



PO Box 1005 Downers Grove, IL 60515

2008 ILLINOIS DISTRICT CHAMPIONS!

2008 Calendar

Monday:

- 7:30 Spring Contest Discussion: A & R session (Joe K and ADs)
8:00 Warmup (Joe K)
8:15 MMM Sectionals (Section leaders)
8:45 MMM on risers (Joe K)
9:00 Meeting & Break
9:15 Spring Show Quartets
9:30 Spring show repertoire (Joe K & ADs)

April

28 Rehearsal & POW! meeting

May

- 5 Rehearsal
12 Rehearsal
?? Tech Rehearsal?
15 Board Meeting
17 2pm & 8pm Spring Show
19 Coaching rehearsal with Joe Connelly

June

- 2 Rehearsal
9 Rehearsal
16 Rehearsal
19 Board Meeting
23 Rehearsal
30 Rehearsal

June - July

- 29 - 6 International - Nashville
2 Wed - First Rehearsal
3 Thu - Next Rehearsal
4 CHORUS CONTEST!

August

- 7 Kane County Cougars

September

- 20 Youth Festival
26 - 28 District Fall Contest

November

- 16 Sing Downers Grove Library

December 12 - 13 Christmas Show

2009

January

- 24 - Installation dinner

West Towns rehearses every Monday evening, 7:30 PM on the 2nd floor of the Moose Lodge, 1030 Warren Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

Board Notes

As you know, the board has been working on putting together a long range planning committee that encompasses all areas of chapter activities. At its monthly meeting on April 17 the board appointed Dave Shepherd to head up the committee. Dave presented the board with some great suggestions for the structure of the committee and will be tapping some of you for your assistance. The music team is planning to meet on Wednesday, April 23 to add details and solidify the ideas and plans that were discussed at the chapter meeting at last Monday's rehearsal. We will have a concrete plan for the remainder of the year and develop a music plan to outline the musical direction of the chorus to present to the chapter very soon.

On another note, President Casey Clements has accepted the resignation of two board members and appointed Jay Bentz to replace Bill Morgan as Member at Large and Craig Lancaster to replace Craig Ahlgrim as Vice-President of Music and Performance. Thank you Jay and Craig for stepping up to help the chapter.

More Contest Reflections

West Town's Week-end Warriors

By Rick Anthony

Peoria was sunshine and snow, sweating and glow, a great mix of emotions we felt better off for having. Even the outrage of a certain quartet's being rewarded for vocally accosting the ears in their gentle audience Friday night at the Civic Center. Because, if you didn't feel that injustice profoundly and personally, you probably shouldn't claim barbershop as a hobby, a lifestyle or a passion. That was just plain WRONG! Shame on the judges for being witting or witless accomplices. Enuf said.

On a much more upbeat note, West Towns made another stride toward excellence in wowing the audience (judges included) and winning the coveted Illinois District Chorus Championship with an immensely tender love ballad and a medley that had pure entertainment written all over it. All the quartets from our chapter did themselves and all of us proud by finishing in the top ten, proof that we have the talent and desire to reach for perfection. More of us should be treading the "shaky boards" to find our matchless gift and the courage to deliver it. It is all about love, after all. Many people contributed countless hours to the preparation of the singers and many others made sure we looked the part on stage, but it really boiled down to what one past director of West Towns called "P.R.I.D.E.," the Personal Responsibility and Integrity to Demand Excellence (of ourselves). Yea, us! We still have lots of work to do, but this episode ended just as we had hoped it would.

Thanks, Joe, Kevin, George, Diane and a cast of thousands (okay, maybe 70-80) for another wonderful Peoria experience.

See next page for photos of our quartets



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Joe Krones with Chorus trophy



“ChordPlay” 7th Place: Rick Anthony – Tenor,
Tom Herrick – Lead, Lynn Hauldren – Bari,
Greg Martin – Bass



“Off the Record” 3rd Place: Craig Ahlgrim – Tenor,
Tim Pashon – Lead, Don Deegan – Bari,
Scott Diehl – Bass



“Mashed Potatoes & Gravy” 11th Place
Jim Fourmont- Bari, Gene Leifheit – Tenor,
Oliver Williamson – Lead, Marvin Bohm – Bass



“Sound Investment” 9th Place: Dave Ehst – Tenor,
Tony Caruso – Lead, Don Kaap – Bass,
John Morrison – Bari



“Vocal Menu” 6th Place: Jim Spangler – Tenor,
Casey Clements – Lead, Andy Kinne – Bass,
Jay Bentz - Bari