



10,000 LAKES DIVISION – LAND O’ LAKES DISTRICT

Happy Holidays from the Great Northern Union

Holiday Social/Awards Dinner caps off a wonderful year for the GNU

Over 100 people gathered at the Fort Snelling Officers Club on Thursday evening December 20th to celebrate the season and acknowledge several members of the chorus for their efforts during the past year.

Some of the awards given out include the “Happy Feet” award for the member that has shown the best improvement over the past year with his footwork on the risers and the “BIF” award for the “Best Improved Face”. This year’s Happy Feet recipient was Art Vandewater and the BIF award went to Jared Hoke.

We have another award for a non-chorus member who has contributed much of their time toward helping out with whatever they can. It has been newly renamed as the Theresa Meyer Memorial Award and went to Kathy Litchfield for all her help with manning the CD sales table and other duties at shows and conventions.

A new award, only 2 years old, is one set out to recognize newer members who have stepped up and made major contributions to the running of the chapter. This year it went to Roger Bull for his work in securing a place for us to record our newest CD, “It’s a Grand Night for Singing” and to Jared Hoke for his taking over of the marketing of the chorus.

The highest award given each year goes to the person who, through his untiring efforts, has influenced our organization in a most positive way. It is the Barbershopper of the Year (BOTY) award and this year it went to Marty Monson for his work on the concert series and securing funding from outside organizations. He will be stepping down as president of the chapter to pursue more funding opportunities.

More on the Social/Awards Dinner on page 2



Pictured above is Marty Monson, the newest BOTY award winner. Below are past winners (L to R), Roger Meyer, Bob Dowma, Kent Erlandson, Judd Orff, Bob Cannella, Scott Kvigne and Roger Stanfield.



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Marketing VP	Jared Hoke	651-433-3865 (H)
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Mem. At Large	Kevin Lynch	952-475-0763 (H)
Mem at Large	Scott Kvigne	952-431-0596 (H)
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Each GNU's NEWS issue is an official publication of the Hilltop Chapter, 10,000 Lakes Division, LOL District, of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Bulletin material may be contributed by chapter members, copied from Society publications, or may be borrowed from other chapter bulletins. All articles will be credited to the author. Articles not carrying a by-line have been written by the editor, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers of this chapter.



Above, A big thanks to Bruce Watson (pictured with Kathy Litchfield and Judd Orff) for supplying the various award plaques and trophies. Our evening would not have been complete without singing a song directed by Scott Kvigne. Roger Bull accepts his traveling plaque from Ken Slinde.

Below, the Happy Feet award goes to Art Vandewater and the BIF award goes to Jared Hoke.

And, former Commodore, Dan Lundeen showed up as Santa to sing My Wild Irish Rose. He's "worked" as a Santa for some 20 years here in the Twin Cities.



What a year for the Great Northern Union! I'm so proud to be a part of a BHS organization that is not only taking interest in great singing and performing but understands what it takes to increase the awareness of our hobby within the Twin Cities and the Midwest. This requires all five Ms (Music, Money, Marketing, Mystique and Membership) to be working on all cylinders. Our three year plan is only the first of many plans to ensure the Great Northern Union is around for many years to come...performing for Gold Medal audiences as well as performing at Gold Medal levels.



The President's Corner

So what did we accomplish in 2007? Here are some statistics we should be proud of:

- Five paid performances (highlights)
 - Road trip to Madison, WI as guest artists for The Capital Chordsmen
 - Fairbult Concert Series, Fairbult, MN
- Record CD Sales...\$6700 and still growing!
- Youth Outreach - Young Men in Harmony
 - 3rd Annual Collegiate Concert 105 men from Iowa State (Statesmen) and 7 men from St Olaf (Limestones)
 - Guest Artist with Metropolitan Boys Choir (30)
 - Youth In Harmony Concert with Land of Lakes Choir Boys (30)
- Concert Series - besides what's already been mentioned above...who gets to collaborate with an ensemble like Cantus two years in a row? Do you know Cantus collaborated with the Boston Pops for 14 Holiday Concerts this past month?
- Fourteen new members
- 2007 Chorus revenues and expenses are almost identical to 2006. In two years, we've increased our budget from an average of \$50,000 a year to over \$90,000 a year
- 2008 Concert Season announced at 2007 Season Finale
- Hired second part-time GNU employee, Project Manager, Wally Brink
- Invited to perform at the 2008 North Central ACDA Conference in March 2008
- Invited to be a Featured Guest Artist for the 2008 Waconia Concert Series October 2008

And so much more...

