tones.
- **Chapter sponsors** – They sound like 30 or 40 guys up there, even though it is only 15. It's crisp; it's clean; it's big
- **Crotchety old guy** – They have a whole lot more hair (except for George and Aaron) and not a one of them was named “Bob”.

### What is the vision for this group?

- **Youth leaders** – We're aiming to sing in the Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival at the mid-winter convention in San Antonio. After that, who knows – maybe form a legal chapter and go on from there?
- **Singers** – I want to sing like this. I love barbershop, and this gives me a real chance to share it with guys my own age.
- **Director** – They asked me to help out, and I love it. But my real dream is for them to be able take over everything, even the directing.
- **Chapter sponsors** – This is a group of kids built by a group of kids for a group of kids. We're just here to help them fulfill their dreams, not ours.
- **Crotchety old guy** – You know, I bet these guys could really go somewhere, if they can stick with it.

### Why this, and why now?

- **Youth leaders** – Younger groups are starting to make a mark in the barbershop world. Vocal Spectrum, OC Times, Westminster Chorus and others have already paved the way. Barbershop belongs to all generations.
- **Singers** – I want to sing with my friends. I want to sing my songs. With help from those who've gone before us, we can become fully engaged in this wonderful lifestyle (editor note - changed from “hobby”).
- **Director** – Young singers have a tremendous amount to add to our art. Their energy, their ability and their creativity will add to an already powerful art form.
- **Chapter sponsors** – Our Society is aging fast. More than half of our membership is over 65 years old. These kids are the future; we must help them now.
- **Crotchety old guy** – Well, I suspect these kids need a place where they can do those “crazy” moves. Come on, imagine my chorus trying to do cartwheels across the stage. We'd need a host of cell phones to call 911 at the same time!

cont. on pg 8

# MONTIORING AND CORRECTING OUR PLANS

## Budgets as a Living Roadmap

by: Kevin M. Kelly, Evergreen District CFO and Executive Vice President

Budgets are only good for about 15 minutes, after that, things have already changed”, so says a wise budgeting and planning textbook. In that light, the District Board of Directors has been active in reviewing original budget assumptions and making changes, as part of their ongoing, fiduciary responsibilities.

Some might consider it odd to be so open about finances. But understanding that the District serves its chapters and their members, we wanted to be sure everyone was clear on how things are doing. So here goes.

Up until the past couple of years, the District had been very successful in developing a savings and investment plan, in order to protect us from possible rainy day items. Two years ago, it started to rain. We were caught in a changing hotel industry, with raising rates for our COTS program. Unfortunately, COTS was not a financial success, and we were required to dip into our savings. Last year, even after numerous corrections, our COTS program in Boise was again blindsided by rising hotel costs, hidden charges, and lower attendance. This eliminated the rest of our savings.

The original budget for this year included many assumptions in a set of month by month projections. While overall income and expenses look reasonable, the timing has not occurred as planned. Most notably, the dues income has not come in from the Society as soon as had been believed. Noting this, the Board met at Harmony College Northwest and re-forecasted the remaining of the year. The following are some of the outcomes of that meeting:

- Dues income is forecasted to remain at the same total, just move the timing to the last half of the year. The reasonableness of this was checked with Society CFO, Frank Santarelli.
- In order to be conservative, we built a forecast to rely on dues income only, assuming that HCNW, District and the new structure of COTS would all be at breakeven. This is highly conservative – any income in those events can be put toward replacing savings.
- Several motions were passed putting temporary freezes on various spending areas though the end of this year, namely, reduced travel expenses, one less Timbre, reduced funding for Standing Ovation Program and Top Gun, etc.
- Current debts for past costs are forecast to be paid in full.
- A \$5,000 savings account will be re-established.

The Board believes this is the responsible thing to do at this time, i.e. temporarily reduce future expenses and re-establish our firm financial footing. This new forecast is a key element of accomplishing this. So is communicating it to all members of the District. Please know we are honestly working to put the District back where it had been for years. Let me know if you have any questions, [evp@evg.org](mailto:evp@evg.org).

