



**"HARMONY  
IN MOTION"**

# *The Chordsmen Chronicle*



[www.FunCenterChordsmen.com](http://www.FunCenterChordsmen.com)

Volume 42 Issue 3 ~ March 2017

## ***Singing Valentine program a huge success***

The Singing Valentine program this year was truly a team effort. It all started with an idea from **Mike Craze** about putting posters in the Richland Mall. **Chris Rumas** approached the mall and received permission to post several large posters throughout the public mall area.

Ok, so what should be on the poster? That's where our resident member **Frank DeWitt**, the chapter graphic artist enters the picture. This poster was designed and printed by Frank in three different formats. Several large posters for the mall, many 8 1/2 x 11 posters for members to put up wherever they can and the same design printed as "table tents." placed in restaurants were a key

to the success of the program. **R.F. Miller** arranged for radio spots with matching Public Service Announcements (PSA) to be aired on stations in a five county area. **Chris Rumas** and **Lorin Weaver** worked with the Pioneer Joint Vocational school's agriculture department for the roses, beautifully prepared.

The announcement on the chapter toll free number promoted the Singing Valentines and informed the caller the methods to place orders, one of which was an online order form designed by the chapter IT guru, **Jim Frye**. The chapter was positioned to take most all forms of credit cards.

The Chapter has four quartets within the ranks who were charged with the responsibility of delivering all the Singing Valentines. The quartets pictures were on the poster.

Order forms were made available to all members of the chapter and many of the Valentines were sold by members who didn't sing in one of the quartets.

As the orders began to pour in, Jim created a google drive spread sheet and entered all orders. Order numbers were assigned and four copies of each order was created, one for each quartet folder, one for the master file and one for **Dan Noe** who printed all the personal, custom made cards.

At least one member from each quartet gathered on Sunday afternoon, March 11 to arrange their valentine orders in logical order for delivery. The orders that did not specify a particular quartet were distributed between the quartets that could work them into their schedule.

Early Tuesday morning, the quartets met to pick up the roses, do a quick vocal warm up and then hit the road for a long day of "Delivering the sound of love."

Thanks to the team work of all involved, we exceeded our income budget by more 41 percent. Good work team.!



**One of Our Quartets  
Will Deliver a Love Song,  
a Fresh Red Rose, Hershey's Kisses and a  
Valentine Card from You for only \$45!**  
to your home, place of business, restaurant, wherever!

To reserve your *Singing Valentine* call Chris Rumas: 419-886-3163 or 1-877-754-SING  
or any member of the Fun Center Chordsmen  
We cover Richland County and the surrounding areas of Galion, Ashland, Wooster, etc.  
Your distant loved ones can enjoy their own special song by phone for just \$10!  
We accept cash, checks, and most major credit cards.



Good Company



Bravada



Home Edition



Chordially Yours

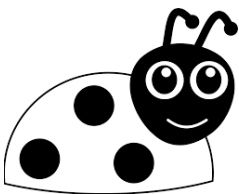
*Vocal Seniority* from Johnny Appleseed District wins first senior chorus contest at the BHS Mid-Winter convention on San Antonio, Texas



By: Tom Webb ~ Tenor in Vocal Seniority Chorus

When **Dan Noe** said that going to San Antonio to compete on the international stage was on his bucket list I was really moved. I hadn't really thought of it in that way, but it really was a bucket list experience.

Ever since I caught the barbershop bug, I've wanted to go to contest and compete, whether in a chorus or quartet. And ever since I've competed on the district level I've wanted to go to internationals and do the same.



I've had that opportunity twice with the Singing Buckeyes, once as an actual competitor and the other as the mic tester chorus. There were no allusions either time, because we were up against the Westminster and Vocal Majority type choruses, the goliaths of the barbershop world. Our goal was to perform well and prove that we belonged, which we did.

This time things were different, and unique. This time we were on equal footing with four other choruses of the over 55 generation. All of us were first timers on the senior international chorus stage, because it was the first time any chorus of seniors had competed at the Mid-Winter convention. How cool is that?