As we close our 22nd Annual Concert Season, I'm extremely excited about the year ahead. We continue to have a number of performance opportunities in our own

backyard...which over time will help us achieve our membership goals. (consistency is key) With Pete and the Performance Team continuing to bring us great music, we are in store for a record breaking year yet again...and you WON'T want to miss our 23rd Annual Concert Season.

Our 2008 Board is as solid as ever. This chorus requires more than one person to administer the day to day activities of the chorus, and I'm proud with all the volunteering that goes on within this chorus, most of it behind the scenes. We exist because of all the volunteer work YOU provide. As I change from being your



President to becoming the VP of Chapter Development, the visions and aspirations of our plan do not go away...they only become better. It's up to all of us to commit to the plan, execute on the plan and have **fun** along the way. (a couple good laughs help too!) I thank ALL of you (performers, family members, friends and guests) for ALL of the fun and memories you've given me as President the past two years.

Thank you for spreading the word about the Great Northern Union. Keep it up and we will achieve greatness!

Proud to be a part of the Great Northern Union!

Marty Monson



ROGER MEYER INDUCTED INTO LAND O'LAKES DISTRICT HALL OF FAME

(Induction Ceremony Presentation by Bob Dykstra)

The Land O'Lakes District Hall of Fame was established in 1988 to honor LOL barbershoppers who have made exceptional long-standing contributions to their home chapter and division, the Land O'Lakes District, and the Barbershop Harmony Society. To date, 33 individual barbershoppers and 5 quartets have been elected to Hall of Fame membership.

Today it's my honor and privilege to add one more name to this impressive list of "Who's Who" in barbershopping in the LOL district. Today's inductee (I'll call him Mr. X) has a very impressive resume' of contributions at all levels of our hobby in singing, administration and judging during his forty years of barbershop experience.



Let's start with Mr. X's singing background. He's a quartet man, but in addition, our honoree sang as a member of a competing chorus at thirty consecutive international chorus competitions. How's that for an impressive stat? During this thirty-year consecutive competing streak, moreover, he was a member of three different chapter choruses.

In addition to his loyal participation as a chorus member, Mr. X has always been heavily involved in chapter administration. He served as chapter president five times in four different chapters. He contributed his expertise to chapter functioning in many other ways including stints as chapter treasurer and show chairman. He also found time to serve as chair of a 10,000 Lakes Division convention, an International Prelims convention, and the 1985 International Convention Camping program. Mr. X earned the distinction of being named Barbershopper of the Year in the Hilltop Chapter.

Mr. X also has a truly impressive record of accomplishments at the district and international level. He served six years as the LOL Contest and Judging Vice President. Four different times he chaired a committee charged with submitting a bid to hold an international convention in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. He served as Category Specialist for the old Contest Secretary judging category. While serving in that capacity he created the Contest Administrator position that is used

throughout the barbershop society today. And our Mr. X is (and has been) a certified Contest Administrator for many years.

But there's more...a whole lot more. In the early 1980s, Mr. X, along with another hall-of-famer, Dr. Jim Richards (you may have heard of him), designed and developed a computer program which greatly facilitated the scoring of all contests. After some early trials it was adopted by the Society in 1984 to be used in all competitions. Naturally, this transition from pencil and paper and adding machines to computers as a means of organizing scoring data met with some skepticism. Not everybody in the judging community completely trusted this new-fangled technology. As a result, our man, Mr. X., served on the international competition judging panel for the next ten years to keep an eye on the computer and his program to make sure they produced a valid result.

In the succeeding years he has worked diligently to keep the scoring program up-to-date. Because of changes in the computer world, it has been necessary for Mr X to re-design his scoring program numerous times. He finds it necessary to update and tweak the system constantly because of requests to enhance the program in various ways. For his significant



contributions to the judging program, Mr. X has been awarded the C&J Award of Excellence and the Twenty-Year Judge Service Award. For his many contributions to the LOL District, he was named the 2001 Land O'Lakes District Barbershopper of the Year.

So let's identify the man responsible for my taking so long to extol his myriad contributions to the world's greatest hobby. I'm sure many of you already know who I am about to introduce. He is a member of the Hilltop and Minneapolis chapters. Please welcome our newest member of the Land O'Lakes District Hall of Fame.....MR. ROGER MEYER..

