



C-U Re-CHORDer

March 2, 2006
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Krannert Show This Sunday

It looks to be another great show this Sunday at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. We have a great set of songs and are singing well. Two college quartets and two "older" quartets, and several opportunities to show off some of our singers during chorus numbers either as solos or in quartets (by my count over 75% of us will get to sing in a quartet on stage.) Counting our guest group, U of I a cappella group No Comment, we will have more singers on stage that are 25 or younger than we will have over 25. How's that for encouraging young singers?

Here are the details for this weekend... We will be wearing our black tuxedos with orange t-shirts, black shoes and socks. Arrive at Krannert by 12:30. We will take some time to set the stage, run through the entrance and exit, warmup and sing through some songs and do a sound check. When the chorus is done we will have some time for quartets to do sound checks. Doors will open at 2:30, and we will hit the stage at 3:00. There will be a dressing room to change into your chorus uniforms, but it may not be secure during the show, so don't leave valuables in there.

Let's put on a great show and have fun!

Afterglow

Afterglow will be held at the Feugen abode, 4007 Lake Point Rd, Champaign. Cost will be determined after reservations are made and food is purchased. Thanks to Hugo and JoAnn for hosting!

Singing Valentines a Success

We delivered around 45 singing Valentines on the 13th and 14th. We're not sure how much money we made yet, until all expenses are paid. Sales were down this year, but we had some scheduling problems putting quartets together so we probably did about as many as we could handle. A Big THANKS Bernie Donahue and Morris Huck for handling all the orders and scheduling. Thanks also to the following guys who helped deliver and sing: J.D. Simmons, Jim Vliet, Morris Huck, Stewart Gardner, Dave Sutton, Hugo Feugen, Denny Mulvany, Kevin Swartz, Lee Reifsteck, Tom Johnson, and Andy Isbell. Thanks also to Schnucks for donating the roses. See next article.

We Get Mail!

Dear Bernie,

We would like to thank you and the Illini Statesmen for all of your help with our Valentine Party this year. It was great to have you a part of the party. You and the Statesmen were great to work with and received many compliments from the couples that attended. The performance was wonderful; most of all everyone enjoyed the "name that song." The couples enjoyed getting involved. We are looking forward to working with you again next year, and again thank you for another amazing performance at our annual Valentines Party.

Sincerely,
Catherine Hardig
Champaign Schnucks

Krannert Show Order

Chorus Entrance

In The Mood

Sentimental Journey

I'm Beginning to See the Light

Bass Harmony: Chattanooga Choo Choo

Jukebox Saturday Night

Stardust

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy

Chorus exit

No Name Quartet

No Comment (20 minutes)

Intermission

Quarter Til Four

Tesseract

Chorus entrance

It's a Brand New Day

It's Only a Paper Moon

Nevertheless

Paper Doll

A Wink and A Smile

Blue Moon

Down By the Old Mill Stream

Orange Colored Sky

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 Mulvany

Immediate Past President, Andy Isbell

District Delegate, Hugo Feugen

Chorus Director, Lee Reifsteck

Calendar of Events

5 MAR, Spring Show, 3:00 at Krannert.

Uniform is tux with orange t-shirt.

SELL TICKETS!

21-23 APR, Spring Contest, Peoria

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

2-9 JULY, International Convention, Indy

Submissions Needed

Think the ReCHORDer could be better? Of course it can, but not without your help. If you have something to say to the chapter or come across something that you think they would find funny or interesting send it to me and I'll try to get it into the next issue. Otherwise you'll continue to be stuck reading whatever I think you should be reading. ☺ Send submissions to me at the email address in the header of page 1. Thanks! Andy

March Birthdays

7th Morris Huck

8th Arlie Saldeen

Barbershop on the Web

Barbershop Harmony Society

www.barbershop.org

Illinois District

www.harmonize.ws/ILL/

Illini Statesmen

www.harmonize.ws/illinistatesmen/

Links to other groups' websites

www.harmonize.com

Forever Plaid in Mattoon

Forever Plaid is a musical about a harmony group from the early '60s that is killed in a car crash on their way to perform their first really big show. They get to come back to earth to do the show one time before they go off to heaven. Forever Plaid will be performed in Mattoon by an all barbershopper cast (Chris Prince, Rich Hansen, Mike Brooks and Andy Isbell.) More details later, but this is your advance notice to put May 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, or 20 in your calendar to see Forever Plaid. Unfortunately I'll be missing rehearsals between the end of March and mid-May. Make sure I have a lot of catching up to do when I get back. Andy

Music basics (part 2)

explained by Tom Wheatley, editor Dundalk Md. Charivari, June 1999

Last month, this column addressed one of the functions of those markings on sheet music called notes. Specifically, we covered the length of time a note is to be held. There is a second major function that notes fulfill. This involves how high or low the note sounds. In effect, it fleshes out the melody and harmony parts.