The really cool thing is that we actually competed, and won! Fifty-eight men from all over the Johnny Appleseed district took to the risers at the Lila Cockrell theater in San Antonio and sang their hearts out.

After some four or five rehearsals during the previous year and one three hour rehearsal the night before contest we competed against four other fine choruses

including one from Ontario Canada, whose regular men's chorus won internationals in 2013. And we won!

**Doug Smeltz**, whose idea it was to have the senior choruses compete, directed us. I believe it was Doug's attention to detail that won it for us. Doug has always been a stickler for details, paying attention to the small things. Things like the unit sound of each



Doug Smeltz

section, facial expressions when you weren't singing, the raised eyebrows, and getting to the target vowels together. All of these little things combined to make our performance memorable.

There were times when he cajoled us into doing more than just performing the songs but singing the story of the songs.

His approach must have worked it magic because we did just that. It was apparent we had done what needed to be done because Doug's reaction when we finished singing was priceless. That made it all worthwhile! He knew we had nailed it.

The senior chorus made up of men in the JAD over 55, came together from many different chapters.

There are several members of the Fun Center Chordsmen who sang in the *Vocal Seniority* as we were called. **Dan Noe, Mike Craze, Ron Rosser, Ed Farrar**, me.

The hard work paid off for all of us! 🎵

## *Bravada*

### *delivers 32 sounds of love*



Bravada presents a Singing Valentine to Jasmin Evans

Bravada, along with the three other quartets delivered a total of 111 Singing Valentines on one day, February 14. This effort kept us on the move all day long.

Bravada's deliveries included family homes, doctors offices, hospitals, elementary and pre schools, and a factory. And we ended the day, as we normally do, with a 30 minute performance at Primrose retirement community. This was followed by a visit to the Primrose Pub for some refreshments and more singing.

The one Valentine that took some work in advance, was a delivery to **Jasmin Evans**, a staff member of **Richland Source**, an on line news media source. According to **Pastor Paul Lintern**, who purchased the valentine, Jasmin is in and out of the office during the day. That kind of makes it hard to schedule. About a week in advance, we contacted the office manager, Becky, and asked for her help in making sure that Jasmin would be in the office between 10:00 and 12:00 on Valentines Day. Becky came through like a champ.

At about 11:00 we entered the Richland Source office and saw Jasmin sitting at her desk. We were about to sing to her when Becky asked us to wait a minute while a Richland Source videographer was located. When he was in place, we began our Singing Valentine.

We're not sure but it may have streamed live on their website and facebook page. You can see the video on either the Fun Center Chordsmen or the Richland Source facebook pages. This Singing Valentine was by far, the most unique of any we've ever delivered. 🎵

## *News and views from*

### *BHS*

By: Jim Frye

#### Up Coming Chapter Shows:

March 6<sup>th</sup> / 6pm – Cambridge  
 March 25<sup>th</sup> / 6pm – Independence  
 April 1<sup>st</sup> – Defiance (2/7:30),  
                   Shelby-Miami, Middletown  
 April 8<sup>th</sup> / 2:30 & 6:30 – Grand Lake  
 April 28<sup>th</sup> – Tuscarawas  
 April 29<sup>th</sup> – Fostoria, Marion, Western Hills (2/7:30),  
                   Newark (7pm), Derbytownt (7:30), Elyria 7:30  
 April 30<sup>th</sup> / 2pm – Derbytownt  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> / 7pm – Greater Cranberry (PA)  
 May 13<sup>th</sup> – Xenia

#### Spring Convention:

Dates: April 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Site: Hope Community Church, Olmsted Falls, OH  
 Headquarters Hotel: Holiday Inn Rockside,  
                   Independence, OH  
 Website link: <http://www.singjad.com/2017-spring-convention>

#### Apple Corps / NW Ohio:

Date: Sat., June 10th  
 Site: First United Methodist Church, Bowling Green,  
 Cost: \$25/person  
 Website link: <http://www.singjad.com/apple-corps>  
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When your online surfing around, do you ever stop at the BHS website at a look at what's offered for free? Well, let me provide you with the reasons you might want to frequent this website more often. Better off....bookmark it!

