



SPECIAL: DOUBLE ISSUE!



**DA CAPO wins
2017 District
championship in
Lancaster**

**PARTY OF FIVE is
new WORLD
SENIORS QUARTET
CHAMPION!**



Volume 48, Issue 1 • WINTER 2016-17

**A BULLETIN FOR EVERY BARBERSHOPPER
IN THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT**





DA CAPO takes District crown. **PARTY OF FIVE** wins International Seniors Quartet championship.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To perpetuate the old American institution, the barbershop quartet, and to promote and encourage vocal harmony and good fellowship among its members throughout the Mid-Atlantic District by the formation in every city, town, and hamlet, of local chapters, composed of members interested in the purposes of this corporation, which shall be the same as the purposes of the Society; to hold annual, local, and district contests in quartet and chorus singing, to encourage and promote the education of its members and the public in music appreciation; to initiate, promote, and participate in charitable projects; and to promote public appreciation of barbershop quartet and chorus singing by publication and dissemination thereof.

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PARKSIDE HARMONY

DISTRICT CONVENTION EXCITES

Parkside Harmony chorus champs Da Capo earns quartet crown

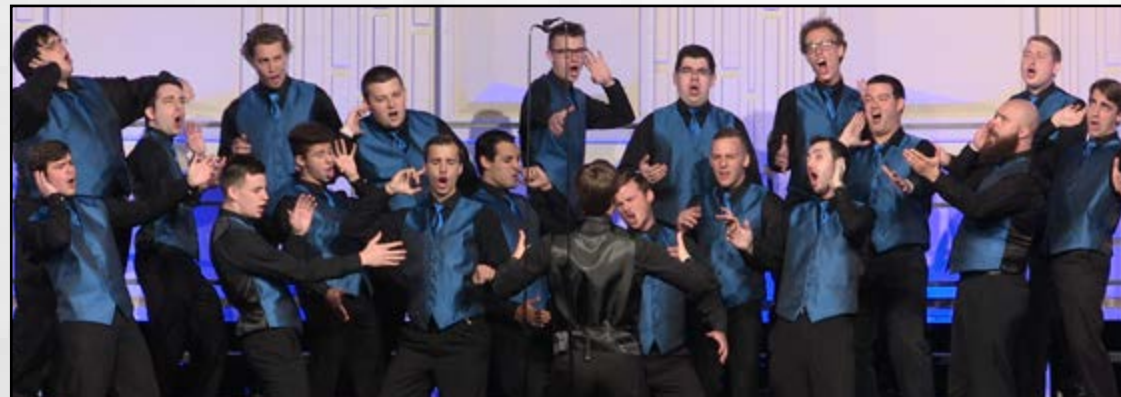
Our fall district quartet and chorus competitions took place in Lancaster, Pa., at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, September 16-17, 2016, a bit earlier this year than in the past. Twenty-two quartet competitors and 19 chorus competitors provided a weekend full of quality entertainment. The quartet finalist scores ranged from 71.2% to 85.0%, while the chorus scores ranged from 62.8% to 87.8%.

Our mic-testing and mic-cooling quartet (after the Friday night round) was the 2016 MAD quartet champions, Route 1, just back from their 19th place finish at the international quartet contest in Nashville. They also performed their swan song on Saturday night, as the out-

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VOICES OF GOT HAM



EAST COAST SOUND



by Gary Plaag,
VP Contest & Judging

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going district champions.

Our 2017 chorus champions are Parkside Harmony from Hershey, Pa., with 46 men, who posted a score of 87.8% performing You Belong to Me and Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea. A close second was Voices of Gotham from Hell's Kitchen, N.Y., with 36 men and a score of 85.4% performing Pure Imagination and Get Your Happy Days On. East Coast Sound from Caldwell, N.J., with 20 men, completed the top three, performing Love Letters and When It Comes to Lovin' the Girls/They're All Sweeties with a score of 78.5%.

Parkside Harmony and Voices of Gotham will represent the MAD at the International Chorus Contest in Las Vegas next summer. The Catoctones from Frederick, Md. earned the Most-Improved Chorus award with a score of 72.3%, 5.3 percentage points higher than their 2016 Division score. WOW!

At the end of the chorus contest we were entertained by [The Gentlemen of the College](#), the oldest male a cappella ensemble at the College of William and Mary. The Gentlemen also performed on the Saturday night show. We got to experience their collegiate a cappella style (they even did a barber-shop number for us) and they got hot-dipped in barbershop tag singing at the afterglow parties. A win-win all around!

The quartet contest was full of highly entertaining performances and many familiar faces. The top-10 finals on Saturday night found Da Capo, fresh from their top-10 finish at the International contest in Nashville, taking the big prize with a

See LANCASTER, continued on next page



CATOCTONES



GENTLEMEN OF THE COLLEGE

The Catoctones from Frederick, Md. earned the Most-Improved Chorus award with a score of 72.3%, 5.3 percentage points higher than their 2016 Division score. WOW!

LANCASTER

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total average score from both rounds of 85.0. [Many asked why Da Capo never won the district title before. The answer is that they were not eligible to compete for the district quartet championship until this year. Why? Because in the original line up of Ryan Griffith, Tony Colosimo, Wayne Adams and Joe Sawyer, three of them were district champions from Iguanas In Flight (Sawyer, Colosimo, Adams, Kay), our 2004 MAD District Quartet Champions. When bass Wayne Adams had to step away and Andrew Havens was added as the new bass, they were eligible to compete. Their qualification to compete in the International Quartet Contest in Nashville earned them a spot at this district quartet contest.]

Settling into 2nd place, with a score of 80.9%, was Pratt Street Power, just back from their championship performance at the 2016 BHS Youth Quartet Contest in Nashville. They were also named the Most Improved quartet based on scores from the spring division contests. Rounding out the top three was Gimme Four, with a score of 79.9%. The remainder of the top-10 were: The Bourbon Street Four (78.9%), Up All Night (75.4%), Forecast (74.1%), The Fource (72.7%), Hershey Transit Co. (72.3%),

Achording To Dad (72.0%) and Hudson Line (71.2%). We are blessed with a lot of talent in this district! As a judge who sees competitions in other districts, believe me when I say that a quartet top-10 final competition with every quartet scoring above 71 is rare, indeed.

Our judges for the weekend were: CAs – Bari Courts (JAD) and Rob Arnold (ONT). Music: Steve Jamison (MAD), Dave Rubin (JAD) and Rod Sgrignoli (RMD); Performance: George Gipp (SUN), Steve Janes (SUN) and David McEachern (ONT); and Singing: Jim Emery (LOL), Eddie Martinez (SWD) and Chad Wulf (JAD). Shawn Thomas, our Best Seat in the House winner, scored in the Singing category and participated in the post-contest evaluations.

Our fall district contests will take place in Reading, Pa. at the Santander Performing Arts Center, with a vintage theater that needs no amplification! You won't want to miss that! Be sure to check out the article about next year's spring competitions in this issue.



DA CAPO



PRATT STREET POWER



GIMME FOUR

Hail to the Champs!

Party of Five takes seniors quartet crown

PARTY OF FIVE, from Pennsylvania and New Jersey, bested 23 other groups to capture the gold medals in the International Seniors Quartet Contest sponsored by the Barbershop Harmony Society in San Antonio in January.

Singing "What'll I Do?" and "Anytime," the quartet squeezed past two quartets who the previous year had tied for second place, a vivid illustration of the quality of performers at the highest ranks of the seniors division.

The top five quartets were:

Party of Five, from Pennsylvania and New Jersey

1355 points, 75.27% average

Spotlight, from Central Ohio

1353 points, 75.16% average

St. Croix Crossing, from the Twin Cities and Western Wisconsin

1348 points, 74.99% average

Unfinished Business, from Ohio and Pennsylvania

1344 points, 74.66% average

Easy Street, from Tampa

1322 points, 73.44% average

Men competing in the seniors division must be age 55 or older, and the quartet's cumulative age must be 240 or greater

More than 2,100 barbershoppers and guests from around the world gathered in San Antonio for the Society's Midwinter Convention, which also featured more than 600 young singers in 25 choruses from across North America, including men's choruses, women's choruses and mixed-voice choruses, all singing in the barbershop style at the International Youth Barber-shop Chorus Festival as well as the International Seniors Chorus Festival.



