

District Chorus Photos



On Monday night we will be taking orders for the chorus photo — the photo for which the photographer had to re-set up his equipment and then we amazed him with our incredibly quick riser setup and take-down! Thanks guys for showing them what teamwork can do.

Photo prices:

Qty per size:	5-25	26-50
16 x 20	\$75	
11 x 14	\$45	
8 x 20	\$25	\$22
5-1/2 x 14	\$18	\$17
8 x 10	\$12	\$11

Sales tax 6.25%

POW! Request



Refreshments requested!!! Anyone willing and able to bring or send some type of refreshment to the chorus practice on Monday, April 20th would be most appreciated. Punch and cof-

fee will be provided....something sweet or fruit or vegies, are welcomed. Thank you for your help and support of the chorus.



Inside this issue:

Comrade's Comments	2
Schedule	3
About West Towns	4
New Barber-shop Blog	4

Why Quality Performance Is Your #1 Public Relations Tool

from Todd Wilson's Chapter Support CD

According to research conducted among new members of the Society,

- 54% joined because someone asked him, and
- • 33% joined because they saw or heard a barbershop performance.

Or, to put it another way, only one in eight joined because they saw your print piece or radio or TV placement .

That shouldn't be surprising. Consider: these channels are a combination of images (print, TV), sound (TV, radio) and motion (TV).

Public performance adds the all important element of touch --

you can actually reach out and grasp hands with your potential members. In a people organization such as ours, this can make all the difference, because ultimately, you need to make the personal sale: "You can do this, too."

That makes it pretty simple, doesn't it? You have to touch the people who can join. And the best way to do that

(Continued on page 2)



“Considering public performance is your single best way of recruiting, don't you owe it to yourself to do it well?”

Quality Performance – continued

(Continued from page 1)

is to sing for them. (Not that you should ignore other media; they serve to raise awareness and positive impression, so a man knows what you're talking about when you say, "I'm a barbershop singer..")

Do yourself credit - sing well, perform better.

Considering public performance is your single best way of recruiting, don't you owe it to yourself to do it well?

Before singing in public --any gig,

any time -- ask yourself these questions:

- Can you sing up to your abilities? (Adequate manpower, voice parts, soloists, etc.)
- If you heard this group singing for the first time, would your impression be, "That looks fun -- I'd like to try it"?
- Answers other than a resounding "YES!" might indicate room for improvement in your public performance package.



Comrade's Comments *Bob Vokal*

As bass co-section leader, it's a joy and a thrill to be singing with such an excellent section. I was blown away by Kevin Keller's comments last weekend, concerning how great we, as a section, are sounding, and I know it's all owing to Joe's tremendous skill at both leading and listening to us. I strongly feel that, without his invaluable presence every Monday night, our progress would hardly have been so apparent.

Of course, it goes without saying that, with the proper amount of

positive feedback--not coddling, and certainly not abuse--each member of the chorus has both grown and learned how to strive for excellence, individually and collectively. We're only as strong as our weakest link, and at the end of the day, I feel we all want to succeed this weekend.

We're taking Peoria by storm, for the greatest send-off possible! I'm proud, humbled and honored to be a part of such a great chorus!!



Which one are you?



Schedule of Events

April 2009

- ◆ 20 Rehearsal
- ◆ 27 Rehearsal

May 2009

- ◆ 4 Recording Session
- ◆ 9 Cabaret – American Legion Hall, Downers Grove.
- ◆ 11 Rehearsal
- ◆ 18 Rehearsal
- ◆ 25 Rehearsal
- ◆ 29-30 Retreat with Kevin Keller

June 2009

- ◆ 1 Rehearsal
- ◆ 8 Rehearsal
- ◆ 15 Rehearsal
- ◆ 22 Rehearsal
- ◆ 26, 27, 28 DG Heritage Fest
Root Beer Float Booth
- ◆ 29 Rehearsal

April 2009

Sun	Mo	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		

July 2009

- ◆ June 28 – July 5–International (Anaheim)

August 2009

- ◆ Kane County Cougars

September 2009

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

December 2009

- ◆ 10 7:30 PM Tech Rehearsal (Thu)
- ◆ 11 8:00 PM Christmas Show (Fri)
- ◆ 12 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM Christmas show
- ◆ 13 Sunday 1:30 PM Christmas Show

2010

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

May 2009

S	M	T	W	T	Fr	S
					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						

June 2009

S	M	Tu	W	T	Fr	S
	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

Phone: 630-201-5544

www.westtowns.org

PITCH Editor:

Bob Nicodem
18W109 Claremont Dr
Darien, IL 60561

email: RNicodem@comcast.net

Work: (708) 735-8164 Cell: (708) 337-3895

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 Board

President:	Darryl Nordentoft
Executive VP:	Jack Fagan
Music VP:	Craig Lancaster
Program VP:	Joe Tomecek
Membership & Development VPs:	Bruce Rhoades John Morrison
Public Relations VP:	Jon Dobosenski
Treasurer:	Tony Tumea
Secretary:	Bob Nicodem
Members At-Large:	Mark Johnson, Jon Sutherland

Email: board@westtowns.org

BarbershopHQ.com

Hang out and chat at Nashville's Water Cooler

On Wednesday, April 15 a new group blog was launched by the Society, barbershopHQ.com, aimed at keeping our members better informed and better connected with the leadership of the Barbershop Harmony Society. We see this blog as an important step toward better communications among all barbershoppers.

BarbershopHQ.com has a different mission from www.barbershop.org. As a blog, barbershopHQ.com is about what's happening right NOW. It is a place where Society leaders share what they are thinking and talking about right NOW, and a place where you can respond directly and immediately. Your comments and feedback are what barbershopHQ.com is all about.

Joining us (Ed and Bill) as blog authors are Immediate Past President Noah Funderburg and Executive Vice President Alan Lamson, plus

members of the headquarters leadership team and marketing and PR staff. Guest authors will also make frequent contributions as well. Please leave your comments, questions or suggestions in the comment areas.

Expect to see many updates each week on a variety of topics, from fun ideas and late-breaking news to posts intended to open a serious dialog.

Please visit the site often and become part of an important online barbershop community!

Thank you,

Bill Biffle, President, Barbershop Harmony Society

Ed Watson, CEO, Barbershop Harmony Society

