



# C-U Re-CHORDer

January 21, 2006  
Andy Isbell, editor

## Re-Chorder Re-turns

A new year and a not-so-new idea. For many years we had a monthly chapter bulletin called the C-U Re-CHORDer. I've decided it's time to resurrect the Re-CHORDer in an attempt to help keep us better informed. This won't replace the weekly emails we've been sending out. It will compile all the information in those emails, but it will also include other news that we hope you will find useful and interesting.

If you'd like to submit anything for next time (or comment on this issue) send it to andy\_isbell (at) hotmail.com.

## Installation Dinner

We will be installing our 2006 board of directors at our annual Installation Dinner on January 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 5:30 in the Savoy Room at the Hawthorn Suites in Champaign. Rich Hansen of the Bloomington Chapter will be our installing officer. The chapter is prepaying for the event, so you will need to give your money to Denny at the dinner.

## 2006 Officers

President, Vern Knapp  
Music Vice President, Bill Severinghaus  
Membership Vice President, Tom Johnson  
Program Vice President, Andy Isbell  
Secretary, Dave Sutton  
Treasurer, Denny Mulvaney  
Immediate Past President, Andy Isbell  
District Delegate, Hugo Feugen  
Chorus Director, Lee Reifsteck

## Calendar of Events

Lots of performances coming up. Here's what we know so far.

26 JAN, Performance, Windsor of Savoy, stage time 7:00, arrive 6:30. Unless you hear otherwise the uniform is orange t-shirt and blue jeans.

3-4 FEB, IDAH (see article)

10 FEB, Performance, Schnuck's Sweethearts Breakfast, Hawthorn Suites, stage time 9:00, arrive 8:30. Uniform to be determined

12 FEB, Performance, 3:30 to 4:10 at Unity high School in Tolono.

13-14 FEB, Singing Valentines, will need quartets and drivers.

23 FEB, Performance, Clark-Lindsey Village, stage time 7:00, arrive 6:30, uniform is orange t-shirts and blue jeans. Refreshments served afterwards.

5 MAR, Spring Show, 3:00 at Krannert. Warmup times and uniform YTBD

21-23 APR, Spring Contest, Peoria

6 MAY, Sweet Adelines Show, Beef House in Indiana, time and uniform YTBD.

## January Birthdays

13<sup>th</sup> Jim McDonald  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jim Graham

## Learning Opportunities

You have a couple of fantastic opportunities coming up to learn more about the barbershop style and become a better barbershop singer. Here's the info.

### I.D.A.H.

The Illinois District Academy of Harmony will be held in Peoria, IL February 3-4, 2006. Classes are offered on a variety of barbershop topics. Registration forms are available on the Illinois District web site [www.harmonize.ws/ILL/](http://www.harmonize.ws/ILL/) for the school and for your hotel registration. School registrations are to be directed to Tim Pashon and Hotel Registrations directly to the Holiday Inn. Questions should be directed to Tim Pashon or Bob Squires. Contact information is on the forms.

### Step into the future at Harmony University 2006

The Barbershop Harmony Society will return to **St. Joseph, MO July 30-August 6, 2006** for an upgraded, exciting, new Harmony *University*. This is the ultimate barbershop learning experience. Immerse yourself in a week of classes on vocal production, presentation, music arranging, history of barbershop, directing skills, tag singing and much more, all taught by the most knowledgeable and talented men in our society. You won't believe how much you can learn in a week!

Can't make it for the whole week? Meet up with the week-long Harmony University students on Thursday night, August 3, 2006 for the "Mid-Term Bash" and then a special opening session just for you. Choose from over 20 classes on Friday and Saturday as an individual or bring your quartet.

You can find more information online at [www.barbershop.org/harmony](http://www.barbershop.org/harmony)



### International Convention Returns to Indy

Don't miss the excitement of the International Convention and Contest! This is as close as the contest ever gets to us, so it will be about the cheapest week you can spend at International. They've redone the schedule this year to allow more choruses to compete (3 from Illinois will be there.) You will hear the best barbershop singing the world has to offer. They've also added some classes and seminars so you can learn from the best and enjoy your week even more.

You can purchase your tickets for the contest online this year and pick your seats at [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org) I know several of us already have our tickets, and we will be ordering tickets for other events soon. If you'd like to be in on our group for the other shows, talk to Vern or Andy. We'll also be sharing rooms, so let us know if you're going and we'll work out who is rooming together.