The members of PARTY OF FIVE are: tenor DANE MARBLE, Hackensack, New Jersey; lead BRAD BROOKS, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; bass JEFF WINIK, Kendall Park, New Jersey; bari ROSS TRUBE, East Windsor, New Jersey.

Gold Medal Moments

Party of Five Snapshots from Mid-Winter Convention in San Antonio

Party of Five is so proud to have represented the mighty Mid-Atlantic District at the International Seniors Quartet contest in San Antonio, and to bring the championship back to the M-AD after a two-year hiatus. There were many great experiences in such a short time, these are just a few of the memories that stay with us:

- Working with Brian and Jean Barford and to get our heads "in the game", and being reminded that whatever you do between now and the competition, eat, sleep, carry yourself, speak, etc., do it like a Champion. Professor Harold Hill's THINK system on steroids....and it worked.
- Spending time with our wives and enjoying the wonderful River Walk, drinks and good cheer by the San Antonio River.
- Putting things in perspective with a tour of the nearby Alamo. We'll remember.
- The excitement, joy and great singing coming from the youth choruses, especially our M-AD "younger brothers" in East Coast Sound.
- Seeing so many M-AD friends, many of whom were in the hallway to cheer us as we came offstage after our performance.
- Strangers going out of their way to congratulate us....before the contest was over. Surreal.
- Being in "the zone", in good health, trusting each other to sing our best, from the heart, and share our emotions with the enthusiastic Mid-Winter audience.
- The nervous tension as the top five finishers were called off. Leaving welts from squeezing each other's arms so hard. Waiting to hear our name, and figuring we did really well....or that we need to get our ears checked.
- The warmth of the reception from the Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions members onstage, and the champagne toast afterward. Feeling thrilled and humbled at the same time, in the company of so many champs and great performers.
- Coming home with hardware, and a traveling trophy mounted with the biggest pitch pipe on the planet.

Thanks M-AD! See you at Prelims!

Dane, Brad, Ross and Jeff – Party of Five



East Coast Sound is 'Superior'!

*Earning the coveted gold pin for a Superior performance, East Coast Sound garnered a standing ovation at the Youth Barbershop Chorus Contest in San Antonio. The Mid-Atlantic District is proud of these young men who returned to the scene of their first youth contest in 2008 in San Antonio. East Coast Sound is the only youth chorus to have appeared in all ten of the Barbershop Harmony Society's Mid-Winter Youth Chorus Festival. Directed by David Ammirata and William Downey, the 15-man chorus performed *When it Comes to Lovin' the Girls* and *Misbehavin'*.*

Pratt Street Power rocks SA

Pratt Street Power is keeping heady company these days. The Mid-Atlantic youth quartet won the international crown in Nashville last summer and, as is customary, was featured on the Thursday night show at BHS MidWinter last month along with such luminaries as Boardwalk, The Buzz, Main Street, Signature, Four Voices, Keepsake, and current champs Forefront.

*In addition, Harmony Foundation International kept these young men busy introducing barbershop harmony to students in San Antonio schools. And Harmony University had them teach a class Saturday afternoon, *The Road to Gold!**

PSP says the road to gold was not built on forming a "super" quartet with rock star singers. Instead, four friends with a love of barbershop worked hard and raised their score from a qualifying 72 and a few months later won it all with an 82.



A DOOZY OF A CONVENTION:

Inn at Reading to host four competitions in one weekend!

By Gary Plaag, VP Contest and Judging

We have four spring contests scheduled for 2017 and we are looking forward to seeing your quartet and/or chorus perform! The on-line contest entry process is open. The goal for 2017 is MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION. That means we are seeking 25+ quartets at each event and 25+ choruses at each Division contest. Each convention is scheduled to have a "double" panel of judges (2 in each category). With maximum participation we will have to add another judge to each category. PLEASE make me do that...I dare you!

The "Audience Choice" awards went over well at our division and district contests so we will continue that tradition, with a few minor alterations. Please plan to participate in the fun. Those who won audience choice awards proudly sported their "hardware" throughout the weekends.

We need more mixed quartets at our Spring Prelims event this year. We've had 4 or 5 over each of the past two years. The 2017 mixed quartet goal is 6-10 entries. We already have one entry!! Please see the MAD website for information and entry forms for the Mixed Quartet Contest.

CONTEST ENTRY REMINDERS

Before we go over the dates for each event, let's review a few reminders about contest entry:

- Contest ENTRY means entering your ensemble into the contest through the on-line contest entry process. Convention REGISTRATION means purchasing a ticket to attend the convention. Competitors must ENTER the contest AND each member of the ensemble must be in possession of a convention REGISTRATION in order to participate.
- If your ensemble has a specific hardship request, you must indicate that request in the comments section of your contest ENTRY form. A hardship request is just that...a request. All requests will

be considered by the VP Contest and Judging and VP Events, however some requests may not be granted.

- Those with hardship requests, such as singing out of division, must seek approval through the VP Contest and Judging BEFORE entering the contest. For order of appearance changes (because your group has member(s) that sing in other ensembles within the same contest, for example) requestors will be instructed to arrange a swap in position with another competitor and then notify the VP Contest and Judging about the arrangements that were made. The VP Contest and Judging will not serve as the broker for such changes, however any arrangements must be communicated to the VP Contest and Judging by both parties.

- Due to limited stage sizes for each of the division contests, risers for the chorus contest will be set in the 7-riser configuration. Please plan accordingly.

- If your ensemble plans to participate in the post-contest evaluations you must indicate that on the contest entry form or your group will not be included in the post-contest evaluations. If your ensemble signs up for evaluations and then doesn't attend the evaluations, your ensemble will be assessed a \$50 "no-show" fee, payable to the MAD. No-show funds support the MAD Youth In Harmony program.

FOUR SPRING CONVENTIONS

Now, let's talk about the upcoming conventions/contests.

MAD Spring Convention and Contests

March 31-April 1, 2017

Contest entry open: December 1, 2016

Contest entry deadline: February 28, 2017

Goal: 25 quartets (regular, mixed, senior); 20 Youth ensembles

Classes: Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1-5PM. Various topics TBD.

Contest sessions: International Quartet Preliminary, District Senior Quartet Championship, International Senior Quartet Preliminary, Mixed Quartet Contest, Youth Quartet/Ensemble Adjudication

Location: Inn At Reading, Reading PA

Friday, March 31, 2017 - ~5PM

Quartet round for ALL quartet competitors except Youth Adjudication quartets

Saturday, April 1, 2017 - 11AM

Youth Adjudication and Evaluations

Saturday, April 1, 2017 - 7PM

Top 10 round for all International Preliminary Quartets (not senior quartets)

MAD Central Division Convention and Contests

April 28-29, 2017

Contest entry open: December 1, 2016

Contest entry deadline: March 28, 2017

Goal: 25 quartets (regular, senior); 25 choruses
Classes: Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1-5PM. Various topics TBD.

Contest sessions: Central Division Quartet Contest, International Senior Quartet Preliminary, Central Division Chorus Contest

Location: Hilton Doubletree Hotel, Reading PA

Friday, April 29, 2017 - ~5PM

Quartet contest

Saturday, April 29, 2017 - ~9 AM

Chorus contest and evaluations

MAD Southern Division Convention and Contests

May 26-27, 2017

Contest entry open: December 1, 2016

Contest entry deadline: April 26, 2017

Goal: 25 quartets (regular, senior); 25 choruses
Classes: Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1-5PM. Various topics TBD.

