

Mid-Atlantic District Association of Quartet Champions



October 25, 2012

Dear Quartet Champ,

As the song goes, *"By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea"* ... the **Mid-Atlantic District Fall Convention** came back to the beach, this time to Ocean City, MD on October 12-14. **The Mainliners Chorus** from Bryn Mawr, PA did a great job hosting the event. Our 14th annual quartet champs association reunion and the Saturday night Show of Champions performance was a perfect finish to a wonderful weekend of close harmony, tough competition, camaraderie, and fellowship. By my count, throughout the weekend there were **48** past champ singers representing **40** District champion foursomes (highlighted on last page) spanning 7 decades ... from the **Play-Tonics** (1955) to the **MAD Hatters** (2012). In addition to our mid-Atlantic residents who drove up, down, and over to the shore, four guys traveled all the way from Florida to be with us ... **Gene O'Dell** (Friends of Yesterday), **Bob "Diz" Disney** (Union Jacks, B&O Connection, Arcade) **Eddy Ryan** (Tradewinds), and **Tommy Dames** (Easternaires).

Here is a weekend recap. First, to the end with the quartet results.

✚ The **2013 Mid-Atlantic District Quartet Champions** are ... **Frank the Dog** – Tom Halley (L), **Steve Kirsch** (Bs), **Ross Trube** (Br), and **Tim Knapp** (T). They sang *"I Won't Send Roses"*, *One for My Baby (And One More for the Road)*, *"When There's Love at Home"*, and *"All I Do is Dream of You"*. The quartet is now our **68th** champion since 1945 for a total of 213 Men.





**OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention
Mid-Atlantic District, Quartet Finals, Ocean City, Maryland, October 13, 2012, REVISED 10-14-2012**

Finals.....	Song.....	MUS.	PRS.	SNG.	Subt.	Prev.	Total.....	Avg.....
1 Frank the Dog	When There's Love At Home	231	238	236	1416	1456	2872	79.8
	All I Do Is Dream Of You	236	238	237				
2 Mayhem	If I Ruled The World	239	239	242	1435	1396	2831	78.6
	Jump Shout Boogie	234	243	238				
3 Up All Night	Middle Aged Man	227	243	232	1415	1369	2784	77.3
	Junk Food	233	249	231				
4 Limelight	Nobody Knows You When You're Down And Out	226	221	226	1341	1351	2692	74.8
	I'll Forget You	222	221	225				
5 Escapade	All Over Nothing At All	217	221	227	1332	1358	2690	74.7
	Nice and Easy	219	222	226				
6 Flatiron Four	Bring Back Those Good Old Days	219	216	227	1319	1355	2674	74.3
	Old Fashioned Girl/Sweet And Lovely Medley	215	219	223				
7 ACME Chord Company	Forgive Me	226	217	227	1331	1316	2647	73.5
	Burn Up The Town	221	219	221				
8 Double Windsor	Auld Lang Syne	212	207	219	1264	1281	2545	70.7
	Sweet And Lovely	211	204	211				
9 Faces 4 Radio	Let's Start All Over Again	218	215	214	1279	1262	2541	70.6
	The End of the Road	215	206	211				
10 Why Not?	What Kind Of Fool Am I	211	211	208	1257	1244	2501	69.5
	Bye Bye Blues	206	214	207				
Semi-Finals.....	Song.....	MUS.	PRS.	SNG.	Subt.	Prev.	Total.....	Avg.....
1 Frank the Dog	I Won't Send Roses	240	249	239			1456	80.9
	One For My Baby (And One More For The Road)	236	250	242				
2 Mayhem	Among My Souvenirs	229	232	237			1396	77.6
	Turn Me On	232	230	236				
3 Up All Night	This Nearly Was Mine	225	236	228			1369	76.1
	Ain't It The Truth	222	233	225				
4 Escapade	What Are You Doing New Years Eve	222	220	232			1358	75.4
	Until The Real Thing Comes Along	228	225	231				
5 Flatiron Four	When My Baby Smiles at Me	222	231	229			1355	75.3
	New York Ain't New York Anymore	217	229	227				
6 Limelight	Let's Do It (Let's Fall In Love)	225	228	225			1351	75.1
	Over The Rainbow - Interpolating I'm Always Chasin	223	228	222				
7 ACME Chord Company	Down By The Old Mill Stream	228	216	220			1316	73.1
	Jazz Me Blues	221	213	218				
8 Double Windsor	Midnight Rose	218	204	221			1281	71.2
	Once Upon A Time	212	211	215				
9 Faces 4 Radio	It's You	213	213	211			1262	70.1
	Sweet Georgia Brown	208	212	205				
10 Why Not?	I've Been Workin' On The Railroad	210	211	205			1244	69.1
	What!! I Do?	201	213	204				

Frank the Dog is the District Quartet Champion.