Congratulations
***** Roger *****

UW-River Falls Collegiate Barbershop Chorus makes its Debut

Wednesday, December 12th, was the date of the inaugural performance of the UW River Falls barbershop chorus, directed by our own Scott Perau. The free concert was held at Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building at the UW-River Falls campus. The chorus did a great job. The sound was solid, the choreography was fun, and all of the performers looked like they were having a great time. A young women's quartet also did a nice job. After Midnight had lots of fun on our part of the show. And we all hung around singing tags afterwards. What a fun evening. Congratulations to Scott and his group.

What made me the most proud was how many of the GNU membership made the trip to River Falls for this event. I didn't count, but there were at least 10, maybe more, not counting the performers. What a great show of support for the young men from UWRF. Thanks, guys, for coming over for this event tonight. It makes me proud to be a GNU!

-- Jim

—
 Jim Emery
 Singing Judge
 Hilltop, MN
 Great Northern Union chorus
 After Midnight quartet



All barbershoppers in the audience were invited up on stage to sing the final song of the evening, Irish Blessing.

The "Gay Nineties" decide to hang up pitchpipe

Those of you who have been members for very long know of - and have heard more than once - the Gay Nineties quartet from Montevideo. For new members - this quartet has been in continuous existence since the 1940's, and perhaps even the current members could not say how many different singers they have had. They are one of the funniest quartets ever - from their dead-pan faces, to the outdated tuxes and yellow shoes, to the antique lap organ - and have entertained thousands around the US and in other countries. Most of us can talk about their best-known songs, such as "Lamplighting Time in the Valley." Their motto has been that they never won a contest, but also never lost a show.



They have decided to disband the quartet this coming spring. What I believe will be their last public performance in any venue will be at the Mankato Riverblenders' annual show at Mankato East High School on April 12, 2008. If interested in tickets, see the GNU members who are active members with Mankato also; me, Doug Peterson, Arv Zenk, and Greg Rosevold.

Bill Lydecker


 **Upcoming events** 
 **1st rehearsal of 2008** **Jan 3** 
 **Collegiate concert** **March 1** 
 **ADCA Convention, Fargo** **March 8** 
 **Marcoux Corner Concert** **April 25** 
 **Division Contest** **May 2-4** 




New Board for 2008

President - Tom Semple
 Secretary - Ricky Chaddock
 Treasurer - Bob Dowma
 Marketing VP - Jared Hoke
 Music VP - Brent Buresh
 Development VP - Marty Monson
 Membership VP - Ken Slinde
 Project Manager – Wally Brink

Members At-Large - Heath Walker, Scott Kvigne, Ken Gilmore
 Manager - Gary Little

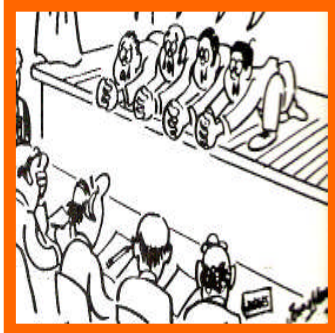


Judd Orff, Stillwater, Minnesota (St. Croix Valley Chapter/Hilltop Chapter/Talk of the Town Quartet) has been named Land O' Lakes & Pioneer District's Society board member. Congratulations, Judd!

Hilltop members very active in many ways at the District Convention in Rochester

Below are several emails that went out regarding the district weekend.

Congratulations are in order for Vocality (Jay Althof, Tony Blackwood, Bob Albachten, and Dave Boyd) & our good friends in the MVE for their respective wins in the quartet and chorus contests.



Attached inline further below are more details regarding the winners and other top competitors in a summary of the results as posted to the LOLnet by soon to be international treasurer, current international board member, and LOL immediate past president Jim Lee.

More detailed contest information will likely be posted here eventually:

<http://www.harmonize.ws/HarmonetReporter/scores/2007/scores07.htm>

And possibly also somewhere on our district page: <http://loldistrict.org/>

Off the top of my head, here are other hilltop members and associates whose efforts and contributions should be acknowledged: quartets Bandwagon, Gold Rush, Take Two, After Midnight, Talk of the Town, Happiness Emporium, Roadrunners, and Gemini Crickets. Contest administrator David Bowen, Youth Chorus Director Sam Sather, ADC Organizer and MC Judd Orff, MC John Babbs, Director Ken Kiehne, Director Duane Rygg, Director Dan Heike, GNU table & display workers: Mike Franssen, Kathy Litchfield, Bob Cannella, and Art Van de Water. I'm sure there are many more that were also working or simply enjoying the weeked, but these are simply the ones that I can think of on short notice.