Contest sessions: Southern Division Quartet Contest, International Senior Quartet Preliminary, Southern Division Chorus Contest

Location: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Reston, VA

Friday, May 26, 2017 - ~5PM

Quartet contest

Saturday, May 27, 2017 - ~9 AM

Chorus contest and evaluations

MAD Northern Division Convention and Contests

June 2-3, 2017

Contest entry open: December 1, 2016

Contest entry deadline: May 2, 2017

Goal: 25 quartets (regular, senior); 25 choruses
Classes: Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1-5PM. Various topics TBD.

Contest sessions: Northern Division Quartet Contest, International Senior Quartet Preliminary, Northern Division Chorus Contest

Location: Crown Plaza Hotel, Cherry Hill, PA

Friday, June 2, 2017 - ~5PM

Quartet contest

Saturday, June 3, 2017 - ~9 AM

Chorus contest and evaluations

As Walter Cronkite used to say every evening as he signed off of the CBS Evening News, "and that's the way it is...". Please plan to support our spring conventions as both a competitor AND a spectator. We look forward to seeing you at one or two of our conventions this spring!

[INFO AND ENTRY FORMS, CLICK HERE!](#)

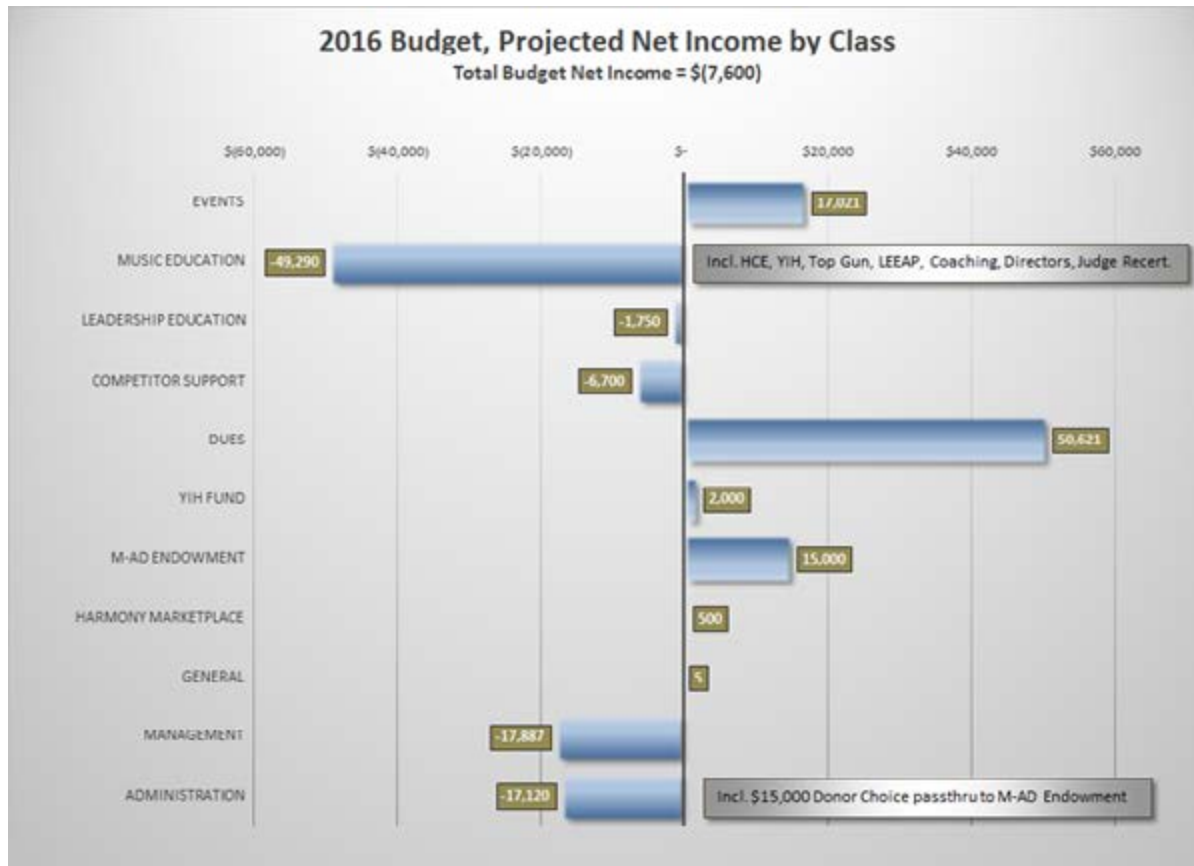
ALL ABOUT OUR MONEY

I thought it might be of value to provide our members with a snapshot of activities and events in our great District. I would like for every member to be fully aware of how we invest money to support our membership and to outline the successes and challenges that we as an organization face.



Our annual process starts with budget planning at the end of each calendar year. Our goal is to have a proposal in place for the January BOD (Board of Directors) meeting. We review current programs and determine if any new programs will be introduced in the upcoming year. We do our best to estimate both expenses and income and work diligently to provide a balanced budget that we ask the HOD to approve at our spring meeting. This year's budget is pictorially shown below:

by Ig Jakovac,
MAD IPP



Where does the Money Come From?

We currently have two major sources of income;

1. Dues – this is around \$50K – this is THE MOST stable source of income that we have.
2. Events – while we have generated over \$30K in income we have also had years where we have lost money. 2016 is one of those years. Events income has NOT proven to be a reliable source for a number of reasons which I discuss below.

It is important for each of you to understand the current model we are using to appreciate the actual profit/loss that I will discuss below. First, our by-laws clearly state:

“The District shall conduct District and International Preliminary Contests. District Preliminary Contests shall be held at a Division Contest in order to qualify choruses and quartets for the District Contests. Qualification details are found in the Preliminary (Division) Regulations.” To achieve this, each spring we hold an International Preliminary contest to qualify quartets for the International Convention and 3 Division Conventions qualify choruses for the District Convention which is aimed at qualifying choruses to attend the International Convention.”

The spring contests have a different model than does the Fall District Convention. This involves working with a hotel to negotiate room nights in exchange for convention space. If we meet the room nights guarantee we get meeting space for the contest as well as evaluations rooms for free. If we don't meet room night guarantees we pay penalties based on how badly we missed the estimate. Our “fixed” cost for a typical contest is about \$20k for a double panel of judges and about \$4k more for a triple panel. This includes everything from lighting and sound to judge's expenses (airfare, rooms, other travel expenses), events team hotel rooms, host chapter payment and other smaller expenses. When you come to conventions and stay in the designated hotel we do well – when you choose not to attend a convention we can't generate adequate funds to pay the expenses and we lose money. Below is a summary of the Prelims financial data for the last few years

We have not had a “break even” year at Prelims over the last 7 years

Year	Prelims Expense Budget	Prelims Expense	Prelims Income Budget	Prelims Income	Prelims net
2010	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 23,093.00	\$ 13,680.00	\$ 10,940.00	\$(12,153.00)
2011	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 26,207.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 8,022.00	\$(18,185.00)
2012	\$ 18,222.00	\$ 20,993.00	\$ 9,750.00	\$ 14,254.00	\$(6,739.00)
2013	\$ 22,180.00	\$ 33,801.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 10,320.00	\$(23,481.00)
2014	\$ 19,274.00	\$ 25,641.00	\$ 8,750.00	\$ 10,639.00	\$(15,002.00)
2015	\$ 26,774.00	\$ 25,861.00	\$ 11,150.00	\$ 11,086.00	\$(14,775.00)
2016	\$ 24,730.00	\$ 21,660.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 16,026.00	\$(5,634.00)

See PRESIDENT, continued on next page

PRESIDENT

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The big loss in 2013 was in Parsippany, NJ when we had such small attendance that we paid a \$10K penalty. Please note that going to a model where we pay for convention space would add 6-10K to the convention cost depending on the choice of venue. Also, as attendance at the prelims has decreased we have tried to bolster it by adding Youth Adjudication as well as more recently a mixed quartet festival. We will need to look at other options as these have not resolved the issue.

