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WHOLE WORLD SINGING

# CHORD-INATOR

BARBERSHOP  
HARMONY  
SOCIETY



MINNEAPOLIS  
COMMODORES

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, CHAPTER  
\*\*\*\* A CHAPTER WITH AN ENVIABLE PAST - AN UNBOUNDED FUTURE \*\*\*\*

10,000 LAKES DIVISION - LAND O' LAKES DISTRICT

SEPT/OCT 2017- VOL. 73- NO. 8

## Summer's Echoes

*'Twas the season!*



*Diana Pinard Photo*

July 18 was the date for the annual area Barbershop get-together promoted by the St. Paul Chapter. Choruses from the Faribault, Hilltop, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, St. Cloud Area, St. Croix Valley, St. Paul, and from Polk County, Wisconsin, gathered to strut their stuff at the Lake Como Pavilion. The weather was perfect, virtually cloudless, with a gentle breeze wafting throughout the venue. (The director, here, injudiciously blocks your Editor from view.)



On August 2 the Commodores performed at the Veterans Memorial Amphitheater in St. Louis Park. *Swipe* (left to rt.) Mark Bloomquist, new bass, Andy Richards, Conrad Ward, and Ken Wentworth, entertained with an audience favorite, *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*. *Pinard Photo*



After successive rainouts in 2015 and 2016, the Commodores finally were graced with wonderful weather this year on August 22 and were able to perform in Minnetonka as part of the city's annual Music in the Park series. *Don Bartels Photo*

**Minneapolis, Minn. Chapter  
Land O'Lakes District, BHS  
Meetings every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.  
House of Prayer Lutheran Church  
7625 Chicago Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423  
Chapter Officers**

President.....Denny Maas 952/447-8012  
Past Pres. ....Gordy Aumann 952/935-8869  
Marketing/PR VP.....Steve Grady....952/334-7500  
VP Music /Perform... Carl Pinard 612/927-9363  
VP Membership.....Harvey Weiss 763/439-4447  
Program VP.....Blake Wanger 414/699-4950  
Secretary.....Bill Warp 763/531-2290  
Treasurer .....John Carlotto 952/925-0886

#### **Board Members**

*Through 2017*

Dean Lambert.....612/727-3909  
Matt Richards .....651/983-8021  
*Through 2017-18*

Andy Cook.....651/688-6459  
Andy Richards.....651/639-9312  
Arne Stefferud.....651/772-4367

#### **Directors**

Director.....Paul Wigley  
Assistant Directors: Gary Jacobson (on leave),  
Davie Speidel, Dave Bechard

#### **Section Leaders**

Tenor Section Leader .....Rollie Neve  
Lead Section Leader. ....**Vacant**  
Assistant - Dan Smith

Bari Section Leaders .....Dave Speidel  
Assistant - Matt Richards

Bass Section Leaders.....Dave Casperson

#### **Committee Chairmen**

Altruistic Programs Chairman.....Denny Maas  
Audio/Visual Mgr.....Kirk Douglas  
2016 Show Chairman.....Dave Speidel  
2017 Show Chairman.....Dan Cole  
2018 Show Chairman.....Matt Richards  
Afterglow Chairman.....Andy Richards  
Attendance/Sgt.-at-Arms.....

#### **Vacant**

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Chord-Inator Staff.

Editor .....Dr. Hardin Olson  
Senior Columnist.....Jim Erickson  
Artist.....Glenn Retter  
Chorus Manager.....Dan Slattery

Assistant - Neal Mortenson

Chorus Performance Managers.....John Lloyd  
.. Bob Ostergaard

Grants Research.....**Vacant**

Groupanizer Administrator.....Matt Richards

Harmony Foundation.....**Vacant**

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Learning Tracks.....Dan Smith

Librarian.....Carl Pinard

Name Tags .....Dan Slattery

Nut Sales Chairman.....Dick Riemenschneider

Northern Pines Brigade President.....Dave Speidel

Performance Mgr.....Paul Swanson

Presentation Chairman.....Dan True

Quartet Promotion.....Gary Jacobson

Riser Boss(temp).....Dan Cole

Roster (pending) .....Andy Richards

Singing Valentines.....Neal Mortenson

Sunshine .....Mark Bloomquist

Swipe Editor .....Bill Warp

Tickets/A-Commodores President.....Diana Pinard

Transportation Mgr.....Dick Hartmann

Uniform Committee Chairman.....**Vacant**

Uniforms (Dress & Casual).....Dan Williams

## *Quality counts*

*By Paul Wigley, Director*

In preparation for fall judging assignments, I am required to practice - score various International and District quartet/chorus performances from around the country. This is another time that I wish every man singing with the Minneapolis Commodores could be able to view/listen to what I am hearing. It would give all of you a new appreciation of the level of music-making in which we participate every Tuesday night (and obviously in every performance).

