

"Break out your learning CD and give it a listen"



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Weekly Update

Craig Lancaster, VP Music and Performance

Last week's re-voicing of the chorus was a long and tedious process, but I think we all heard the benefits in the end. I thank you for your patience during this necessary task. Those that were not there will need to be placed, so please let us know prior to finding a spot on the risers. You will also need to be measured for the new uniform shirt, so make sure you get that taken care of, too.

"Lost in the Stars", while not on the schedule for the next recording session (2/23), needs work, especially if we are going to use it as the title track for the CD. Break out your learning CD, and give it a listen. We probably have several newer members that do not have learning CDs for that song. Can we make sure that we have some available? If you have one please bring it to share with a newer member.

We are making great strides with the up-tune for the new contest set. Great work! Please make every effort to get "off the paper" in preparation

for the coaching session with George Gipp on 2/16, where he will go over the presentation plan. Please make every effort to attend. Let your administrative section leader know if you will not be able to attend.

We will start working on "Feed the Birds" in Sectionals on Monday, so be prepared.

Please keep in mind the recording session dates 2/23 and 3/16 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in La-Grange. If you are planning on singing for the recording session, you need to attend the rehearsals prior to the sessions where we will be working on the songs. Joe Connelly will be there to coach us on those recording dates and assist us in our preparation.

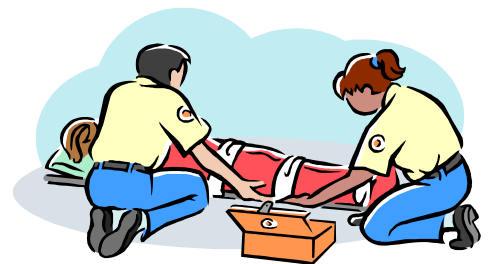
As you can see your attendance is essential to many of the activities we have planned.

Thanks for your continued cooperation. ☺

Emergency Notification Cards

Rich Carey

The Emergency Cards handed out at February 2nd's rehearsal must be completed by **February 16th's rehearsal**. If any member has not received a card, please see Rich Carey. Completed cards can also be given to



Rich at any rehearsal. Thanks.





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

I just thought I'd take a moment to encourage you again to participate in the upcoming Novice Quartet Contest (Monday, March 2, 2009 @ 7:30 PM in the Moose Hall). Grab three other parts and give it a try. If you're new to the organization or wish to participate but aren't sure how to go about it - send me your name and voice part and I'll try to help you find some other "spare-parts" to sing with. If you're already in a quartet but want to (or are willing to) try a second, third or fourth voice part send me that too.

Don't forget to pre-register your quartet - we only have so much time in the evening so registrations are limited. You don't want to get left out of the fun by procrastinating.

Even if you choose not to be a contestant, come on out and cheer on your brothers (and sisters) in harmony. The evening will be fun-filled and we will be hosting guests from many other organizations. Let's show them that West Towns truly lives up to our reputation as a friendly and inclusive chorus-family. ☺



Singing Valentines— Bill Parks

Orders to date: 25 including 3 anticipated to arrive tonight. I estimate receiving another 10 this week so we are looking at a total of about 36, or 18 per day, or 3 per quartet per day. Because only certain quartets have been requested, and because only certain members of quartets had been

mentioned as chorus contacts by persons ordering, their quartets may get more gigs to do, and those which have no mentions may be asked to stand down. I will contact each Quartet contact person on Wednesday and let them know how the assignments

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Schedule of Events

February 2009

- ◆ **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

- ◆ 17 - 19 Spring Convention (sing as outgoing 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

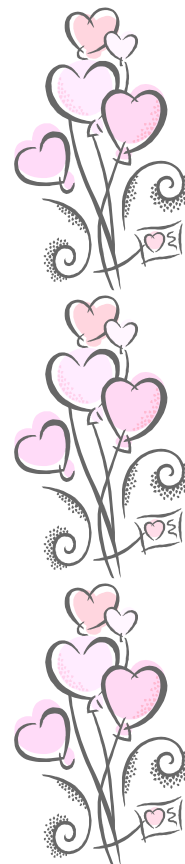
- ◆ 25-27 Fall Convention (compete to qualify for International 2010 Philadelphia)
- ◆ June 27 - July 4 - International (Philadelphia)

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		



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



**Jack Roller
2008
Barbershopper
of the Year**



Singing Valentines (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

go.

A few of the pickup guys will be asked to be a fifth wheel for the quartets - who I am sure will give them a chance to sing with the group, but they will also be needed as a driver for certain deliveries.

Recommended costume is Black Tux outfit or Red Blazer outfit. All of the quartets have done this in the past so the dress is really at their discretion. Keep in mind it is a Valentine presentation and does reflect on our chorus.

Meeting place is Dave & Barb Eht's house (across the street from the Oberlin's). 206 White Fawn Trail, Downers Grove. Supplies

can be picked up between 8:00 and 9:00 in the morning. I will provide more specific timing on my call to the quartet contacts on Wednesday.

Pictures... If quartets have and will be using a Polaroid Camera they should let me know tonight. Otherwise each quartet should bring a digital camera. The procedure would be that they would take a picture of the contact sheet and then take a picture of the valentine activity for printing. When done, they should turn in the camera memory chip to me and I will download it to my computer and will give it back to them. I will then do whatever enhancements are necessary to the picture, print it, place it into a card and send it to the recipient.

Today is the last day to get the \$40 price. Any valentines accepted tomorrow will be at the not-so-early-bird price of \$50. ☺