The combination of all Spring Conventions since 2010 looks as follows;

Year	Spring Income	Spring Expense	Spring Net	Prelims Net ONLY
2010	\$ 60,695.00	\$ 100,868.00	\$ (40,173.00)	\$ (12,153.00)
2011	\$ 83,274.00	\$ 104,062.00	\$ (20,788.00)	\$ (18,185.00)
2012	\$ 93,672.00	\$ 91,237.00	\$ 2,435.00	\$ (6,739.00)
2013	\$ 75,175.00	\$ 81,460.00	\$ (6,285.00)	\$ (23,481.00)
2014	\$ 72,708.00	\$ 96,425.00	\$ (23,717.00)	\$ (15,002.00)
2015	\$ 73,098.00	\$ 87,710.00	\$ (14,612.00)	\$ (14,775.00)
2016	\$ 53,855.00	\$ 93,452.00	\$ (39,597.00)	\$ (5,634.00)

As can be seen, for most years the Division Contests either come close to breaking even or make money. There are exceptions and this year is certainly one of those. So, what happened??

We had been running three Divisional Conventions over the last several years where we would combine one of the four Divisions. It was VERY unpredictable so we proposed to the HOD that collapse to three Divisions. The analysis showed that if those that typically competed would come in 2016, we would have expected about 45 choruses across the three Divisions – ONLY 33 SHOWED UP. This is THE LOWEST level of attendance in the last 16 years! Had we known that only 33 choruses would show up perhaps we should have considered only 2 Divisional Contests. We will need to re-evaluate the entire Spring Cycle – see data AT RIGHT.

Our Fall Convention has not followed the “hotel” model – it has been a reasonably predictable convention in terms of attendance although the numbers have declined in recent years;

Year	Location	Date	Attendance	# Quartets	# of Choruses	# Choruses with Qualifying Scores > 67%	Byes	# on the Risers	% Non-Chorus	"Top 10" Choruses Absent
2006	Wildwood	Oct. 6	2338	25	26	13	2	1042	55	
2007	Wildwood	Oct. 5	2243	23	25	11	3	997	56	
2008	Wildwood	Oct. 3	2100	21	23	10	4	923	56	Hamilton Square
2009	Lancaster	Oct. 2	2203	24	19	12	1	846	62	
2010	Lancaster	Oct. 1	1774	24	22	10	4	778	56	
2011	Lancaster	Sept. 30	1504	23	23	11	2	716	52	Alexandria, Hamilton Square, Westchester
2012	Ocean City	Oct. 12	1848	25	23	11	2	863	53	
2013	Ocean City	Oct. 4	1634	26	22	11	4	844	48	Hamilton Square
2014	Wildwood	Oct. 25	1800	26	28	18	1	975	46	Westchester
2015	Ocean City	Oct. 23	1584	19	23	16	3	832	47	Includes 30 men from DC as Mic testers
2016	Lancaster	Sept. 17	1109	22	19	14	4	550	50	Alexandria, Hamilton Square

	Quartet					Chorus				
	Northern	Atlantic	Southern	Western	Total	Northern	Atlantic	Southern	Western	Total
2000	26	19	25	24	94	14	17	15	15	61
2001	15	20	22	27	84	12	16	14	18	60
2002	23	21	24	20	88	17	17	17	12	63
2003	17	14	25	25	81	15	16	15	16	62
2004	25	19	18	22	84	13	13	16	14	56
2005	18	18	21	26	83	13	16	14	10	53
2006	16	14	18	20	68	9	13	14	13	49
2007	19	13	13	19	64	11	15	12	7	45
2008	10	16	18	20	64	11	15	13	12	51
2009	16	21	16	15	68	8	15	12	13	48
2010	22	19	13	14	68	9	11	11	6	37
2011	18	26	16	12	72	12	11	11	11	45
2012	27	13	27	8	75	14	11	12	13	50
2013	20	24	24	9	77	11	13	14	5	43
2014	20	16	11	19	66	9	10	10	12	41
2015	24	12	15	14	65	12	12	11	11	46
	Division Realignment					Division Realignment				
	Northern	Central	Southern			Northern	Central	Southern		
2016	19	24	12		55	13	12	8		33
2017										

Even though our expenses are higher for the District Convention because we pay for the venue, we have ALWAYS made money until this year - we had the lowest attendance and lowest income in the last 10 years:

Year	Fall Income	Fall Expense	Fall Net
2010	\$65,626.00	\$ 50,677.00	\$14,949.00
2011	\$64,457.00	\$ 45,014.00	\$19,443.00
2012	\$73,937.00	\$ 54,353.00	\$19,584.00
2013	\$67,146.00	\$ 49,594.00	\$17,552.00
2014	\$75,162.00	\$ 50,602.00	\$24,560.00
2015	\$65,739.00	\$ 52,180.00	\$13,559.00
2016	\$41,147.00	\$ 44,716.00	\$(3,569.00)

The significant challenge for the Events Team has been the identification of venues that can accommodate 1500-1800 people. We have used three venues over 10 years. The convention weekend has historically been in early October. In 2014 we had to change our convention date to late October because we could not find a suitable weekend that did not impinge on Jewish Holidays and the same was true in 2015. In 2016 the late October date conflicted with the SAI International Convention and Ocean City was raising their prices significantly. We were looking at higher cost and less revenue (lower attendance because of conflict with the SAI International) and decided to look for another venue. There was only one venue available (Lancaster) but ONLY in mid-September and ONLY for 2016 as the convention center will be under construction in 2017. We hoped that we would be OK in 2016 but were informed that two of our largest choruses (Alexandria and Hamilton Square) had made plans to sit this cycle out. In addition three smaller choruses “scratched”. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in finding “replacements” on short notice. My expectation is that will make money but very much less than in a typical year and will have a significant overall events loss this year.

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PRESIDENT

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We will be looking VERY carefully at all options for what our future events will look like and we value the input of our members in helping us to find appropriate solutions.

Where Does the Money Go?

In any given year we investment in three areas:

1. Music Education – around \$30K
2. Competitor Support – between \$5-10K depending on the year
3. Leadership Education – around \$2K

Music Education

This year our Music Education budget can be broken down as follows:

- Harmony College East (HCE) – our typical budget for the school is about \$50K and this year was no exception (\$50,218) while our income was \$38918. It is typical that our investment in this awesome school is about \$10K with this year coming in at \$11,300 (this includes full quartet scholarships for International Qualifying quartets – this year we had four participants - \$3,520). To neutralize the HCE investment we would have had to increase tuition by \$33 per person. On the other hand if we had an additional 50 HCE students (we had a total of 340) we would have been cost neutral. Note that we offered 9 director's scholarships as well as an adult quartet scholarship this year courtesy of the M-AD Endowment fund.
- Youth in Harmony (YIH) – as mentioned previously, we held youth adjudications at the Prelims Convention as we have done for many years. Based on the Youth Ensembles "score" they are offered a full or partial scholarship to HCE – this is valued at \$740 for a full scholarship (which includes 4 singers plus one chaperone). We also give music grants to school music programs and individuals. Our investment in the youth program is typically in the \$8-10K and this year was no exception (we invested about \$8K). This doesn't include another \$1,480 for sponsoring two Youth ensembles from the M-AD endowment fund.
- Our District TOP GUN School brings our top level quartets (usually 6-7 of them) together for an entire day of coaching with some of the finest out of District coaches in the Society. We invest in this program to give our top quartets the best possible coaching to prepare them in representing our District at the July International Convention. It is also to ensure that a cadre of high quality District quartets is available to perform at your chapter shows. This allows you to choose a District quartet vs. a much higher cost out of District ensemble. Our investment in TOP GUN is usually less than \$5K and this year it was \$3,846.
- The Leadership Encouragement and Education Assistance Program (or LEEAP) is designed to help Chapters grow musically through the use of Music Educators. This is a competitive program where chapters are invited to submit a document proposing why they should be awarded a grant. While we budget \$5K (5 grants @ \$1K per grant) chapters sometimes don't spend the money. Our investment this year was \$3,780.
- To encourage coaching for quartets and choruses, the Mid-Atlantic District assists with the reimbursement of coaching expenses through the Musical Assistance Service. This involves reimbursement of coaching expenses (not including fees) of up to \$75 per event and up to 5 events per ensemble per year. Our total budgeted investment for this program is \$3K but we are not likely to use all of this in 2016.
- We have invested about \$900 in Director training this year from our District budget and an additional \$1,980 from our M-AD endowment fund.