Now, starting near the beginning of the weekend ...

- The Friday evening **Quartet Semifinals** featured 25 quartet competitors including 7 foursomes containing 8 M-AD quartet champion singers: **Bob Ramsey** (Runaway Sound), **Mike Wallen** (Alexandria's Ragtime Band, Copyright '86, Casino), **Mike Pinto** (Phat Cats, Ringers), **Joe Hunter** (Four Under Par, Reveille), **John Ward** (Reveille), **Al Fennell** (The New Yorkers), **Joe Eckert** (New Release), and **Mark Sanders** (Keystone Congregation) from **Escapade**, **Youth Reclamation Project**, **Mayhem**, **Up All Night**, **Quatrain**, **Limelight**, and **Faces 4 Radio**, respectively. **Bill Colosimo** (Copyright '86) was the Master of Ceremonies and the **MAD Hatters** served as the mic-testers.

Bill Colosimo - MoC



MAD Hatters - mic-testers



- Congratulations to **Faces 4 Radio** (Brad Brooks, Jeff Winik, **Mark Sanders**, and Bob Bristow) who qualified to represent the Mid-Atlantic District at the **International Seniors Quartet Contest** this coming January during the Mid-Winter Convention in Orlando, FL. **Legacy** (**Rick King** (Broadway), Gary Rogness, Steve Peterson, and Dane Marble) who competed outside of M-AD for score also qualified. **Youth Reclamation Project** (**Mike Wallen**, Vic Owen, Roger Tarpy, and Hardman Jones) may earn a wildcard invitation.

F4R – Their best side



Legacy



- Immediately following the announcement of the Top-10 quartets and mic-testers, the **MADAQC Chorus** gathered for the first of 2 weekend rehearsals. For the second year, father and son tag-team **Bill and Tony Colosimo** (Iguanas in Flight) were our **Honorary MADAQC co-Directors**. Because Tony is a Candidate Judge in the singing category, he had

quartet evaluation responsibilities, so Bill quickly ran us through our paces, emphasizing the **“Just between Old Friends”** – a song which proved to be a challenging chart for many mostly due to its unfamiliarity. We got some of it under our belts then headed off to bed.

- ✚ The chorus contest started early on Saturday morning and it was a busy day for 8 quartet champs who were preparing to direct competing choruses: **Jack Pinto** (BSQ, Old School), **Larry Bomback** (‘Round Midnight), **Rick Taylor** (Arcade, Old School, MAD Hatters), **Mike Wallen**, **Richard Lewellen** (Four Aces), **Bill Colosimo**, **Mark Paul** (Reveille) and **Chuck Lower** (Free Trade Agreement).
- ✚ At the conclusion of the chorus contest, and following the Directors Recognition segment, the **Mid-Atlantic District “Hall of Honor”** members were invited to the stage for the induction ceremony for this year’s distinguished recipients. **2012 HoH Chairman Mike Wallen** read the detailed biographies after which the recipients were presented with commemorative engraved silver plates and name badges. The honorees were **Bob Bohn** (Easternaires) whose daughter Melody Bohn Disney accepted the honor posthumously for her dad, **Roger Tarpy** and **Rick Taylor**. Congratulations to all of the inductees and thank you for your lifetimes of service and contribution to barbershopping in our great District.
- ✚ The **2013 Mid-Atlantic District Chorus Champions** were announced ... the **Alexandria Harmonizers** under the direction of **Master Director Joe Cerutti** staged 98 men and took top honors for their 24th time since 1978, earning a trip to the International Chorus Contest next July in Toronto, Canada with a score of 1,573 (87.4%). The chorus reprised their 1995 International Gold Medal winning package of *“I’ll Be Seeing You”* and *“Sweet Georgia Brown”* to a standing M-AD ovation.

Alexandria Harmonizers



The **Hamilton Square, NJ – Brothers of Harmony** under the direction of **Jack Pinto** placed 2nd and the **Hell’s Kitchen, NY – Voices of Gotham** under the direction of **Larry Bomback** finished in 3rd Place. Both of these choruses could earn a wildcard to the Toronto International Contest.