## CATEGORY SCHOOL 2007

Every three years the Barbershop Harmony Society holds a four-day-long, intensive training workshop more commonly known as “Category School,” in which the entire judging community is required to attend in order to be recertified for the next three years. This year, our nine current Evergreen District judges attended and were recertified. These men are:

Music: Bob Brock, Jim Kahlke, Jay Krumbholz  
Presentation: Marty Lovick, Roger Mills, Reid Stewart  
Contest Administrators: Brian Ayers, Mike Lanctot, Bob Thomas

Evergreen also had three candidate judges, who have been practicing (apprenticing) for the last two years, and I’m proud to announce that all three were certified! These men are:

Music: Jeremiah Pope  
Contest Administrators: Ken Galloway, Barry Knott

Kudos are in order for all of these men and if you see them be sure to shake their hand and congratulate them on a job well done! Becoming a judge is no easy task, and it is heartening to see that Evergreen’s talent is beginning to emerge in venues other than our great quartets and choruses.

The next judging cycle begins in August (and lasts through December), when the BHS opens its application process to anyone who may have aspirations of eventually becoming a judge. If you’ve ever sat in the audience and thought “I bet I can do what those guys in the pit are doing” or “I bet it’d be neat to help run a contest,” then consider entering the judging program. Ask any of the guys listed above about how rewarding the entire process has been, and about how great it feels to “give back” to the BHS by helping performers enjoy this wonderful hobby even more.

You can always email me and get more information.

Jay Krumbholz, EVG DCJ

## CAMP SNAPSHOTS!



Harmony Xperience, Vancouver, BC



Harmony Rendezvous, Bozeman



## Harmony Rendezvous

Frank L. Johnson, M.D.  
Evergreen District Board Member At Large

Thank you Evergreen District barbershoppers for your continued support of the Big Sky Youth Harmony Rendezvous! The fifth annual Rendezvous was held at Luccock Park United Methodist Camp south of Livingston, Montana, from June 20 to 24, 2007. 32 young men/boys and 42 young women/girls from Montana, Idaho, California, and Utah sang, danced, ate, slept, made friends, and performed in that beautiful mountain valley location with near perfect weather. Again this year our chief clinicians were Don Rose for the boys and Beth Bruce for the girls. And as in previous years the students expressed their joy in participating in our beloved art form of barbershop singing through their words, body language, and deeds.

The boys' chorus sang *Coney Island Baby/We All Fall, What a Wonderful World, and In the Still of the Nite*. The girls' chorus sang *Locomotion, Feelin' Groovy, and Hooked on a Feeling*. The combined chorus sang two terrific 8 part arrangements by Evergreen's very own Mel Knight: *This Could Be the Start of Something Big* and *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. I highly recommend both arrangements to any chorus that is

looking for some dynamic songs to sing with their local Sweet Adeline International chorus for a local show.

Besides the continued financial support of the Bud Leabo Memorial Fund, the Harmony Foundation, the Young Singers Foundation, and Montana chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society, we were pleased to get significant financial contributions from the Pocatello chapter of SAI and from the Tri-Cities chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Walt Slater's grant writing efforts came through with a grant from the Northwest Energy Foundation. This year QCED donated 4 of their fine CDs for the boys "sectional stars." Mike Menefee again donated his musical talents by making the learning CDs for the boys parts to the two Mel Knight arrangements. The students, faculty, and I thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts!

Many photos and additional descriptions of this year's Rendezvous are available on line at [www.harmonyrendezvous.org](http://www.harmonyrendezvous.org). The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Big Sky Youth Harmony Rendezvous is scheduled for June 18 to 22, 2008. The fine Evergreen District



quartet Upswing has volunteered to be the teaching quartet for the boys next year, and the director of the Five Valley Chapter of SAI (Missoula, Montana chapter), Candy Johnson, will join us next year as the girls' coach. All new music will be selected, but we anticipate having at least as much fun as we did this past June. We welcome additional youth to join us for a wonderful 5 days of singing and fellowship.



Harmony Rendezvous, Bozeman



# THE MT. BAKER TOPPERS DO IT RIGHT!

Jamie Severson

After getting only two responses from local high school choir directors, the Mount Baker Toppers set up a visit to a local high school that already had an a cappella/barbershop group. Jamie Severson, the YIH guy, said they wanted to “do an informative session on barbershop, teach them a tag, and hopefully instill in them the idea that vocal harmony is a kind of hobby separate from anything else. Doug Broersma, Joe McCorison, and Drew Osterhout and Jamie arrived around 11:00 AM and stayed for about 75 minutes. I tell you what, I could tell after a few minutes which guys were really into this music already. By the end, the class was really into it!”