- Every three years judges need to recertify. The Society typically pays for airfares while we as a District invest in our folks by paying for their room and board (about \$7K this year)

Administrative Expenses

Management expenses are budgeted at about \$17K or about 6% of total expenses – historically this is underspent because many of us do not submit expense reports or only ask for partial reimbursement.

Competitor Support

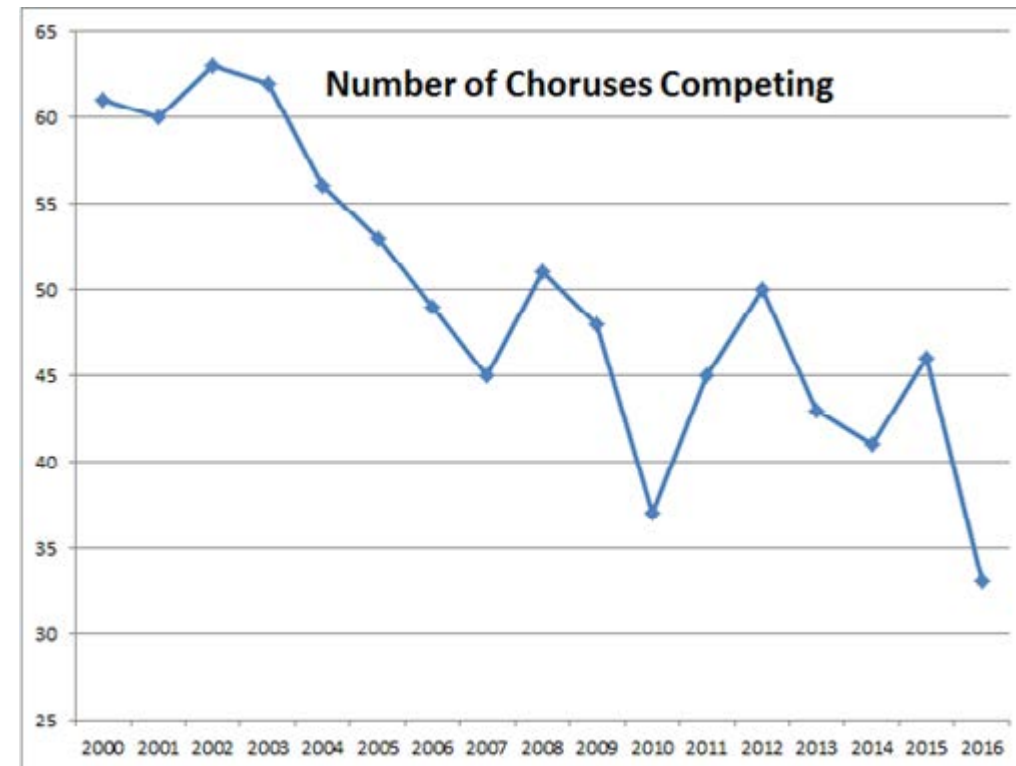
Each year we invest in each of our quartets and choruses that earn the right to compete at the International Convention. This year we gave grants to the four chapters that attended the convention (\$1K each for a total of \$4,000) as well as grants to each quartet that attended (\$200 for each of 6 quartets or \$1,200)

Leadership Education

We invest about \$3K per year in leadership academy and \$1-3K in Society sponsored Leadership forums. This year our net outlay (after receiving income from LA registrations) was almost cost neutral.

Summary

Our District is made up of 90 chapters excluding Frank Thorne, Honor or Day Time chapters and only 37% competed in 2016.



If choruses competing continue to decline we will need to radically change our financial model and if we can't generate positive income from events, we'll need to cut back on programs or consider higher member participation fees (Higher dues? Higher event ticket fees? Higher HCE cost? Etc.)



Calling All Seniors

Time's a-wastin'!

Get your senior quartet together, now

If you have not already formed your senior quartet, now would be a good time to do so.
How?

Find three other reasonably good singers, choose a name and register your quartet with the society.

What are the requirements? Each member must be at least age 55, and the combined ages must be at least 240 years.

What is the contest like? The senior contests require only two songs, which makes it much less demanding than the regular quartet contests.

OK. We're registered. Now what?

- Invest in some coaching to iron out the wrinkles that you won't be aware within the quartet. This will help with all three aspects of judging: singing, music and performance.
- Chose the attire that complements your style, be it traditional, casual or any other.
- Practice in front of a mirror so that you can know that you're presenting the song as a group and not as individuals. Review other successful quartets' performances to learn what works and what doesn't.

- Practice your contest set in front of your chorus and get their feedback as well.

When would we compete? The Spring Pre-Lim contest comes up on March 31 in Reading, Pa., where the District Senior Quartet Champion will be chosen. This contest and the three division contests are also opportunities to compete for District Representative to the BHS 2018 Mid-Winter convention.

No way we'd win! Maybe you think that you'd never be good enough to

win. Perhaps. But just competing, getting the experience on stage and the feedback and coaching from the judges will make your quartet better the next time.

Best of all, singing keeps you young in heart, mind and voice.



by Phil Merkel, Senior Quartet Advocate

There's still time to attend

LEADERSHIP Academy

Based on feedback information, the 2017 M-AD Leadership Academy (LA) dates were moved to January and February of 2017.

Although the new Standard Chapter Bylaws, Article 5.01 (c) states "The annual meeting for the election of officers and directors shall be held prior to October 15 of each year...", this policy is and was not being followed by all chapters; therefore many chapters had not elected their new officers prior to the old October – Southern and November – Northern LA dates.

With smaller than hoped for attendance at the Southern and Northern LA sessions, it was decided to shift all LA sessions to early in the effective calendar year, with larger attendance expected.

BTW, while discussing rules and policy, has your Chapter Secretary



by Chuck Harner, VP CSLT

recorded your 2017 officers in the Future Leaders section for your Chapter in ebiz?? As a Chapter Advocate, I checked and found that none of my three chapters had done so. I've reminded them of their responsibil-

ity. I guess I have poor luck, only one of my three has updated their records ☒ In addition, please add your Chapter Advocate to that listing, so that he can provide greater assistance to your chapter.

OK, here's the LA info for 2017:

Northern: January 28, 2017, Morris Plains Community Center, 51 Jim Fears Dr, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Central: February 18, 2017, Glasgow High School, 1901 S. College Ave, Newark, DE 19702.

Although the new Standard Chapter Bylaws only require a President and either a Secretary and Treasurer or combined Secretary/Treasurer position, the LA sessions will include courses for President/EVP, Secretary, Treasurer, VP Music & Performance, VP Chapter Development/Membership, and VP Marketing & Public Relations.

Since the LAs remain in centrally located areas with only one day of course material for effectiveness and minimum cost, let's hope for greater attendance. Feedback indicates that attendees gain much information from the interchange among class members. If all efforts to have your 2017 officers attend a LA session fail, there are now video presentations available in the Resources section of ebiz for President, Secretary, and Treasurer, plus that's where officer manual and exhibits (although some contain dated information) can be found.

Membership Classifications

by Keith Jones, District Secretary

(70) years of age.

First, the good news: No increases for 2017 in either Society or District dues!