- ✚ At about 5:00, the MADAQC Chorus assembled again for a final practice, however the VERY late-running chorus evaluation sessions pushed us back by an hour and made us somewhat nomadic in finding a place to rehearse. Once we got started, Bill and Tony worked the two songs, and then most of the guys headed off for a quick dinner before the evening activities started again at 7:00.
- ✚ The **Quartet Finals** immediately followed and turned out to be a close battle between **Frank the Dog** who led with a big score (1,456, 80.9%) from Friday night and **Mayhem** who edged them out in score (1,435, 79.7%) on Saturday night. The Dogs held their leash (err ... lead) to win by 41 points.
- ✚ **Show of Champions:** The **Brothers of Harmony** and the **Voices of Gotham** performed and then the **Alexandria Harmonizers** wowed the audience with "I'm the Music Man", then featured **Mayhem** in "Circle of Life" from the "Lion King", and finished up with "Sweet Georgia Brown."



The **MAD Hatters** (**Scott Disney, Steve White, Rick Taylor, Rob Seay**) brought the audience to their feet twice during their performance to close out their championship year. They thanked **Kevin King** (Pros 'N Cons, Untouchables, BSQ) for his fine work as their primary coach. The quartet had qualified for the 2012 Portland International Contest; however, circumstances prevented them from attending. Rick assured everyone they are having fun, rehearse weekly, and are available for chapter shows.



The MADAQC Chorus was now lined up in the wings, ready to take the stage. **Youth in Harmony DVP Gary Plaag** (Hijinx) served as our emcee and gave the audience a little history of the Association. On the fly, we tried something a little different to recognize those champs present. Each man came to center microphone, gave his name, the quartet(s) he represented, and the year they won. This worked out well and gave the audience a chance to put a smiling face to each quartet and then applaud individually. Our two most senior champion quartets represented were (as they were last year) the Easternaires with **Tommy Dames** on hand and the Play-Tonics with **Dave Mittelstadt** there. Predictably, the unpredictable **Gene O'Dell** made the most of the spotlight by adding some comedy to the moment ... much to the delight of the audience.



Gary acknowledged the passing of **Alan Durick**, baritone of **Alexandria's Ragtime Band** (1985), who died last November. Tony then directed the MADAQC Chorus in singing "**Just between Old Friends**" which was the perfect sentiment for another great reunion weekend.

On a special note, this year was the 50th anniversary for our 1962 champs, the **Main Street Four** with **Wes Clemens, Dick Floersheimer, Robert Royce, and Fred Kirberger**. Dick and Fred are the surviving members, but could not be with us this weekend. It was also the 25th anniversary of our 1988 champs, **Copyright '86** with **John Casey, Steve White, Mike Wallen, and Bill Colosimo**. Bill, Mike, and Steve proudly represented their quartet.

Main Street Four



Copyright '86



THE BIG FINALE: As the Top-10 quartets huddled back stage in great anticipation of what could be for each, Gary and **VP for Contest & Judging John Santora** gave the much-awaited results. The MAD Hatters handed out lapel pins and congratulations to the Top-3 finishers.

... in 3rd Place – **Up All Night**

Cecil Brown (L), Dan Rowland (Bs), **Joe Hunter** (Br), and **John Ward** (T)



... in 2nd Place – **Mayhem**

Neil "Pookie" Dingle (L), Kenny White (Bs), **Mike Pinto** (Br), and Matt Fellows (T)



[Note: Also rounding out the Top 10 was past champion **Joe Eckert** in **Limelight** (4th Place), **Bob Ramsey** in **Escapade** (5th Place), and **Mark Sanders** in **Faces 4 Radio** (9th). **Youth Reclamation Project** came 11th as mic-testers and was represented by **Mike Wallen**.]

Frank the Dog was named champions and awarded the traveling **MADAQC/Oriole Four Trophy** by **District President Dick Powell**, individual **James E. Grant Performance Award** trophies (provided through Bob Disney), and shiny blue 1st Place lapel pins. Bill then directed the MADAQC Chorus in singing our traditional song of celebration and congratulations, ***"This is the Moment"***. As has become customary, towards the tag the guys came off the risers to sing just in front of the quartet. A few tears were shed, both by members of the quartet and by some of the champs who may have been reliving in their hearts the night they became champions. This was followed by lots of hugs, handshakes, high-5's, and slaps on backs with the rest of the champs.

MADAQC Chorus Directed by Bill Colosimo – singing to our new champs



✚ **Society President Alan Lamson** then directed the entire Mid-Atlantic District audience in ***"Keep the Whole World Singing"*** as all of the champs locked arms together, bringing to a close another fantastic barbershop convention. The Convention Center cleared out quickly because it was now off to the hospitality rooms extending up and down Ocean Highway for more fun, food, and quartet entertainment.