The next step was to schedule a special rehearsal night at the Toppers that was focused on The Talons (the high school group) and really catered to them. The Music Leadership Team (MLT) met and talked about what kinds of things we should do, what music to work on, and the general format of the night.

Well, 8 of them ended up coming and they really loved it! By the end, most of them were all smiles. They sang a song for us during our break which sounded really good. The highlight for me was the end of the night, when we always sing The Irish Blessing in a big circle. Denny Stiers stood in the middle and told everyone how great being a barbershopper is because of the unique bond and camaraderie you have with your fellow singers. You can call a barbershopper up if your car breaks down in another state and you know that they will come help out if they can. One of the mothers of one of the students who stayed for the rehearsal, we had stand in the middle of the circle while we sang our closing song. During the last couple chords, she started to well up and was crying by the end. It was probably one of the best experiences I can remember singing that song!

Jamie says, “All in all, it was a really great time and I hope that we make this a regular thing: New, young, singers coming out and having a good time singing great music with us! It was really cool having those guys out to Topper Hall!”

It's not that hard. You set up an opportunity to visit a school, and then invite the guys back to your rehearsal. It's not recruiting—it's sharing music. Kids enjoy the good chords maybe even better than the old guys.



**MARK HALE**

## MASTER DIRECTORS CLASS

Great progress is being made on the Mark Hale Masters Directors Class weekend. The Portland area location is the planned site and the weekend will be on or near November 16-18.

Key people working on the details, schedule and plans are Bob Robson, Director of the Chorus Director Development and The Portland Metro Chapter, more specifically John Burri and Steve Kyes, for that weekend. There has been a bit of discussion and some planning with Bob Cox, Director of Events on possibly having a mini-COTS on that same weekend – but the planned Master Director Class will go ahead with or without the min-COTS event.

Bob Robson, Director of Chorus Director Development is getting more details from Mark such as song choices and other types of activities for the directors on that weekend.

Once a few more details are sorted out, a detailed e-mail will be distributed to all Evergreen directors, assistant directors, and music team members. Also Bob will be sending the information to the adjacent Sweet Adeline International (SAI) regions. Information is planned to be distributed by the first week of September as that will give us 9 weeks to promote and get people signed up.

Bob Robson, Director of Chorus  
Director Development

## IRS NOTICES

- 1) The Internal Revenue Service announced that it began mailing educational letters this month to more than 650,000 small tax-exempt organizations that may be required to submit a new annual notice, Form 990-N, “Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ.” You can read more about it at: <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=172258,00.html> A copy of the letter is available. I believe all chapters not filing a Form 990 or Form 990-EZ will be required to file this new Form 990-N. Please inform your chapter treasurers and COTS instructors. Contact Kevin Kelly.
- 2) Direct from the Society current Rules and regulations handbook... Under 7 Public Performances item (e)  
(e) *The Society* is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit, charitable and educational organization. Therefore, appearances, paid or nonpaid, at political functions in support of a candidate by quartets, choruses or other Society units identified as *Society members are prohibited.*

## CAMP SNAPSHOT!



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## A New Barbershop Chorus - cont. from pg 4

### What happens next?

- **Youth leaders** – We're going to meet every second Saturday, probably in Bellevue for the foreseeable future. We need more guys to share the fun.
- **Singers** – I'm going to tell my friends, both at chorus and at school. This is for us and for them. I'm sure we'll have plenty of guys at the next rehearsal.
- **Director** – The thrill of clean singing is about as good as it gets. The only thing better is clean singing, with power. For that, we need more guys. By the way, we can't meet on second Saturday in September (I'm getting married on that day). Rather, we'll be getting together on September 29.
- **Chapter sponsors** – We'll form a committee, send out surveys, evaluate our progress, develop a mission statement, perform a SWOT analysis, create strategic vision and goals, execute the plan, and define accountability.
- **Crotchety old guy** – Can't you chapter sponsors just shut up and let the kids sing? I kinda like to listen to 'em.

### How does someone get involved?

- **Youth leaders** – Log on to the website, [www.vocalproject.com](http://www.vocalproject.com). Go to "contact us" and send in your e-mail. We're doing all of our communicating electronically.
- **Singers** – Just come to the rehearsal – you'll be welcome and you'll love it. The music should be on the website soon – be ready, we move fast.
- **Director** – For the older guys – talk to the kids you know who have been on the fence about barbershop. This is a new way for them to experience it – and the kids seem to like it.
- **Chapter sponsors** – Give the kids a chance to sing with those who are their own age. They'll come back to you more energized than ever to contribute.
- **Crotchety old guy** – This is great. If you'd quit asking questions, I could just sit back and listen.

