



Inside this issue:

Heritage Fest 2

Rod Hupach 2
Brat Bash

Schedule 3

About 4
West Towns



WOW!

What a retreat! I've been to quite a few retreats with West Towns, and a lot more coaching sessions. In my opinion this was one of the best we've had in a long time. Was it the location? We've been there before. Was it the coach? Kevin has coached us many times. Was it Joe Kronos? Joe gives his heart and imparts his musical savvy to us every week. Was it staying up past 1 AM singing songs and tags? Was it breakfast with a beautiful view of Cedar Lake? No, that was after realizing that our first two hour session was pretty spectacular. Saturday morning Kevin asked us what we covered Friday night. The list of things that were mentioned was definitely longer than the specifics covered Fri-

“The Power of Singing “

Dear West Towns Chorus,

Something special happened for me and others yesterday on the stage and in the audience just after lunch in Cedar Lake, Indiana. Two groups of people who probably had never met before that day and who were from differing backgrounds and different parts of the country joined in a spiritual experience that touched the hearts of all who shared what happened.

My heart was opened by the joy and passion of what singing can bring to others, as it did yesterday on the shores of Cedar Lake at the retreat. It became difficult to sing the first song as I was overwhelmed with emotions when I realized the absolute power of the beautiful song we were singing and the reaction of the blessed people

day night. Was it singing for a great audience? That was after our fantastic Saturday morning session. So what does that leave?

That leaves ... Us. You. Me. Each one of us. So what did make this so special? I believe it was our group focus, each one of us taking responsibility for paying attention and applying not only what was said there, but many of the other things we've been taught in the past. The main thing we need to do is review what we've learned during the week—just a little bit each night so when we meet on Monday we start where we left off Saturday. Let's make sure we keep “Stepping in Time”.

who were truly moved by the song Precious Lord. As I stood there and looked around I witnessed other West Towns singers wiping tears from their eyes as I was wiping my tears during the song. It was one of those special moments that I will remember always.

I'm relatively new to the Barbershop Experience, I have been to International competition two times and I've competed in Illinois District a few times. I've sung in front of large crowds of a thousand plus people at the various competitions and at sing-outs with West Towns. However, the best audience I've ever had the blessing to sing in front of was yesterday, those maybe 50 or so folks gave us their all from the first

(Continued on page 2)

“The Power of Singing” continued

(Continued from page 1)

chord we rang to the last. To be totally honest there isn't a close second to that audience.

That was a Gold Medal Audience. We need to draw from the experience going forward. There truly is power in what we do and we should strive to sing at a level that produces the type of reaction we got yesterday from the folks. That will be quite a challenge, but we did it Saturday.

As you can tell I was moved by what we did and the power of singing. There is so much more to music than notes and words, which are very important

and should not be overlooked when we sing at a high level. Kevin, the Joe's (Krones and Tomecek) and bless his soul, Buzz, have drilled that fact into us as we stand on the risers. Now the people who we sang for yesterday demonstrated that very fact to us.

I've blathered on to long here guys, but we need to remember what happened at Cedar Lake and work towards engaging our audiences through the gift and joy of singing.

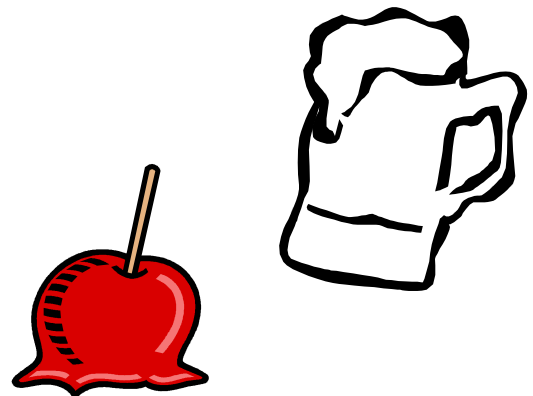
Sincerely,
Bill Satek



Heritage Fest - by Tony Tumea

Volunteers are needed for this year's West Towns chorus Root Beer Float and Caramel Apple Booth on June 26, 27 and 28. in Downtown Downers Grove.

[Heritage Festival](#) - The 28th annual Heritage Fest will run, June 26-June 29. This fest has been voted "The Best Fest In The Midwest," and is a four time International Pinnacle Award Winner



Rod Hupach Brat Bash

It's that time of the year again and the Joliet Blackhawk Chorus will be hosting the annual Rod Hupach Brat Bash.

It will be held again at the American Legion Lockport Post 18 at 15052 S Archer Ave in Lockport. The time for the event will be Tuesday June 9th from 6pm until ?. There has been no change in the donation. It will be \$10 per person which will include brats,

sides, beer, and soft drinks. There will be a cash bar for any liquor or mixed drinks.

I have attached a flyer for distribution to your members who do not have email. Please pass this information along to your fellow chapter members and friends. As always wives and guests are welcome. If you are in a registered quartet or know of a registered quartet that will or would like to come, there will be a portion of the evening

(Continued on page 4)



Schedule of Events

June 2009

- ◆ 1 Rehearsal
- ◆ 8 Rehearsal
- ◆ 15 Rehearsal
- ◆ **18 Brotherhood get-together**
- ◆ 22 Rehearsal
- ◆ 26, 27, 28 DG Heritage Fest
Root Beer Float Booth
- ◆ 29 Rehearsal

July 2009

- ◆ International—Anaheim
- ◆ 6 Rehearsal
- ◆ 13 Coaching—Joe Connelly
- ◆ 20 Rehearsal
- ◆ 27 Rehearsal

August 2009

- ◆ 3 Rehearsal
- ◆ 10 Rehearsal
- ◆ 11 Kane County Cougar game
- ◆ 17 Rehearsal
- ◆ 24 Rehearsal
- ◆ 31 Rehearsal

June 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				

September 2009

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

October 2009

- ◆ **19 7:30 PM Monday Paid performance—Naperville, Monarch Landing**

November 2009

- ◆ **15 (Sun) 1:00 PM Downers Grove Library**

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

- ◆ Feb. 13 Sandwich Opera House
- ◆ June 27 - July 4 - International (Philadelphia)

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
			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	

August 2009

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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					

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

Brat Bash – continued

(Continued from page 2)

devoted to them. There will of course be the “pick up” quartet contest for the men that wish to compete for the coveted “Outhouse” award. If you are a past winner, we encourage you to wear your medals to indicate your prior successes.

This year will be the 32nd year in a row that this event has been held. We look forward to having another wonderful evening spending time with our fellow Barbershoppers. Our desire is to have a venue that will provide the opportunity for a lot of signing by everyone.

If there are any questions or you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to seeing and “hearing” you again.

In Harmony,

Tony Mehok

Joliet Blackhawks / South Cook Singing Men of Note

708.301.3284 Home

708.717.1331 Cell



*Announcing
The “32nd” Annual
“Rod Hupach” Brat Bash
In Memory of the creator and founder of the event
Rod Hupach*

American Legion Lockport Post 18
15052 S. Archer Ave
Lockport, Illinois
815.838.4515

Tuesday June 9, 2009
6pm til ?
\$10 per person



For further information or to R.S.V.P. with number of attendees from your chapter, please contact:

Tony Mehok
708.301.3284
708.717.1331 cell
armsr8448@comcast.net

In Harmony,

Tony Mehok
Joliet Blackhawk Chorus/
South Cook Singing Men of Note