



New Chapter for the Chapter

Last Monday West Towns ended another chapter in its 62 year history and bade farewell to Joe Krones, our beloved director for the past five years. After a somewhat shortened rehearsal, several presentations were made. First, Da Mayor Bladderwort (Don Bradley) bestowed on Joe the title of honorary Bladderwort, complete with official looking pin-on ribbon with seal. Next, in a more serious vein, Ed McDevitt articulated on Joe's time with West Towns and presented him with a plaque on behalf of the chapter. The plaque read "In appreciation of 5 years of harmony and leadership, with heartfelt thanks—The West Towns Chorus". After that, Jay Bentz stepped up with a check from the chapter to help support Old School in their bid for the gold at the 2010 International Convention in Philadelphia. In addition, he gave Joe an envelope with money chipped in by members to help defray costs to get Heather and Chase to Philadelphia so they can see their dad win the gold medal with Old School. Finally, some lovely ladies of POW with Joyce Tumea as their spokesperson, gave Joe a jar with several varieties of macaroons, Joe's favorite cookies! They also provided him with recipes for all kinds of macaroons and a West Towns cookbook. In spite of the size of that jar, it is doubtful that

there will be any left before he gets to Texas. Finally, Joe led us one final time in an emotional rendition of "I'll Walk With God" before taking time for some fellowship and food provided by POW!

This week marks the beginning of a new chapter in the life of West Towns. A search for a new director has been underway for several months and two auditions are scheduled during the month of June. In the meantime, Joe Tomecek, also an applicant, will continue to prepare us for upcoming performances and especially for contest this fall. With Joe T's knowledge, skill and talent and the hard work of our music team, **we CAN win the right to represent the Illinois district** in the 2011 International Convention. All their hard work is worth nothing if we as individuals don't do our part to learn the music, practice at home, and come back each week singing at the same level we finished the week before.

Thank you Joe Krones for giving us so much heart for the past five years. We will miss you, but wish you the best as you begin another chapter in your life.



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Rehearsal Reminder

Because the Moose Lodge is closed Memorial Day, we will be having rehearsal at 7:00 PM at:

**Horizon Community Church
2129 63rd Street
Downers Grove, IL 60516**

See map on page 4 (back page)

Also, we are to be off paper for "Fit as A Fiddle/For Me and My Gal" medley.



Rehearsal Notes (May 24) – Jon Hoekema

Each section needs to work on unit sound. That means we need to train ourselves to listen better to each other.

- **Basses** – sing lighter and brighter, sound was too dark and back in the throat
- **Bari's** – brighten the section sound
- **Leads** – tune, which means listening to each other and matching tone and pitch
- The sound as a whole (every section) needs to be lighter

The sections were not in sync with each other, the basses were behind the leads in

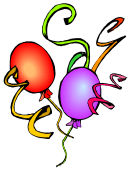
some places.

There were non-matched vowels. We must have the same vowel shapes in order to match our unit sound

Energy – phrases need to go somewhere, they can not stay the same, either they grow or diminish, either way, there has to be energy behind the phrases

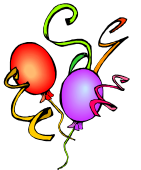
For entrances – energy, breathe, words, notes – all of these are needed

ENERGY DOES NOT MEAN VOLUME!



Birthday this week

– Don Duff (Michigan) June 3



Director Audition Announcement

As you know we are currently searching for a new director. We have scheduled auditions for two candidates for June 7 and June 14. I am **asking all of us to attend these rehearsals** so all of us

can judge for ourselves the qualifications of each candidate.

Jack Fagan



Best Wishes from our Brothers in Bloomington

We heard at our rehearsal last night that Joe performed his last rehearsal at West Towns Chorus. We at the Sound of Illinois are thinking of all your members and their journey of finding a new director and hope you find the right person. We are rooting for you!

Brett Mulford

Program VP for the Sound Of Illinois

Just a note to wish you guys a quick and successful search in finding just the right director for your chorus. I know that you'll miss Joe, but maybe the next guy (gal?) will be even better.

Good luck!

Harvey Styron

Sound of Illinois Chorus

Boosting our Brothers in Bloomington

I had some communications with members of Bloomington Sound of Illinois chorus. Terry Ludwig and Doug Ferrier both offered support in our search for a new director. They are a great group of barbershoppers. They are going to have an International contest preview show on June 22nd at 8:00 at Second Presbyterian Church, 313 N. East Street, Bloomington, IL 61701. Off the Record (Illinois District Champs), After Hours (College Representative) and The Sound of Illinois will be performing.

I am thinking of going down to see it. if anyone is in-

terested in going I have a van that seats 6 very comfortably or 7 just comfortably.

Last year we met at the Cracker Barrel north of Interstate 55 and Weber road in Bolingbrook. I figure to try to leave by 5:00 - 5:15 at the latest. Maps state about 100 miles and approximately 2:15 in elapsed time. 5:00 would give an extra half an hour to 45 minutes for rush hour traffic getting seated and such stuff.

Let me know if anyone is interested in going.

Mark Johnson

Schedule of Events

May 2010

- ◆ 31 Memorial Day—Rehearsal at Horizon Community Church

June 2010

- ◆ 7 Rehearsal / audition
- ◆ 10 *Marketing Team meeting*
- ◆ 14 Rehearsal / audition
- ◆ **19 Chicago Rush—Nat'l Anthem**
- ◆ 20 Board Meeting
- ◆ 21 Rehearsal
- ◆ 28 Rehearsal
- ◆ June 27 - July 4 - International (Philadelphia)

May 2010

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					

2010

- ◆ July 8—Gaming night—E. Dundee
- ◆ July 12—Mark Hale coaching
- ◆ **July 17—Cabaret**
- ◆ July 22—Board Meeting
- ◆ **July 24—Kevin Keller coaching**
- ◆ Aug. 5 Cougar outing
- ◆ Aug. 18—Gaming night— Mt. Prospect
- ◆ **Aug. 23—Joe Connelly coaching**
- ◆ Sep. 16—Gaming night—Elk Grove Village
- ◆ **Sep. 24–26 Illinois Fall Convention**
- ◆ Oct. 14—Gaming night—Elk Grove Village
- ◆ Oct. 18—Monday Full Chorus Performance—Monarch Landing
- ◆ Dec 10, 11 & 12 —Christmas show

2011

- ◆ Jan. 22—Installation Banquet—LaGrange Country Club

June 2010

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	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 2010

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	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

The West Towns Chorus

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

West Towns rehearses every Monday evening, 7:00 PM on the 2nd floor of the Moose Lodge, 1030 Warren Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

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www.westtowns.org



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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



2010 Board

President:	Jack Fagan
Music VP:	Ed McDevitt
Program VP:	Joe Tomecek
Chapter Development VP:	Jay Bentz
Marketing VP:	Tony Tumea
Treasurer:	Jim Williams
Secretary:	Bob Nicodem
Members At-Large:	Mark Johnson
Immed. Past President	Darryl Nordentoft
Email: board@westtowns.org	

May 24 Visitors

Nick DeJong

Larry Stahlke

& many others who came to bid adieu to Joe Kronos

We're Glad You Came

Horizon Community Church, 2129 63rd St. Downers Grove, IL 60516

Located in the Meadowbrook shopping center, between "Women's Workout World" and "Heaven's Beauty Salon"



From the Moose: Go south on Main street to 63rd (1.4 miles)
Right on 63rd (1.6 miles) to Meadowbrook shopping center on the south side of 63rd.