The Mid-Atlantic District (M-AD) follows the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) policies for discounted membership rates for Senior Members and Youth Members, as detailed in this article, except that M-AD does not have a Life Member (LF) category at the District level. Chapter dues are solely at the discretion of each chapter but should be updated on the eBiz website whenever changed. If you need help with this, please contact me at harmobred@yahoo.com.

All members fall into one of the following classifications, followed by current BHS coding designation

Regular Member [RG]

A member who is neither a Youth Member nor a Senior Member is considered a Regular Member.

Senior Legacy [SL]

A member who was classified as a Senior Member prior to 1/1/2010, is seventy (70) years or older, and has been a Society Member for ten years or more, qualifies as a Senior Legacy Member. As an SL member, his Society dues are set at 50 percent of the current Regular Member [RG] dues. Some Districts and chapters may also have special rates for SL members.

Senior Member [SN]

A Regular Member who was seventy (70) years of age as of 1/1/2010 or later and has been a Society Member for at least ten (10) years qualifies as a Senior Member. As an SN member, his dues are set at seventy-five percent (75%) of the current Regular Member [RG] dues. Some districts and chapters may also have special rates for SN members.

Society Headquarters (HQ) staff will automatically reclassify a Regular Member [RG] who meets the Senior Member requirements when the member reaches seventy

Youth Member [Y1]

A new Youth Member who is less than 26 years of age at the time of enrollment, and was not previously a Society Member, is classified as a Y1 Youth Member and dues are not assessed for his first year of Society membership; however, an enrollment fee (currently \$10) is required for each Y1 Youth Member. Some Districts and chapters have special rates for Y1 Youth Members as well.

Youth Member [Y2]

A Y2 member is a renewing or reinstated Y1 or Y2 member who is less than 26 years of age at the time of renewal or reinstatement. Dues for Y2 members are set at the rate of fifty percent (50%) of the dues for the Society's Regular Member [RG] dues category.

Life Member [LF]

A member who pays a fee twenty (20) times the current regular dues rate may become a Life Member of BHS. Upon becoming a Life Member, the member ceases to pay annual Society dues but is still responsible for district and chapter dues.

Life Senior [LS]

A Life Member [LF] who meets the requirements of Senior Member [SN] as shown above has achieved the LS status.

Life Senior (50 Years) [L5]

A Life Member [LS] who meets the requirements of Senior Member [SN] as shown above and who has fifty (50) years of service (membership) is not assessed BHS or M-AD dues after achieving the L5 status.

Regular/Senior (50 Years) [R5/S5]

A Regular Member [RG] who meets the requirements and who has 50 years of service (membership) but is less than seventy (70) years of age is classified as [R5/S5] and is not assessed BHS or M-AD dues after achieving this status.

Putting Our Money Where It Counts

Alan Wile, DVP Financial Development & M-AD Endowment Fund Chair

Donations to the Harmony Foundation really do change lives through the medium of barbershop harmony! Specifically, contributions of President's Council members and members of Ambassadors of Song enabled the Barbershop Harmony Society to conduct the following significant educational programs in 2016:

- Over 25,000 young people attended grant-funded events.
- 150 music educators attended Harmony University on donor-funded scholarships.
- 120 individuals were awarded scholarships to the Youth Barbershop Quartet Contest.
- 373 students and 17 choruses received scholarships to the Youth Chorus Festival.
- The Healthy Chapter Initiative began with a full-time staff position to provide support to and promote growth for Barbershop Harmony Society chapters.

Clearly participants in each of these annual giving programs made the world more harmonious ... often in our own backyards!

Even more direct support to your specific chapter and our district is possible – through the exercise of the “donor choice” option, which permits up to 30% of your donation to be returned to either one or, in combination, to both. Need more information about any of these programs or the M-AD Endowment Fund? Give me a call or send a message to 703-538-6526 or alan.wile@comcast.net.

Music: “The favorite passion of my Soul” (Thomas Jefferson)



WHAT A MUSIC EDUCATOR CAN DO FOR YOU

The Barbershop Harmony Society has greatly expanded its outreach in recent years into the a cappella world outside of the barbershop domain. We are tied in much more closely now with the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and the National Association for Music Education (NAFME; formerly known as MENC), and the onslaught of a cappella singing on television and on the radio is attracting a brand new set of singers to barbershop harmony. The BHS is doing all it can to get barbershop into the



by **Glenn Phillips, VP Chorus Director Development**

schools, namely by attracting Music Educators to barbershop via performances, scholarship grants to Harmony University, and easy access to barbershop arrangements and learning tracks.

Despite these a cappella advances and new relationships, many barbershoppers are not aware of the value that a Music Educator brings to singing, both in a chorus and a quartet. In fact, my experience over a lifetime of this hobby has been that many barbershoppers consider Music Educators to be a liability in our art form because “they don’t understand how barbershop is supposed to be sung” and other such comments. My article this quarter addresses this issue, and I hope to convey a myriad of ways in which a Music Educator can help your chorus realize incredible leaps of progress. It is worth mentioning that I write my articles for our District’s chorus directors, though hopefully everyone can learn from them. This article, however, is also directed toward our Chapter Presidents, as the M-AD runs a program each year that offers grants to designated Chapters who wish to get a Music Educator involved in helping their chorus learn to sing and perform better. I will explain that program in detail a bit later on, but for now: What a Music Educator can do for you!

First and foremost, a Music Educator can teach your singers vocal production. This encompasses everything that goes into great singing, such as good posture, correct breathing, correct expulsion of air into the tone, open-throated and relaxed singing with no vocal tension, tall vowels correctly sung, artful displays of diction and articulation, etc,

etc. A Music Educator can not only teach vocal production; the Music Educator has likely earned a degree in the subject and is an expert in it. Barbershoppers often learn by rote or by learning track, whereas a Music Educator has developed hundreds of tools by which to help singers learn to sing better. What chorus doesn’t want to learn skills by which to sing better?

A Music Educator can help your Music Team develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans to improve your singing. For one thing, the Music Educator listens with a very discerning ear, much like our outstanding panel of judges in our contests. They not only hear all the good things we do, but they also hear the lesser singing choices that we make and have tools at hand that can help correct our deficiencies. In addition, the Music Educator can help our Music Teams to prioritize certain singing fundamentals and then add in other techniques as our progress increases. Of course, your Chapter’s singing chorus may not win the Division contest next year, but wouldn’t it be nice to get some professional help, resulting in your chorus consistently qualifying for the District contest every year? Or finally qualifying for the elusive International contest? Or rewarding your audience with the best Annual Show you’ve sung for them in 20 years?

A Music Educator can help to reposition your singers on the risers in an optimal way so that you sing better immediately. There are multiple techniques one may choose to make this happen, and they all work well; some better than others depending on the singers at hand. The important thing to remember is that this is a science, and there is a rhyme and a reason for the placement of each man in the appropriate configuration to optimize sound. Yet another technique your Music Educator brings to the table.

A Music Educator can provide important conducting tips to your director to help him or her improve conducting techniques. I assure you that ALL of us directors get into bad and/or lazy habits sometimes, and it never hurts to have someone with experience assess our abilities and give us critical feedback.

A Music Educator can work with your Performance Team to help your chorus become better

performers and more “believable” in delivering the musical message to your audiences. Music Educators are often very knowledgeable in this field, especially if they direct a middle school or high school vocal jazz, swing, madrigal, or show choir. Many male barbershoppers don’t generally like to learn choreography, and many don’t care to spend much time increasing their ability to sell the performance of their music. Once again, the Music Educator has plenty of techniques to offer in this important area.

Finally, a Music Educator is extraordinarily well-trained in the art of teaching musicianship to your ensemble. This entails everything, if you will, concerning the ‘science’ of music. Yes, this certainly includes music theory—another thing that most barbershoppers are happy to avoid like the Plague! But understanding rudimentary music theory is critical in helping us learn about chord balance, syncopation, dynamics, and everything having to do with musical interpretation. Once again, the Music Educator is an expert in this field and can help answer lots of questions concerning the “hows and whys” of crafting an appropriate musical interpretation and delivery for each song.