The main concern from all the "old" guys was, "Are we really meeting their needs, or is this our own dream?" Donny did a great thing at the end of the rehearsal – he asked them. He had them put up fingers, from 1 to 10, representing how enthused they were about the new opportunity to sing. On his signal, they all flashed their fingers. As quickly as I could, I counted. 145 out of 150 – not bad. Mission: Accomplished.

Barbershop is a historical art form that draws heavily on the past. We revere those singers that have gone before us and honor them by singing the songs they sang. At the same time, it is a dynamic art form, one bound to change and evolve as each new generation finds their way to embrace it. In this manner, preservation and encouragement happen at the same time. Thus, one can follow in the footsteps of the past masters and in those of the new heroes by keeping barbershop alive in all of our hearts.

Young guys – See you September 29 at 2:00 PM in Bellevue!  
Old guys - Stay tuned, this is going to be great!

## Gold Medal Moments

If you haven't heard or read Jim Henry's speech delivered at Harmony University 2007, you are missing something absolutely wonderful and moving!! Check [www.evg.org](http://www.evg.org) for a link.



Northwest Vocal Project, Bellevue

## CAMP SNAPSHOTS!



Harmony Xperience, Vancouver, BC



Harmony Explosion Northwest, Tacoma

## QCED SEASIDE SHOW

The 2008 Quartet Champions of Evergreen District (QCED) Show, held in Seaside, OR is rapidly coming together. The Friday evening show on Friday, January 18th @ 7:00 PM, is a cabaret format and will cost \$15.00. Then on Saturday, January 19th @ 7:30 PM; will be the normal show of quartet champions.

The cost will be \$20.00 for sections 1 & 2; \$17.00 for section 3 and students will cost \$5.00. Other surprises and the lineup is still being planned, but set aside this weekend for two great shows, plus some time on the beautiful Oregon Coast. See you there.



## HARMONY EXPLOSION NORTHWEST

Jamie Peterson

My wife, Mollie, and I both started singing barbershop harmony at a young age, and our lives have been greatly enriched by the music and the people who are part of our hobby. However, nothing has compared to seeing our kids, all 200 young men and women, sing at Evergreen District's Harmony Explosion 2007 wrap-up show in front of over 800 people recently. So, how did we go from 24 students 5 years ago to 200 students this year? Here are some of the things we learned along the way.

**It's All About The Kids.** We're not here to sell barbershop to young people, or even to introduce them to barbershop. We're here to change our students' lives, and we use barbershop as the vehicle. We offer students a unique musical experience, the chance to gain confidence by singing in front of a large audience, to meet new friends, to work as a team, to accomplish a goal, and to be around positive role models. You wouldn't think that a 3-day camp could have such an impact, but it can and it has. You wouldn't believe how many students, parents and teachers have talked to us about how the camp has positively impacted the kids' lives. It's a great experience, but it's also a great responsibility. We are very proud of the way our students represent us both on and off the risers, and we make sure they know it every chance we get.

**Our Staff Is The Best!** We are very proud of our staff, and we are very particular about who we choose for these positions. First and foremost, they must be positive role models who understand that the kids come first. We don't need singers in these positions (although most of them are very good), we need people who can work in a team environment and be counted on to follow through. Most of our staff works on the camp year-round. They are dedicated to giving the students the best experience possible. The students respect the fact that staff members are there to give the gift of music, and that they are giving up vacation and/or financial gain to do so.

**Our Student Staff Is Phenomenal!** We also have Student Staff members who are a major part of the camp. In many instances, we have found that students will respond to someone their own age better than they will to an older staff member. With a few exceptions, Student Staff members are at least 18 years of age, have been to at least one camp, and have exceptional leadership abilities. Their duties include section leading, role taking, bed checks, and riser discipline, and they are singing members of the Harmony Explosion



chorus. We are very proud of our Student Staff members. They are the future of this program, and the future of the Society.

**We Challenge The Students!** Kenny Hatton, our head clinician for some of the early camps, believed that the students needed to be challenged. We were a little skeptical at the difficulty level of some of the pieces he selected, but time and time again he proved that if the kids liked a song, they would learn it. Our current head clinicians, Russ Young and Nick Papageorge, agree with this philosophy. We believe that the difficulty of the songs helps to draw better musicians to our camp.