✚ Numerous champs wore multiple hats throughout the weekend to help the convention run smoothly. While I won't list them all here, we must applaud in particular our **District Chief Information Officer Mike Kelly** (Casino,



Wheelhouse) who coordinated all of the video filming for the contestants and the audio/video of the Webcast.

M-AD Webcast with hosts Kim Gray Hudson (MAXX Factor, 2011 SAI Queen), Frank the Dog, Sean Devine (OC Times, 2008 BHS Gold Medalist), and Joe Cerutti
(Other hosts not pictured: Sheryl Berlin and Eric Wallen)



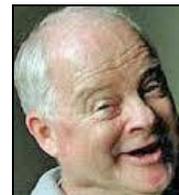
Okay, that about does it. Sorry if I have left anyone out or missed highlighting a champ quartet that may have been represented. **We will be back in Ocean City next year.** Please make plans to join us for the best barbershop harmony on the east coast ... <http://www.mad-registrations.org/>. Remember that YOU are forever a part of this District's great quartet legacy. I look forward to seeing and hearing you again very soon. Please stay well and stay tuned.

Yours in friendship, service, and close championship harmony.

Steve



... always remembering **Freddie**



PS:

Photo from the porch of my condo rental in OC

Mid-Atlantic District Quartet Champions

1	1945	<i>NY City Police Department Quartet</i>	35	1980	<i>Keystone Congregation</i>
2	1946	<i>Harmoneers</i>	36	1981	<i>Vaudeville</i>
3	1947	<i>Four Chords</i>	37	1982	<i>The New Yorkers</i>
4	1948	<i>Potomac Clippers</i>	38	1983	<i>Curtain Call</i>
5	1949	<i>Columbians</i>	39	1984	<i>Pros 'N Cons</i>
6	1950	<i>Melloaires</i>	40	1985	<i>Alexandria's Ragtime Band</i>
7	1951	<i>Volunteers</i>	41	1986	<i>Four Under Par</i>
8	1952	<i>Jerseymen</i>	42	1987	<i>Northeast Extension</i>
9	1953	<i>Ryth-O-Mats</i>	43	1988	<i>Copyright '86</i>
10	1954	<i>Play-Tonics</i>	44	1989	<i>Tradewinds</i>
11	1955	<i>Easternaires</i>	45	1990	<i>Broadway</i>
12	1956	<i>Hometown Quartet</i>	46	1991	<i>Untouchables</i>
13	1957	<i>York-Aires</i>	47	1992	<i>Arcade</i>
14	1958	<i>Oriole Four (1970 International Quartet Champions)</i>	48	1993	<i>Doubletake</i>
15	1959	<i>Checkmates</i>	49	1994	<i>Bingo Brothers</i>
16	1960	<i>Out-Of-Towners</i>	50	1995	<i>BSQ</i>
17	1961	<i>Rocket Tones</i>	51	1996	<i>The Bay Rum Runners</i>
18	1962	<i>Main Street Four</i>	52	1997	<i>Premiere</i>
19	1963	<i>Yankees</i>	53	1998	<i>Free Trade Agreement</i>
20	1965	<i>Townsmen</i>	54	1999	<i>Hijinx</i>
21	1966	<i>Hallmarks</i>	55	2000	<i>Casino</i>
22	1967	<i>Continental Four</i>	56	2001	<i>Runaway Sound</i>
23	1968	<i>NOVA Chords</i>	57	2002	<i>Reveille</i>
24	1969	<i>Classics</i>	58	2003	<i>Wheelhouse</i>
25	1970	<i>Union Jacks</i>	59	2004	<i>Phat Cats</i>
26	1971	<i>Exclusives</i>	60	2005	<i>Iguanas in Flight</i>
27	1972	<i>Regents (1974 International Quartet Champions)</i>	61	2006	<i>Four Aces</i>
28	1973	<i>Fifth Edition</i>	62	2007	<i>Ringers</i>
29	1974	<i>Friends of Yesterday</i>	63	2008	<i>New Release</i>
30	1975	<i>Reign-Beaus' End</i>	64	2009	<i>Old School (2011 International Quartet Champions)</i>
31	1976	<i>Sound Revival</i>	65	2010	<i>'Round Midnight</i>
32	1977	<i>Sussex Counts</i>	66	2011	<i>Touchstone</i>
33	1978	<i>Baltimore & Ohio Connection</i>	67	2012	<i>MAD Hatters</i>
34	1979	<i>Four Cracker Jacks</i>	68	2013	<i>Frank the Dog</i>

Note: Represented in Ocean City

Note: Due to a change in accounting, there was no 1964 champion.

Note: The *Garden State Four* were the 1946 International Champions, but never M-AD champs.