In addition to the contest sessions, I highly recommend attending the Association of International Champions show on Thursday night. The past champion quartets put on a fantastic show. I'd also recommend the Harmony Foundation Show on Tuesday night which is always excellent, and the World Harmony Jamboree on Saturday afternoon is usually pretty good, too.

Hope to see you in Indy!

## From the Director

### *Be there, be ready*

I would like to thank many of you for making the extra effort to be at our chapter meeting @ 7:20 so we have the opportunity to start out on a good foot. We have been doing a much better job at promptness this last month. After being in the chapter a good number of years, the membership at large has become, should I say, somewhat lax, both about attendance and promptness. This became painfully noticeable when I came to our meeting at 7:30 and the lights were out, and two of our star college guests came down to visit for the first time. They simply asked “what time should we come? Our High school coach told us if practice starts at 7:30 you were considered late if you showed up after 7:15”. I simply told them that they were correct and we need to recommit ourselves to that point. I have done that along with some others. How can you start any meeting at 7:30 if you don't show up until 7:30? Soooooooooooooo, please recommit yourself and make an effort to *be there, be ready*.

This is an exciting time for the Illini Statesmen. We have the possibility of putting 25 men on stage for our spring show. I so look forward to chapter meetings where we have 100% attendance to see and hear just how good we will be. I would also bet every one of you want the same thing, and just think how much more fun those meetings would be and how much more we could get accomplished. The only road block to our success is not demanding enough of ourselves. Soooooooooooooo, please recommit yourself and make an effort to *be there, be ready*.

We are learning some great new music. The spring show is just around the corner and we still have two songs that have not been introduced to the chapter. As soon as we have “Juke Box” off the paper we will introduce “In the Mood”. We will be starting the “show package” work and assigning speaking introductions next week. Soooooooooooooo, please recommit yourself and make an effort to *be there, be ready*.

We have a very active schedule coming up with a large number of performances. Soooooooooooooo, please recommit yourself and make an effort to *be there, be ready*.

Thank you!

*Being there, being ready*

Lee

## Why Vocalizing is Important

I'm not sure where this came from. I found it when I was looking for something else. It may help you understand why Vern makes us do all those strange warm-ups. ☺

Vocalizing is purposeful sound-making apart from song singing.

- Vocalizing develops breath and tone making coordination.
- Lymphatic drainage is sparse in the vocal tract. This and blood flow are increased thus making the tissue in that region firm and responsive.
- Specific vocal exercises allow for isolation of vocal characteristics needing attention or building such as resonance, range, blending passaggio area, volume, vibrato control, agility, etc.
- Specific vocalization releases interference points which are often the cause of vocal problems such as limited range and poor quality.
- Specific vocalization can cure functional voice problems such as hoarseness, tension, pain around the vocal tract area and more general problems brought about by misuse of the voice.
- Vocalizing strengthens, tones, and coordinates all parts of the body used in singing or speaking including lungs, diaphragm, intercostals muscles, and tissues of the vocal tract itself.
- Vocalizing allows the teacher to diagnose vocal problems more easily.

## The very best vocal coach

*By Carol Johnson, Director, Manahawkin Chapter*

I well remember the first time I heard myself on a tape recorder. It didn't sound anything like me! My friend sounded exactly like herself, but that strange voice singing with her just wasn't mine. I was shocked to realize that it was indeed me. I suddenly know that the "wonderful voice" I have lived with all of my life isn't the same voice that everyone else hears. For months, I taped myself singing in the chorus. I listened in amazement to this awful voice...it sang wrong notes, wrong words, bad vowels, made funny sounds, scooped, and even went flat! I became very aware of pitch and went right to work to produce a better voice.

Little by little, I improved myself as a singer under the cold truth of this heartless coach, my tape recorder. Yes, your tape recorder is the best coach you'll ever find! It gives you the chance to hear the voice that everyone else hears.

Remember that the only person who hears the voice in your head is you! Any time you are serious about good singing, the truth is there for you to hear. Just press the button.

## Barbershop on the Web

Here are some websites for more barbershop information...

Barbershop Harmony Society  
[www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

Illinois District  
[www.harmonize.ws/ILL/](http://www.harmonize.ws/ILL/)

Illini Statesmen  
[www.harmonize.ws/illinistatesmen/](http://www.harmonize.ws/illinistatesmen/)

Links to other groups' websites  
[www.harmonize.com](http://www.harmonize.com)

The Barbershop Harmony Podcast  
[4-cast.tv/podcasts.htm](http://4-cast.tv/podcasts.htm)