**We Have Never Turned Away A Student Because Of Financial Need!** We are very proud of the fact that we have been able to fund all students who want to attend our camp. It is only through the generosity of barbershoppers that I was able to sing barbershop in my youth, and I want to make sure that all students have the chance to experience the music and the people who sing it.

**We Have An Incredible Support System!** The Evergreen District, its chapters and members have supported and trusted us with their money and kids, and encouraged us when things didn't go so well. Thanks to Harmony Foundation, the Bud Leabo Memorial Fund, and Sweet Adelines International for helping fund the camp. 116 of the 200 students got the chance to attend camp because of you.

**So, What About Getting New Members?** I heard Clark Caldwell, Harmony Foundation CEO, once say that people will give money to save lives and to change lives. If we change lives, and if we are sincere in our goal to give the gift of music to our students and our community, then our Society will continue to thrive.

We encourage you to visit our web site below to see some pictures from this year's event. <http://www.harmonyexplosion.com>

This has been the highlight of Mollie's and my combined 65 years of barbershopping. If you are not involved in some way with Harmony Explosion or Youth in Harmony in your district, I strongly encourage you to do so. There is nothing more rewarding than hearing that first chord out of a chorus of young people, or seeing the joy in their faces as they realize what they've accomplished. What a great hobby!

# HOW TO START A BARBERSHOP CHAPTER

Q. Gates – EVG Membership Development Director

In a recent “Greenline” article, I introduced you to two groups that are in various stages of becoming Barbershop Harmony Society chapters in the Evergreen District. Several other locations are showing interest in developing new chapters, too. It may start out as some guys getting together to sing and have fun but sooner or later you’ll want to get organized. So what does it take to start a new chapter? How do you go about it? What help is available? And most importantly...what *kind* of chapter should it be?

The unique example of the Westminster, California Chapter is inspiring a number of youth-oriented, achievement-oriented experiments throughout the Society and yes, here in Evergreen, too. But you may be surprised how the Westminster guys got organized. Read what they did in “*Tagging and Tacos – The formula for a local youth chorus*” in the May/June 2007 *Harmonizer*. Also, Chris Rimple’s course at HCNW explores the whole question of generational differences in the recruiting and retention of singers.

Many new chapters will probably look different than the traditional community chapters that are the norm. There will be more youth-oriented “Westminster-like” chapters, of course, but also hybrid BHS/SAI chapters and quartet-only chapters and daytime-only chapters, etc. That is, chapters with very specialized *objectives*.

That said, here is one plan for starting a chapter. It assumes that the chapter is not the outgrowth of another chapter where expertise and resources are available but rather a stand-alone start-up chapter. It may or may not be specialized... the basics are the same. It takes four men (a quartet?) to license a chapter... the first step. It takes twelve men - half of whom must be new Society members - to charter. Chartering also requires incorporating in the state or province where the chapter is being established.

1. You’ll need a “**sparkplug**” organizer (You?). Someone who will do some research; serve as a central communications point; find a meeting place; advertise to the target community that a chapter is being organized, and organize a steering committee meeting. A new chapter usually starts with one man and an idea... then it grows from there.
2. You’ll need a **Music Director**. Someone who can take charge musically until the chapter gets organized well enough to assemble a music team. He or she should be musically capable, personable, a good communicator and tactfully persistent. An experienced barbershopper, perhaps a quartetter, with coaching and contest experience is a good start. EVG Chorus Director Development guru Bob Robson, (bob.robson@shaw.ca) and EVG Music & Performance Director Tom Condon (tom@condonia.org) can help you here.
3. You’ll need **materials**. The Society provides a free “license kit” that includes organizational instructions, forms, music, guest registers, nametags and many other startup items. Order from Charlie Davenport, BHS Director of Membership Development at cdavenport@barbershop.org with a courtesy copy to qgates@juno.org
4. You’ll need **resources**. Start with the membership materials on the EVG web site and go from there... www.evg.org > “Membership” > “Resources”. Check out especially “Finding Former Members” as a quick way to locate former barbershoppers who may live in your area. Also, consider nearby chapters as resources... ask for

their advice and assistance. A nearby Chapter Counselor or other experienced barbershopper may agree to “midwife” your nascent chapter into being... connecting you to other sources of information and assistance.