I hope that I have whetted your appetite to seek more information about how a Music Educator can be an important resource for your chorus’ overall development and improvement. Chapter Presidents, now I am writing directly to you about a program your District offers to help bring a Music Educator into the life of your Chapter. It is called the Leadership Encouragement and Educator Assistance Program (LEEAP), and I strongly urge that your Chapter Board of Directors discuss this program in the near future to determine if it could help you. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. The program and its application procedures are as follows:

A Music Educator is extraordinarily well-trained in the art of teaching musicianship to your ensemble.

See **DIRECTORS' FORUM**, continued on next page

DIRECTORS' FORUM

Continued from previous page

The LEEAP Grant

The Leadership Encouragement and Education Assistance Program (or LEEAP) is designed to help Chapters grow musically through the use of Music Educators. LEEAP is defined as follows:

As many as 5 LEEAP grants of \$1000 each may be disbursed to as many as 5 M-AD Chapters each year. The money must go toward enlisting a Music Educator to help the Chapter develop musically throughout the year.

LEEAP Program stipulations:

a. All LEEAP funds (\$1,000) must be spent toward Music Educator involvement in calendar year 2017; outstanding funds must be returned to the District.

b. Chapters selected for LEEAP grants MUST earmark part of their LEEAP funds to send their Music Educator to 2017 Harmony College East: June 15-17, 2017 at Salisbury University. This coursework will not only help "educate the educator" in barbershop harmony and fundamentals, but it will also provide the Music Educator with additional tools to put to use in helping the Chapter grow musically. Chapters and Music Educators will coordinate directly with District VP of Chorus Director Development (DVP CDD---me!) to arrange an appropriate HCE course load. [NOTE: In the event that an emergency precludes the Music Educator from attending 2017 HCE, the Chapter may, with DVP CDD approval, send the Music Educator to 2018 HCE.] Should the Chapter renege in sending the Music Educator to HCE, all LEEAP grant money (\$1000) MUST be reimbursed to the District in full.

c. Chapters may use their discretion in allocating remaining LEEAP funds. Some possibilities (not an exclusive list) may include:

- 1) hiring the Music Educator as the Chapter's front-line Director
- 2) enlisting a Music Educator to join the group and serve as Associate/Assistant Director, or VP of Music and Performance, etc
- 3) sending the Music Educator to the week-long Harmony University (Nashville)---but see more on this below
- 4) purchasing music instruction-related dvds, cds, manuals, etc, from Harmony Marketplace that will help the Music Educator and Chapter in developing its understanding and application of singing techniques and barbershop harmony

d. Chapters must coordinate a regular schedule throughout 2017 to work with the Music Educator, not just a one-time visit.

e. Chapters must send DVP CDD an update upon request, verifying appropriate disbursement of LEEAP funds and informing DVP CDD of future plans for remaining funds.

f. Once a Chapter receives LEEAP funds, that Chapter is ineligible to re-apply for a LEEAP grant for the next two years. [Example: Chapter receives LEEAP funds in 2017, is ineligible to re-apply from 2018-19, then may re-apply for new LEEAP funds in 2020.] This provision is intended to help "spread the wealth," as there are currently around 90 Chapters in the District.

Application process:

Please contact DVP CDD (Glenn Phillips, scalhorn@msn.com) indicating your Chapter's desire to apply for LEEAP funds in 2017. Include the following information in a paragraph or two:

Chapter name and point of contact information

Reasons why the Chapter should be granted LEEAP funds/how LEEAP funds will help the Chapter grow musically, etc

Name and contact information of the Music Educator the Chapter will employ with the LEEAP funds, if selected

Means by which the LEEAP funds might be allocated, if known

The deadline for submitting applications is April 15, 2017. At that time I will convene with my District team to review the applications. We will make our decision by May 1, 2017, and I will be in touch immediately thereafter with the Chapter(s) selected to receive a grant.

LEEAP Frequently Asked Questions:

1. QUESTION: May our Chapter use a LEEAP grant to hire a coach? ANSWER: No; these funds are not designed as coaching fees, and the District offers coaching assistance via other programs.

2. QUESTION: May our Chapter use LEEAP funds to help promote barbershopping in the local high school? ANSWER: No; the purpose of the LEEAP grant is to attract a Music Educator to help your Chapter grow musically. Other District funds are earmarked to foster barbershopping in the school system.

3. QUESTION: Our Chapter would like to use these funds to help in hiring a young Music Educator as our new director. Is this acceptable? ANSWER: Yes! This is a terrific way to use these funds.

4. QUESTION: May our Chapter use LEEAP funds to put on a barber-shop clinic for our local community? ANSWER: No; the purpose of the LEEAP grant is to attract a Music Educator to help your Chapter grow musically. These funds are not meant as a barbershop outreach program for the community. In this event, a BHS outreach grant may be a vehicle to consider.

5. QUESTION: May our Chapter use part of the LEEAP grant to purchase musical training materials (directing dvd's, vocal warm-up exercises, books on how to sing better, etc) for the Chapter? ANSWER: Yes! That is an excellent use of part of the grant money.

6. QUESTION: Our Chapter has contacted a Music Educator who is happy to help us but cannot attend Harmony College East next June. Does this automatically disqualify us from applying for a LEEAP grant? ANSWER: The District strongly encourages each LEEAP recipient Chapter to send its Music Educator to HCE, not only for the Educator's sake in learning the barbershop style, but also for the District's sake in continuing to offer this outstanding learning opportunity. Exceptions may be made in this area (for example, if the Music Educator cannot attend HCE in 2017 but commits to 2018, etc) but at the discretion of the DVP CDD and his Team. It is likely, however, that not sending the Music Educator to HCE would result in the Chapter having to return 100 percent of the LEEAP funds to the District.

7. QUESTION: Our Chapter wishes to send our Music Educator to Harmony University in Nashville instead of Harmony College East. Is that acceptable? ANSWER: The DVP CDD and the Director Education Team believe strongly that the HCE experience is an important aspect in the LEEAP grant experience, even though the District realizes that the teaching at Harmony University is superb. So we prefer that the Music Educator attends HCE if at all possible. If circumstances exist, however, that preclude the Music Educator from attending HCE but allow for training at Harmony University, the DVP CDD and his team will consider an exception in this matter.

Glenn Phillips directs the Patapsco Valley and Queen Anne's County Chapters in the Mid-Atlantic District.



HARMONY COLLEGE EAST HAS A NEW HOME!

I am really pleased to announce to all MAD members that, beginning next summer, Harmony College East will be held at a new venue – McDaniel College in Westminster MD. The dates for the school are June 15-18, 2017.

Here's a bit of the background to this decision.

Some of us who are involved in planning the school felt that we had enjoyed many wonderful years at Salisbury University, but that it might be appropriate to explore other options. Ig Jankovic and I spent about three months debating the move, and then negotiating with several potential colleges and universities. We chose McDaniel because it has a truly beautiful campus and because it has facilities that perfectly suit our purposes - the auditorium, classrooms, cafeteria, and dorms are all ideal.



by Roger Tarpy,
VP Music & Performance

The most critical issue, by far, however, was the school's

location. Westminster lies virtually at the center of the District, making the drive to and from HCE shorter and less stressful for a large majority of MAD members. We hope that this savings in travel time will encourage MAD members who have never attended the school to give it a try, and will make it possible for me to commute.

The real important news is that, as usual, we'll have a terrific lineup of teachers and coaches, some of whom are new to HCE.

There will also be some interesting new classes to choose from. For instance, Jay Dougherty will teach "Become the Most Improved Quartet". Wouldn't you and your quartet buddies like to shoot for that goal in your next contest? And Nate Barrett has a new course called "Happy chorus psychology". What a terrific opportunity for your chapter's membership team to gain insight into Nate's amazing success at recruiting new members to his chapter.