However, the flesh needs a skeleton to cling to. That skeleton is called a staff. I know that you've seen some of these. Looking at a sheet of music, you will spot a set of five parallel lines above the lyrics. There's another one below the lyrics. In barbershop music, there are too many things going on at one time to put them all on one staff, so we use the top one (treble staff) for the leads and tenors, and the bottom one (bass staff) for the basses and baritones. They are almost the same, but the differences are enough to drive the beginner absolutely bonkers. For that reason, we'll start by tackling just one, the treble staff.

Ignore the funny symbols at the beginning of each staff, and also ignore the vertical lines you see scattered throughout. We will get to them next month. For the time being, just look at the five lines. Between them you will see four spaces. The spaces are necessary. Without the spaces, the five lines would look just like one big thick line. As it stands, we wind up with nine lines and spaces.

Once in a great while, common sense and reality meet. That's the case here. The lowest line represents the lowest sounding note of the staff, while the highest line indicates the highest sounding note. As you might guess, those lines and spaces in between have notes that lie between the low and high ends. For the present, ignore any note that lies beyond these limits.

If you look at a piano, you will see a bunch of white keys. There are also black keys, but like so many other things, they come later. Right now, we are dealing with the simplest model. The lines and spaces you see on the music have a direct correspondence to the white keys. The lowest line represents the note E. Anybody with a grain of common sense knows that alphabetic things start with A. Music notation and common sense don't meet here.

The first space you see represents the note F, with a G being the note of the second line up. Now at this critical junction, we must forget what our mommies taught us about our ABC's. The next note is an A, not an H. Don't argue about it; just take it on faith. Continuing upwards we encounter B, C, D, and then another E and F. The second E and F are higher sounding versions of the ones we encountered at the bottom of the staff. Don't be confused by having different notes that carry the same name.

For the fully technical, there is more to each note than just the simple letter given here. However, in barbershop, we do try to keep it simple. Just consider that we are using familiar "first names" here. As a parallel example, in the chapter, we may encounter two different guys named Jim. Most of us have little trouble telling the two Jims apart. Same thing with note names.

Many folks say that remembering that the spaces spell FACE provides the key to keeping track of the notes on this staff. Let's jump back to those note symbols for a moment. Remember that beautiful oval we referred to last month? The center part of the oval must lie on the space or line to represent that particular note.

Now we'll touch upon the bass staff for just a moment. It operates the same as the treble staff, except that the bottom note is G, followed by A, B, C, D, E, F, G and A. You may have noticed that the spaces on this staff spell, ACEG. While you may be able to pronounce this, it doesn't mean anything. However, people who have associated the letters with the phrase, "All Cows Eat Grass," say that it helps.

Next month, we'll be looking into most of those silly looking symbols you see at the beginning of the staff. Some may also appear throughout the music, but, as you've already heard a few times, "That comes later." Meanwhile, you have a whole month to fix the lines and spaces of each staff in your head. Regardless of your voice part, try to learn both staves.

Indy Update

Plans are progressing for the International Convention and Contest coming up in Indianapolis this summer. You can order your tickets online (if you haven't already done it.) The housing forms have just appeared on the website, too, and now you can reserve your room online as well. I know a few of us have already sent in our housing requests and may be looking for roommates, so ask around if you're planning on going and want to share a room.

It should be a great contest and it never gets closer than Indy. Find out if Max Q can finally win the gold that everyone has been expecting them to get. See and hear the Vocal Majority try for their 11th chorus gold. Learn which past champion quartets will be retiring (hint: it's not Happiness Emporium.) Support our Illinois groups (we might even have both of our college quartets competing.)

To register, reserve housing, or just find out more about what is happening in Indy, check out the Society website www.barbershop.org.

Learn to Sight Read Better Online

This came in from Christopher Baker via the Harmonet

For those who are interested in learning to sight read from Ed Hinkley, we now have a Yahoo email list to facilitate that process. To join, go to:

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbssightreading/>

and tell me who you are.

When you join, you will automatically receive the first 6 lessons and the basic music theory document available on the BBS Sight Reading email list site. To access the Files section, you will need a Yahoo ID. You do not have to accept the Yahoo email address they'll try to give you when you register. Uncheck the Yahoo email box and enter your regular email address when prompted.

Those of you who joined before this update can go to the site and download the files you need. The rest will receive them when their membership is activated.

Otherwise, everyone currently aboard may begin their questions and discussions in the list.

Getting back to BASSics...

KTWWS! & HTW!
Christopher Baker