**History of barbershop** – a great look into where barbershop got started and its progression to today

**Membership documents** - especially the EZ dues option for payment of your yearly dues

**Society Calendar of Events** – see what's happening around the country...and the world!

**Free music theory lessons** – yes, I said **FREE!!**  
 Increase your music knowledge!

**Audio, Videos, & Photos** – a nice collection of links to BHS audio tracks, YouTube vidoes and photos housed at Flickr

**And much, much more** at [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)



By: Lee Cook ~ Secretary

Below you will find highlights of the February 13, 2017 meeting of the Fun Center Chordsmen board of directors.

**Secretaries Report:**

Lee Cook  
Accepted January board minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lorin Weaver

Financial recap 1/1/2017 – 2/9/2017 was accepted

**VP Music & Performance:** Jim Frye:

- January 30<sup>th</sup> was last music team meeting. Discussed in depth the auditing process for show and contest.
- Annual show audits are ongoing. Member must pass 3 songs total, 1 from each genre.
- Contest audits will take place on March 6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>, before and after rehearsal. Must pass both at near 100% accuracy on words and notes.
- February contest night is next week, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Nathan Ogg will be our coach in vocal production. February pizza night is next week, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

- March 14<sup>th</sup> tech meeting at the Renaissance Theater

**VP Marketing & PR:** RF Miller

- Coordinated the presentation of floor microphones to Renaissance Theatre. Distributed picture and news release on presentation.
- Wrote and distributed new release on Tom Webb and Barbershopper of the year.
- Worked with Patrick at the Ren to print our show tickets. Made sure our show was on their website along with the ability to purchase tickets on line.
- Printed 125 Valentine cards.
- Worked with Jim Frye to completely organize the SV program with order master sheet and copies of orders. Coordinated with Dan Noe who made the Valentine cards,

**Chorus Manager:** Dan Noe

Possible chorus gig Friday, May 19, 2017 in Norwalk, OH.

**New Business:**

R.F. Miller made a motion to give Gayle Ray a \$100 check for transporting raisers for the chorus throughout 2016. Seconded by Jim Frye. Motion Passed 11 Y 0 N





## **2017 Chapter Leadership**

**President ~**

Stan Popp

**Exec. VP ~**

Vacant

**Music Director ~**

Trevor Garrabrant

**Assistant Directors ~**

Jim Frye

Dave Kracker

**VP Music & Performance ~**

Jim Frye

**VP Chapter Development ~**

Ed Farrar

**VP Marketing & PR ~**

R.F. Miller

**VP YIH ~**

Dave Kracker

**Secretary ~**

Lee Cook

**Treasurer ~**

Lorin Weaver

**Immediate Past President ~**

Jim Frye

**Board Members at Large:**

Bob Gibson

Terry Loughman

Mike Craze

Walt Jewett

*The Chordsmen Chronicle is the official bulletin of the  
Fun Center Chordsmen.*

*Editor: R. F. Miller (RFMiller1@gmail.com)*

*Unless other credit is given, articles and pictures are  
by R.F. Miller*

***“It’s great to be a  
barbershopper in  
\*Mansburg, Ohio”***

***(\*Mansfield)***

### **2017 Man of Note honor roll**

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|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**plenty of room for your name**



### **Chordsmen Quartets** *(alpha order & year founded)*

**Bravada** (2001)

Jim Frye (T)

Trevor Garrabrant (L)

Dan Crow (B)

R.F. Miller (Br) (419) 884-2441 (contact)

**Chordially Yours** (2004)

Gayle Ray (T)

(Vacant) (L)

Stan Popp (B) (419) 756-0098 (contact)

Frank DeWitt (Br)

**Good Company** (2008)

Tom Webb (T)

Lee Hull (L)

Mike Craze (B)

Chris Rumas (Br) (419) 886-3163 (contact)

**Home Edition** (1991)

Jim Frye (T)

Jerry Starrett (L)

Bill Herdman (B)

Dave Kracker (Br)

**Late Edition** (2013)

Keith Shuck (T)

Steve Sommer (L)

Mark Hannum (B)

Doug Smeltz (Br) (614) 537-5184 (contact)