Cheers,
Tom Semple, President Elect

Also congratulations to Roger Bull, a newly inducted associate member of the Land-O-Lakes Association of District Champions, reflecting Roger's career in the 1970's as the bass of the LOL District champion quartet, the Fanfares.

--Jim Emery

It was good to see you, along with all of the other GNUers, in Rochester this weekend. One other thing that deserves special recognition was that GNU's very own Snap! won the LOL District Novice quartet championship, with a Friday night performance that many in the audience agreed deserved to be in the top 10. Their performances in the afterglow rooms on Saturday night confirmed that they are another up and coming GNU quartet!



Quartet News

Please take a moment to congratulate the guys from Snap! when you see them next; Jeff Aldrich - tenor, Phil Jensen - Lead, Heath Walker -Baritone, Darren Hoehne - Bass.

A great first District contest showing, to be sure. Go get 'em, guys!!!

David Bailey-Aldrich

Lead - After Midnight quartet

Lead - GNU (in absentia)

p.s. In the interest of full disclosure, Jeff Aldrich IS my brother, but that only makes me a little bit biased. :-)

The Great Northern Union Chorus meets every Thursday from 7:30pm to 10:00pm, at the United Methodist Church of Peace, 6345 Xerxes Ave S, Richfield MN 55423.

“Early-Bird” rehearsals are held at 6:30pm for practicing choreography. Members are urged to call the **GNU Hotline** at 763-476-7383 weekly for the latest word on rehearsals, performances, and other pertinent information. Also find us on the web at www.gnunion.com



The school is coordinated by:
[Tyler Smith](#), LOL COTS Chairman
 611 South Holcombe Street
 Stillwater, MN 55082
 651-439-4527

Below is the schedule for the weekend and the classes offered.

Friday - Jan 11

5:00 - 6:15 pm - Registration
6:30 - 9:30 pm - Elective Class Sessions
9:30 - 10:30 pm - General Session A - Singing

 -

Saturday - Jan 12

7:00 - 7:50 am - Breakfast - UW-Stout, Dining room (Registration during this time also)
8:00 - 12:00 nn - Office Specific Core Classes
12:00 - 1:00 pm - Lunch - UW-Stout, Dining room
1:00 - 4:00 pm - Elective class subjects
4:00 - 4:10 pm - Break
4:10 - 5:15 pm - General Session B - Singing & YIH presentation
5:15 - 6:00 pm - Division meetings
6:00 - 7:00 pm - Dinner - UW-Stout, Dining room
7:00 - 8:30 pm - Elective class subjects
8:30 - 9:15 pm - General Session C - Singing & District Presentations
9:30 pm - Afterglow with Top Gun Quartets

Rev 10/15/2007

Select (1) 3 Hour Class 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Chapter Fund Raising
 Joe Barbershop
 How to Start a Student Chorus

Select (1) 90 Minute Class 6:30 pm - 7:55 pm

Chorus/Quartet Performance Package
 Basic Directing 101
 SOP Evaluators Training
 How to Access Society Information on Computer

Select (1) 90 Minute Class 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

So You Want to Sing in a Quartet
 This is What We Judge in Contests
 Chapter Counseling 101
 Chapter/Quartet Legal - IRS, Copyright, etc

OR

Select (1) 4 Hour Office Specific Core Class 8:00 am - 12 noon

President Class Music & Performance Joe Barbershop
 Secretary Youth in Harmony Contest/Convention
 Treasurer Marketing & PR DO/CC/Leadership
 Membership Chorus Directors

Select (1) 3 Hour Class 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Chapter Fund Raising
 Music Team Workshop: Chorus Directors/Music VP Ass't Directors/Section Leaders
 Contest/Convention Class (Cont'd)

Select (1) 90 Minute Class 1:00 pm - 2:25 pm

Pres/Sec/Treas Joint Class Session
 Membership/Mrktg/PR Joint Class Session
 Sing a Bunch of Tags

Select (1) 90 Minute Class 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

How To Access Society Information On Computer
 Chapter Treasurer Refresher Short Course
 Chapter/Quartet Legal - IRS, Copyright, etc
 Attracting & Caring for New Members
 Sing a Bunch of Tags

OR

Select (1) 90 Minute Class 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Chorus/Quartet Performance Package Basic Directing 101
 How to MC for Your Show or Quartet Sing a Bunch of Tags
 This is What We Judge in Contests Better Sound in Your Chorus/Quartet
 Chapter/Quartet Legal - IRS, Copyright, etc



Cost: \$50.00 US per Quartet...includes noon lunch

There will be excellent coaches to cover all Quartets with a variety of expertise. Advance Registration & Payment required 14 days in advance before the school.