5. You’ll need a **Steering Committee** meeting. Assemble a steering committee of interested men that you’ve contacted directly... perhaps including the “midwife,” above. This team sets the agenda for the future of your chapter by determining the chapter’s Objective, developing initial musical goals, allocating tasks, marshalling resources and planning your first “chapter meeting.” It may take several meetings to put a plan together but it’s best to consider... and plan for in advance... as many contingencies as possible. The committee should consider the following:  
**Determine Your Objective.** The organizers of a new chapter should first determine what kind of chapter they want and then organize accordingly. If you want to be a typical community-based chapter the steps are pretty simple. If you want to become a very specialized group like Westminster, a nearby chapter may help, just as the Masters of Harmony helped the Westminster guys get organized. But decide first. It’s difficult to specialize once you’re organized as a “standard” chapter unless every member agrees to change.  
**Organize Around The Objective.** OK... you’ve chosen an objective... now what? First, remember that everything else you do should be guided by that Objective... How and whom you recruit, When and where you meet, Who your musical leaders will be, What music you choose, How you orient new members, even How much start-up money you’ll need and where to find it. Use your chapter objective like a pole-star to guide your decisions as you move from an idea to a small group to a functioning chapter. Notice I didn’t say chorus. If you choose to have a chorus, it’s part of the chapter, not the other way around. Successful chapters have learned that they are much more than just a chorus. Even the Westminster chapter encourages quartetting and other forms of barbershopping among its members... and they’re the Champs!
6. **Help** is just an email or phone call away. The Evergreen District Leadership Team is committed to cooperative interaction. I’m (qgates@juno.org) (360-527-3142)... responsible for helping develop new chapters. But we are all ready to bring our resources to the table. Contact me and I’ll brief them on your interest in starting a chapter so they’ll be ready to help when you call.

The Evergreen District Leadership Team is not only ready to help you start a new chapter but we also understand that the chapter you have in mind may not look like your Dad’s chapter. We understand that the area in which you live may require a unique approach to barbershopping. We are ready and open to a blend of chapters that will take our beloved art form into the new century with style. Now it’s your turn. Remember... More singers... More Music... More Fun!



Would your quartet like to receive coaching from members of QCED (Quartet Champions of the Evergreen District)? then take advantage of the *QCED ENDOWMENT FUND (QEF)*! The purpose of the QEF is to support the mission of QCED by promoting quartetting in the Evergreen District through quartet educational and development activities. For more information, contact Ira Allen (QEF Trustee) at 425-957-9905, by email (iqtet@comcast.net), or go to: <http://www.evg.org/education/QCED.asp>

**Puyallup Valley Harmonizers**  
**Bruce Foreman**

Official announcement: After redefining our chapter mission statement ("Pursuing joy, excellence and fellowship through song"), hiring a new director (Marci Elefritz), and discussing for months whether we needed to change the name of the chorus to advance our identification with the communities in the Puyallup valley (primarily Puyallup and Sumner), we decided the time was ripe for a change. We decided to call ourselves the **Puyallup Valley Harmonizers**, which does at least two things: It makes clear that we belong to the community in which we meet; and, It necessitates the least amount of change in our logo. So it is PVH from now on.

Everyone currently meeting on Tuesday nights is enthusiastic about the both the purpose and the name itself. We anticipate getting some publicity in the local area about the change. For those in the District and Society who have never heard of Puyallup or figured out how to pronounce it - that's Pew-AL-up!!

We started with 14 regulars as of the first of December. Since then we have received 3 new members, lost two (Jim Camp was reassigned to Honolulu), have two former members coming back next Tuesday, two more from another chapter promising to visit us next Tuesday, and we are working on several more. We have been busy performing throughout the year and expect to continue being so.

We'd love to have you visit any Tuesday evening at Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church, 8401 112th E in Puyallup.

**The Times They Are a-Changin'**

by Steve Stripling

**We need your help.**  
**Here's the scenario.**

It is late night at Headquarters at International in Denver. Across the street-barbershop tag singing mayhem. But here, in a relatively peaceful bar, I'm eating a surprisingly good burrito dinner digesting the events of the day. I consider the contrast between the Buffalo Bills' "Music Man" footage shown on stage and the Westminster's youth wearing t-shirts sporting "Barbershop for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". In the background Bob Dylan's nasal monotone sings a 1963 epic ...*"Come senators, congressmen, please heed the call, for the times they are a-changin'..."*

In this environment I finally have time to think about my earlier visit with incoming District President Kevin Kelly who shared his 3 main goals for his term: improving musical quality, increasing membership and improving communications. Oh yeah, and he wants to do it for 62 chapters .... **62?!!**

...*"You better think fast or you'll sink like a stone, for the times they are a-changin'..."*

When incoming Director of Communications, Adrian Leontovich, asked me to join his team he neglected to mention 62 chapters. Talk about the proverbial "herding cats." After 25 years in the marketing/advertising/pr industry, including owning my own company, I've stepped on a lot of rakes; I can recognize trouble. I've also worked with several successful non-profit organizations. One thing's for certain: 17 years in barbershop has also taught me how not to run a non-profit organization!