Other than Harmony University in Nashville, there is no school that offers the same scope and quality of courses as HCE, nor the same opportunity to be coached for as much as 12 hours or more by the greatest musical advice-givers in the world.

I hope that each of you will put HCE on your calendar for 2017. And don't forget: there is no greater investment that a chapter can make in its own future than to help finance a chorus member's trip to Harmony College East.

HARMONY COLLEGE EAST

McDaniel College

Westminster, MD

June 15-19, 2017

One final point to keep in mind. We're offering a great new facility, several new classes and faculty, and easier access **BUT THE PRICE (FOR 3 NIGHTS AND ALL MEALS) WILL BE ABSOLUTELY THE SAME AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS -- \$220.**

COURSES AT HCE THIS SUMMER

SINGING ACTIVITIES

- Sight Singing
- Woodshedding
- Tag Singing
- HCE Chorus
- Mass Sing prior to both the Friday and Saturday Show

THEORY COURSES

- Music Theory (Basic, Intermediate, & Advanced)
- Arranging (Basic & Individual Tutorial)
- Physics of Sound
- Barber Shop to Barbershop: A History of our Hobby

PRESENTATION AND PERFORMANCE COURSES

- Engage on Stage
- Planning an effective performance
- Song Interpretation: Technique and Artistry
- Coaching Under Glass

VOCAL TECHNIQUES CLASSES

- Sound Management: Listening for good sound and working with live ensembles
- Vocal Techniques: Essentials of Good Singing and Ensemble Singing
- Vocal Techniques: 40-min Individual Voice Lesson

MUSICAL LEADERSHIP COURSES

- Outstanding in Front: Introduction to directing for non-directors
- Rehearsal Techniques for Choruses

Directors

- Directing (Basic, Advanced, & Individual Tutorial)
- Director Under Glass
- Director's Roundtable
- Leadership and the Rehearsal
- How to do chorus voice coaching

COURSES PRIMARILY FOR QUARTETTERS

- How to be a great ... tenor, lead, bari, or bass
- So ... you be the judge
- Become the most improved quartet [new]

COURSES FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP

- Happy chorus psychology [new]
- Chapter Meetings: How to have fun and be productive
- Likes, tweets, and homepages: Marketing your chorus or quartet
- Attracting young singers to your chapter
- Creating a sustained membership program for your chorus
- Revitalizing your chorus
- Ready, Set, Sing -- A Program for Increasing Chorus Membership

For more information, please go to the HCE webpage: www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com/HCE or contact us at any time.



Arlingtones are growing

Ready • Set • Sing and numerous performances add to excitement

The Arlingtones initiated “Ready-Set-Sing”, in October, to offer Barbershop-style singing lessons to the public. Two students graduated in November, were presented with certificates, and performed in the chorus’ annual show in November, “Arlington A Cappella Autumn VI” at Lyon Park Community Center.

Also performing with the chorus were, 734 Quartet and special guests SNOWDAY, a High Energy A Cappella Singing group.

The Arlingtones also performed in November at a book signing party for The Quartermaster, Montgomery C. Meigs, known as Lincoln’s General, Master Builder of the Union Army. There were 100 people in attendance!

Joining a popular trend, the Arlingtones established a Christmas Chorus for December which brought in several new voices, both men and women, for the holiday performances. These performances included singing at three Metro Stations and performing at retirement homes.

— Bob O’Harrow. Membership Chair, The Arlingtones



Lancaster Red Rose annual party features awards, installation of officers



The Guyer Boys perform for Red Rose Installation

We were then entertained by the Guyer Boys, father Joel and 15 year old triplet sons from Bowling Green, Kentucky. What a joy it was to hear this family singing together, knowing the challenges of keeping growing boys in suits and accommodating changes in range as their voices mature. After singing for us, the Guyers were expecting to stop in Philadelphia for some American history before heading back to Kentucky.

The Lancaster Red Rose Chorus held its annual Ladies Night Out and Installation of Officers banquet at the Strasburg, Pennsylvania, Fireside Tavern in January. After a welcome by outgoing president Bud Hart, we enjoyed a buffet luncheon.

Installation of 2017 chorus officers was conducted by Dick Powell, who gave an encouraging talk about the improvements we can make in our community and world by sharing our singing with others.

2015 Barbershopper of the Year recipient Rick Ashby presented the 2016 award to Bud Hart, noting Hart’s service and dedication to the chorus and his leadership during the past year.

We also have an infrequently-given award named for Jerry Roland, an accomplished barbershopper active in our chapter in earlier years. This award has been given out only four times in the 58 year chorus history, with only one of those recipients, Tom Peck, still living and active in the chorus. Committee chairman John Zimmerman presented the award to Rick Ashby, noting his active participation and encouragement of barbershopping at all levels including quartets, choruses, and membership on the international board of directors. As part of his acceptance, Rick noted that he had known Jerry personally, having sung with Jerry, Rick’s dad, and Bob Blouse in contest in a registered quartet called Songfest.

After the chorus joined in Keep the Whole World Singing and benediction by Roger Howard, we dispersed. Anyone who would like to sing with us is invited to join us Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM at Lancaster Church of the Brethren, 1601 Sunset Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601.

Harbormen Chorus Hits a Grand Slam with 50th Anniversary Annual Show!



The Harbormen Chorus (North Brookhaven, L.I. Chapter, directed by Rob Ozman, perform at their 50th anniversary show.

The Harbormen Chorus of Long Island produced an exciting 50th anniversary show in October titled "Generations of Harmony."

The show featured a riser chorus of more than 20 Barbershoppers, directed by music educator Rob Ozman. Two registered quartets, Antiquity and Harmonic Tides also displayed their talents to an appreciative audience.

Elaborate decorations by members and professionals brightened up the venue at the Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Stony Brook. There were two invited guest choruses. The Centereach Newfield High School Spartans, directed by Kristi Adams, performed strictly Barbershop arrangements. The William Floyd High School Soundsations, directed by Barbara D'Orio, thrilled the audience with their solo/counterpoint renditions.

For their finale, the Harbormen Chorus invited all former members on stage to enjoy Keep The Whole World Singing.

A portion of the Newfield H.S. Spartans Barbershop Chorus, directed by Kristi Adams, treats the crowd to some ringing barbershop chords.



William Floyd H.S. Soundsations, directed by Barbara D'Orio, sing for the Harbormen 2016 Show

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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NEXT DEADLINE:
April 15, 2017

Want to see your name in "print?" Have you or your quartet or your chorus had an amazing barbershop experience? Tell us all about it:
editor@midatlanticdistrict.com

Even though it is burlesqued, I am always impressed with this operatic stuff that some of the quartets indulge in occasionally. At the next convention I wish the Atomic Bums, Westinghouse Boys, the Newton, Kansas Keynoters and Songfellows and any other quartets that sing this type of numbers, would get together a chorus, wash their necks and ears, take a hot bath, put on white ties and tails, and in all seriousness and dignity, present a few good classical numbers, just to show the world that barbershoppers can do these things even better than the Metropolitan Opera outfit.

I heard a group on the air the other day sing Beyond the Blue Horizon. It was strictly a glee club arrangement, but it was so pretty, and I thought how much better my proposed chorus could have done the number.

Nobody ever pays any attention to my suggestions, but in this case I wish these quartets would get together by correspondence, pick out a few classical operatic numbers, rehearse them separately during the year, then get together in Buffalo for a warm-up and give us this stunt on the Jamboree.

Now don't start accusing me of getting away from "barbershop". I like any kind of singing if done by Barbershoppers, and they are the guys that can do it.

O.C. Cash, 1948



Singing Capital Chorus "senior" member, 98-year-old Fred Peters, brought Willie the Groundhog to the rehearsal February 2. Willie symbolizes a gathering that met at this time of year for quite a while, called the Groundhog Gamble, whose history Fred shared while a quartet serenaded Willie.



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