



## 2008 Illinois District Champions!

### 2008 Calendar

#### Monday

7:30 Warmups  
7:45 Polecat Songs/Tag Singing  
8:00 3 CD songs  
8:45 Record Audio  
9:10 Break  
9:30 3 Christmas songs  
10:00 Till There Was You, Music Man  
Medley

#### September

1 Holiday – **NO** rehearsal  
2 **Tuesday** – Rehearsal at Moose  
8 Rehearsal  
13 Sat. **Performance:** Arrive 11:45 AM  
DG Fine Arts Festival  
15 Rehearsal  
22 Rehearsal  
26 – 28 District Fall Contest  
29 Rehearsal

#### October

6 Rehearsal  
13 Rehearsal  
20 Rehearsal  
27 Rehearsal

#### November

3 Rehearsal  
10 Rehearsal  
16 Sing Downers Grove Library  
17 **Joe Connelly & Recording session**  
24 Rehearsal

#### December

1 Rehearsal  
8 Rehearsal  
11 Tech Rehearsal  
12 – 13 Christmas Show

### 2009

#### January

24 – Installation dinner

#### February

23 **Joe Connelly & Recording session**

#### March

16 **Joe Connelly & Recording session**

#### May

29-30 Tentative date for a retreat with  
Kevin Keller as coach

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

### From Your Director

I am writing this letter from my heart to you. As you know the chorus is working on some renewed goals and some new goals. One of the items we discussed several months ago is not to compete at the Fall Competition in Peoria. I have given this some very deep thought and over which I have lost several hours of sleep.

I think we have made a serious MISTAKE. I should have never put this into your minds and I am sorry for doing so. We are THE ILLINOIS DISTRICT CHAMPIONS. Gentlemen, this carries a lot of responsibility. I am so proud of you for accomplishing the highest award the district gives to competitors. I am very proud to say whenever I meet anyone, that I direct the Illinois District Champions, The West Towns Chorus.

Therefore we need to change our course and enter into the competition in Peoria for this fall.

No, we do not need to compete in California but we do need to compete in Peoria for several reasons.

This will give the chorus more opportunity to sharpen our skills as singers, performers, entertainers and competitors. It will also keep our rehearsals in tune. My plan is to work on all aspects at rehearsal and NOT just competition. Look at all of the other greats in our Society: Vocal Majority, Ambassadors of Harmony, New Tradition and lots more. They do not just work on competition alone. They have Xmas shows, spring shows, fall shows, do recordings and go to competition.

Gentlemen we need to step up and do the same. I know some of you said you do not wish to be in a two song chorus. I do not want or need for us to be a two song chorus. How boring the rehearsal would be if we just focused on that aspect ONLY. If we have variety in our rehearsals like I have planned out as you will see, we will have an awesome rehearsal every night.

I have set up the next five weeks of rehearsals ahead of time. Each of our rehearsals will include: Warm Ups at the beginning, singing the polecats, teaching a tag a week, working on the Christmas show songs to get them singing better than the year before, and working on perfecting the songs for our NEW CD, and working on our contest set for the end of September.

Here's more on the new CD. We expect to bring the recording engineer to rehearsal (date set already). We will be recording our rehearsals of the CD songs so that we all can see where we are. We will put our rehearsal recordings up on the website so you can listen to them and make improvements. Then in November we will be laying down tracks for some of the songs to be on the CD.

With the help of the mighty awesome Joe Tomecek to make sure we are always looking good, we can make a good showing in Peoria. I have also asked Kevin to come in for a coaching date Saturday, September 6th to work on Contest and several of the CD songs. Kevin will also be starting on our NEW contest music for next Fall. I am sending the music to him Monday so he can start on the arrangements for our Mary Poppins theme for the 2009 Fall Contest.

I have also set up three dates for Joe Connelly to come in on our regular rehearsal nights when we go to record our songs for the new CD. He is very excited to make sure we are singing up to our potential when we are recording. HOW COOL IS THAT – A GOLD MEDALIST wanting to work with us to record our CD, and make it the best and MIGHTY AWESOME CD EVER. Last but not least PVI'S for everyone. This will help to become better singers individually.

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Gentlemen I am calling all hands on deck to get behind this plan and to move forward. **I am asking that each and every one of you be there this Monday night so we can set this plan in motion. I NEED YOU!!** You owe it to yourself first and foremost. Without you we are nothing. I hope you take this to heart and join me in an amazing time at rehearsal. All I ask of you is to trust me on this one. I love this chorus and only want the BEST for everyone. Thank you for allowing me to stand in front of you week after week and have the thrill of a lifetime directing The Illinois District Champion, The West Towns Chorus.

Looking forward to Monday;  
Joe Kronos  
Music Director of The West Towns Chorus

### Music Team Notes

Please note the three recording sessions on the schedule. We will have Joe Connelly present as a coach to work on the songs we will record those evenings. Be sure to reserve those dates to make sure you are there.  
January 5, 2009 is the target date for the fall 2009 contest music and learning tracks.  
Pencil in May 29 & 30, 2009 for a retreat. Right now this is only tentative.

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook

As most of you know from a mailing earlier this year, POW! is putting together a cookbook to celebrate West Towns Chorus' 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A lot of recipes are needed from members, wives, friends, significant others, families and friends to make the printing of a cookbook financially worth the investment so submit as many as recipes as you would like. Bring the recipes to rehearsal and give them to Rich Carey, mail them to Linda Carey, 1393 W. 52<sup>nd</sup> Place, LaGrange, IL 60525 or email them to [webbco916@sbcglobal.net](mailto:webbco916@sbcglobal.net) The recipes must be sent to the cookbook printing company by September 1 in order to have them back in time for the holidays, so please turn them in as soon as possible.  
Thank you, Linda Carey

### Downers Grove Fine Arts Festival

When: Saturday, September 13, 2008 12:15pm-12:45 pm and 1:45pm-2:15pm  
Arrival Time: 11:45 AM at Fishel Park Stage (just west of the Cemetery)  
Director: Casey Clements  
Uniform: Black pants, green shirt  
Where: Downtown Downers Grove (Main St Pocket Park) Outside  
Two blocks south of the Moose, ½ block south of Curtiss St in front of the Main St Cemetery (right across the street from Ballydoyle Irish Pub & Stillwater Restaurant)  
Directions: Two blocks south of the Moose, ½ block south of Curtiss St (right across the street from Ballydoyle Irish Pub & Stillwater Restaurant)  
Show Times: 12:15pm-12:45pm and 1:45pm-2:15pm (2 performances, same songs)  
Other Notes: This event is outside. This sing-out is a great opportunity for our group to generate new members, and publicize the Christmas Show. Main Street will be closed to traffic. Park in the Parking Garage just ½ block east of Main Street