**Here's how you can help:**

1. **KISS** (Keep it singer-simple!)... My chapter board is great about talking for hours how to solve the "World of Barbershop Problems"! Then we get bored and sing. Help us out by answering the questions below and then mailing or emailing what you find to us.
2. Consider in-coming Prez Kelly's 3 target areas for improvement. Send in ONE suggestion to help improve each category for our choruses: Improve Musical Quality; Increase Membership; and Improve Communications
3. Send us ONE idea that will make your chapter night more enjoyable and satisfying. Hint- most choruses have not fractioned to create two chapters with opposite goals ... most are stuck with the full array- from the hardcore to the out of tune slacker!

Email each of your ideas to [marketing@evg.org](mailto:marketing@evg.org)... or mail them to: Steve Stripling, P.O. Box 240632, Anchorage, AK 99524-0623 Your input will be considered, condensed, and then may end up on [EVG.ORG/marketing/](http://EVG.ORG/marketing/)

*... "Come barbershoppers, board members, please heed the call, for the times they are a-changin'..."*

**REGISTRATION & TICKET ORDER FORM**

*(Please PRINT Clearly - use extra paper if needed)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter/Quartet/Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

**TICKET ORDER**

Ticket Variety	Qty.	@\$\$	=Total
All-Events <i>(Postmarked after 9/1/07)</i>	_____	\$65.00	_____
Saturday Evening Show <i>(only)</i>	_____	\$25.00	_____

**TOTAL PAYMENT DUE**

The All-Events Ticket includes: All Musical Events/Presentations and Saturday Evening Show. **Make checks payable to: Bellevue Northwest Sound**

**Evergreen A Cappella Festival**

**October 16 - 21, 2007**  
**Meydenbauer Convention Center**  
**Bellevue, Washington**

Hosted by the Northwest Sound and the Evergreen District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

**Credit Card payment for tickets:**

\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ MasterCard  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To Register: Visit [www.acappellafestival.org](http://www.acappellafestival.org)** for online registration **Or Send this completed form and money to:** Cal Philippi, Registration Chairman, 5505 145<sup>th</sup> St SW., Edmonds, WA 98026 Ph: 206-601-0768

# Timbre

Kitsap County Chapter, SPEBSQSA  
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Silverdale, WA 98383

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## QUARTET WORKSHOP

Plan to be in Seattle November 9-11, 2007 for a very special weekend! Come learn from the best! Region 13 has a host of Judges and International Top 10 members, including Susan Lamb-Kegley, who will also be available for quartet coaching Sunday morning.

### November 9 - 11 Quartet Workshop

Hosted by Ovation, Region 13 Quartet Champions Club  
Faculty - The Buzz and Nancy Bergman  
Registrations are \$160 per quartet and \$50 for individuals.

### Saturday, November 10, 2007

An Evening with Bergman - Hosted by Jet Cities Chorus  
Tickets \$30 VIP seating; \$20 General Admission  
Registered Workshop attendees: \$30 VIP; \$15 GA  
Featuring: Jet Cities Chorus, Chapter Quartets, LiveWire and The Buzz

This evening is a special celebration of Nancy's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, her arrangements, and one very special lady's lifetime commitment to Sweet Adelines. The evening will end with everyone joining in singing "Harmonize the World," one of Nancy's most well-known arrangements. Don't miss out - mark your calendars now to join us in Seattle in November!

Questions - email [ovation@sairegion13.org](mailto:ovation@sairegion13.org) (remove spaces).  
More details about the workshop and show will be available:

[www.sairegion13.org](http://www.sairegion13.org) or [www.jectcities.org](http://www.jectcities.org)

See you there!

Teresa McCafferty, Tenor, LiveWire, Director Jet Cities Chorus

**Next Timbre deadline is: October 25, 2007**

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