2008 LO'L 10,000 Lakes
 Division Quartet School
 St. Andrews Lutheran
 Church
 13600 Technology Dr,
 Eden Prairie -
 (952) 937-2776

**Quartet School
 Registration Form**

(Registration & Payment **must** be received 14 days prior to the School)

Quartet Name: _____

Contact Name & Address: _____

Voice Parts:

Tenor _____

Lead _____

Bass _____

Bari _____

Schedule for Saturday - February 2nd, 2008

_ 8:45 - 9:15 AM Registration

_ 9:15 - 9:35 AM General Session & Warm-up

_ 9:40 - 10:30 AM Quartet Coaching Session I

_ 10:40 - 11:30 PM Quartet Coaching Session II

_ 11:40 - 12:30 PM Lunch

_ 12:30 - 1:20 PM Quartet Coaching Session III

_ 1:30 - 2:20 PM Quartet Coaching Session IV

_ 2:30 - 3:00 PM General Session & Wrap up/evaluations

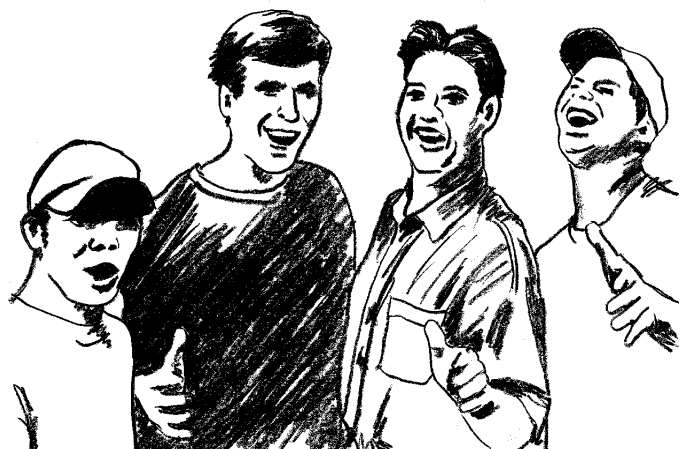
_ 3:00 - 4:00 PM YIH Concert with Commodores & After Midnight

Remit \$50.00 Payable to: **David Speidel**

11325 Lanewood Circle, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Contact Phone: (952) 941-7153

Email: Speidel_1@msn.com



Talk of the Town
A Barbershop Quartet

Judd Orff - Lead
Keith Fransen - Tenor
Matt Hall - Bass
Jim Hall - Baritone

Contact
(651) 439-3108
juddorff3108@msn.com



*Please support
these GNU
quartets*

Ellis Jones, Tenor Bruce Gray, Lead



MAGIC

Barbershop Harmony & Sleight of Hand

507-934-2372
bgray@gustavus.edu



Don Miller, Baritone Bill Lydecker, Bass

JAY TONY DAVID ROBERT

VOCALITY
Classic Acapella Sound

VOCALITY@VOCALITYQUARTET.COM 651.307.7248

After Midnight
a barbershop quartet

Tom Marchinsky
952-931-9715
tom_bbshcp@hotmail.com



—ROD JOHNSON - Lead— JIM FOY - Bass—
—RICK ANDERSON - Bari— BOB DOWMA - Tenor—




**HAPPINESS
EMPORIUM**
BARBERSHOP
QUARTET

www.HappinessEmporium.com
CONTACT: Rod Johnson
1308 Blue Phlox Court
Northfield, Minnesota 55057
507.645.5750

Take Two

A Barbershop Quartet

Doug
Jerry
Jim
Leonard



Doug Peterson
507-931-2317
35917 Scandia Woods Dr.
St. Peter, MN 56082
peterfam@myclearwave.net

Gary Jacobson - Lead
Mark Conlon - Tenor
Bob Griffith - Baritone
Lance Johnson - Bass

Aarps-A-Chord

Contact:
Bob Griffith
9124 Utica Ave S
Bloomington, MN 55431
952-831-5473

