



Albums, Assignment, Attire, Appointments & Appreciation

Craig Lancaster

We are making great progress on the new contest set!! Way to go guys!! Keep it up!! But, don't forget the repertoire songs for the recording session; they need your attention, too.

A Song to Sing: The targeted songs for the next recording session on Feb. 23rd are: "Till There Was You", "I'll Walk With God", "Precious Lord", "How Deep is the Ocean" and "They Wrote 'em in the Good Old Days". The recording session will be back at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in LaGrange. If you are planning to sing on the recording session, we need you to be at the upcoming rehearsals to prepare.

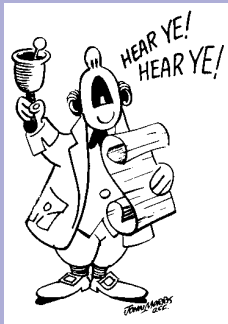
We are currently planning to call the CD: "Lost in the Stars: A Tribute to Buzz Haeger." We are planning to work on Lost in the Stars next week, so please review that song this week. We need this song to be worthy to be the title track of the CD.

The third recording session is schedule for Mar. 16th, and the planned songs for that session are: "Lost in the Stars", "I Believe", "Almost Like Being in Love", "Wizard of Oz Medley" and "The Music Man Medley". Please begin to work on those and re-familiarize yourself with them for upcoming rehearsals.

There is likely going to have to be a fourth recording session, but we have not confirmed this with the church, yet. We are looking at adding "Friends" and "Happy Together" along with whatever songs we have not been able to get recorded successfully previously. I also think that "Feed the Birds" may be recorded at this time.

A Place to Stand: We will be re-voicing the chorus on Monday Feb. 2nd in preparation for the upcoming coaching session with George Gipp on Feb. 16th where the presentation plan will be presented to the chorus. Please make every effort to be there this Monday as well as for the coaching session on Monday the 16th.

A Suit to Wear: We will also be taking measurements for the new uniform. If you know your shirt sizes (neck and sleeve) please bring those with you on Monday. We ask your cooperation in advance as we try to get this completed in an orderly fashion, as this will be taking place while the re-voicing of the chorus is taking place. Leads will be going first, so if we can get as many of the Leads there early to get measured, we can get ahead of the curve.



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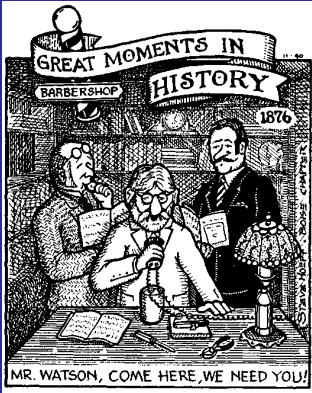
Attendance

Please be prepared to let your administrative section leader know which dates you will or will not be able to make—hopefully you can make **ALL** of them.

- Feb 16 Monday—George Gipp Choreography
- Feb 23 Monday—Recording
- Mar 16 Monday Recording
- Apr 11 Saturday - Coaching w/ Kevin Keller
- April 18 Saturday—Peoria
- May 9 Saturday—Cabaret
- May 29-30 Friday & Saturday – Retreat

Novice Quartet Contest

Jay Elliott



There are very few times in your life where you can get up in front of so many of your friends and make them smile, clap and cheer. The wonderful thing about our hobby is we love to encourage each other. Every Novice Quartet Competition I've been to has been uplifting. Even the quartets that flubbed their lyrics, took the pitch four times, or finished the song in a whole new (and interesting) key were applauded and cheered.

The secret isn't polishing your material until it shines like International gold - it's about doing your best to entertain your audience, it's about putting your heart into the performance. Believe me there has never been an audience easier to please than barbershoppers hyped up on harmony and cookies.

But it's also about learning. Singing in a quartet is not like performing in the chorus, it sounds different, it feels different, it's exhilarating and for some it's just this side of terrifying. Almost all of us have dreamed of getting up in a quartet and belting out a couple songs. Now's your chance - it's a win-win situation.

So my advice? Show up at the Valentines practice (at Bruce Rhoades office Monday nights at 6:30) or grab a couple guys at break and try a song. Make up a creative name for your group and register for the contest. Set aside a couple hours for rehearsing, put on your best smile and come be part of the celebration on **3/2**.

Quartets are to register by contacting 630-926-0532 or WTCNovice-Contest@gmail.com

Schedule of Events

February 2009

- ◆ 9 Rehearsal
- ◆ **13 Singing Valentines**
- ◆ **14 Singing Valentines**
- ◆ 16 George Gipp—new choreo
- ◆ 19 Board Meeting
- ◆ 21 IDAH
- ◆ 23 Joe Connelly & Recording session

March 2009

- ◆ **2 Novice Quartet Contest**
- ◆ 9 Rehearsal
- ◆ 16 Joe Connelly & Recording session
- ◆ 23 Rehearsal
- ◆ 30 Rehearsal

FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

April 2009

- ◆ 11 Saturday Coaching w/ K Keller?
- ◆ 17 - 19 Spring Convention (sing as out-going champs)

May 2009

- ◆ 9 Cabaret - American Legion Hall, Downers Grove.
- ◆ 29-30 Retreat with Kevin Keller as coach
- ◆ June 28 - July 5 - International (Anaheim)

September 2009

- ◆ 25-27 Fall Convention (compete to qualify for International 2010 Philadelphia)

2010

- ◆ June 27 - July 4 - International (Philadelphia)

MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Why did the chicken cross the road?

To get away from the baritone section rehearsal!

The West Towns Chorus

**PO Box 1005
Downers Grove, IL 60515**

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

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www.westtowns.org

2008 ILLINOIS DISTRICT CHAMPIONS!

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The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Chicagoland West Suburban Chapter aka The West Towns Chorus



2009 Music Team

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Casey Clements
Craig Ahlgrim
Andy Kinne
Bob Vokal
Don Thompson
Bob Nicodem
Ed McDevitt

OUR  SUCCESS HINGES ON  YOU

Albums and more (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

A Date to Keep: We are trying to get Kevin Keller in for a coaching session prior to the chorus retreat on May 29 and 30. He is only available on the weekends, and the only weekend that both he and Joe are available between now and the retreat is April 11th. This is the Saturday before Easter, so we wanted to check with everyone and see if we are going to be able to make this fly. Please let your administrative section leaders know whether you will be able to attend. Please make every effort to make yourself available on this date.

A Farewell to Arms: A reminder to please plan on attending the Illinois District Convention on April 18th when we retire as outgoing District Chorus Champions. We need everyone to be there wearing the brand new chorus uniform.

A Note of Thanks for all the hard work!! Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events.