These practice playlists reinforce what I often tell you guys after I return from a contest-judging weekend. The number of choruses, approximating our size, participating at International this year was three, with 86, 45, and 34 members respectively. District competitors exhibited numbers of 30, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, and 11. Most of these are quite small choruses and you can clearly see that we are all fortunate to be able to sing consistently with the number of fellow Commodores on our risers every Tuesday evening. This is an incredible product that we are part of, and we are a unique chorus among the BHS choruses that compete!

However, (You all had a feeling this was coming) we simply must keep working to bring new singers into the Minneapolis Commodores organization. Every single member must understand that new members are the only possible way to sustain the quality and camaraderie of the Commodores. It's TOO easy to just sit back and enjoy ... without jumping in and working to keep building and growing. ALL of us need to keep wracking our brains to come up with the ONE new guy that we can introduce to the joy of singing.

The Minneapolis Commodores have a special combination of great singing and great warmth and humor. Many choruses have great singing, and great work habits, but lose a bit



**Paul Wigley**

## **Bechard's Ferrari**

*By Denny Maas, President*

My introduction to the Ferrari was not at a race track. It was back in the 1960s when console stereo systems hit the market. Bragging rights came with systems over 50 inches with a TV screen centered between the speakers.



**Denny Maas**

A key sales technique was to demonstrate the separation of sound between the right and left speakers. Records demonstrated this to anyone with two ears and proud new stereo owners often played them for their guests.

My parents purchased our stereo system in the late 1950s. Since the stereo was about 40 inches long with no TV we had zero bragging rights. We did *Go to Bechard, Page 3, Column 1*

of the joy of simply getting together with other *men of good character*. Many other choruses have great humor and fun, but fall short of the joy of making great music that allows us to express our individual feelings of joy, love, caring, and joie de vivre. (Look that one up if you don't know French.) The Commodores do a wonderful job of balancing both aspects of a musical ensemble that exist for the amateur singer. Warmth, fun, camaraderie, great singing, and great music-making ... it IS possible to have it all.

We are having wonderfully exciting rehearsals every Tuesday night. (This past Tuesday was thrilling!) Singing contest music, Holiday music, 2018 show music, working on vocal technique, working on visuals ... so much variety. SO, bring a guest! They could even sing on the Holiday show; we will be rehearsing that music during the first part of our Tuesday evenings. Share this great hobby with a friend (that sings well).

We are a unique and successful chorus but just saying that is not the best way to spread the news. Celebrate being part of this tremendous organization. Thanks to all of you for your great work; keep on working to build and grow our chorus!



## Happy Birthday

09/14 Jim Jorgensen  
 09/15 Walter Dawson  
 09/15 Sharyn Maas  
 09/26 Beverly Slattery  
 09/29 Cathy Ortenburger  
 10/03 Guy St. Martin  
 10/14 Ralph Nordquist  
 10/16 Andy Richards  
 10/17 Nan DeMars  
 10/17 Blake Wanger  
 10/20 Sandy Bergersen  
 10/20 Travis Wuttke  
 10/22 Dan True  
 10/26 LeRoy Zimmerman  
 10/29 Andy Cook  
 10/30 Sally Daniel  
 10/30 Karene Heupel  
 10/31 Nancy Dillon  
 11/01 Tom Dahlen  
 11/05 Mark Ortenburger  
 11/08 Marilyn Jacobson  
 11/09 Ken Wentworth



### Bechard from Page 2

have a demo record which I loved to play. However, I was the only one in my family who wanted to hear it more than once. The record was made at a high performance car race. The recording included the sounds of Lamborghinis, Ferraris, and Maseratis. I was fascinated by the sounds of these cars and would sit in front of the stereo appearing as if I was watching the cars race around the track, my head moving back and forth like I was watching a tennis match. Each lap around the track was somewhat like the measures in the music we sing. On the straight lanes of the race track the sound would start softly and would continue to a roar until the turn when it would settle back to low purring sound.

Regardless of where the Ferrari was on the track, you could feel and hear the energy from its huge 500 horsepower engine. The driver was always in control of this magnificent machine with a nimble grip on the steering wheel and by applying just the right pressure on the accelerator pedal he obtained maximum acceleration



### August reenlistments

Shawn Hunter.....3yrs.  
 Eric Traband.....11 yrs.  
 Bryan Langren.....12 yrs.  
 Bob Duncan.....13 yrs.  
 Glenn Retter.....14 yrs.  
 Chuck Gribble.....16 yrs.  
 Steve Daniel.....18 yrs.  
 Dan Cole.....19 yrs.  
 Dale Lynch.....19 yrs.  
 Larry Nelson.....20 yrs.  
 Travis Wuttke.....20 yrs.  
 Kevin Huyck.....21yrs.  
 Terry McClellan.....21 yrs.  
 Dan Krekelberg.....23 yrs.  
 Dan True.....32 yrs.  
 Lawrence Smalley.....50 yrs.  
 Gary Jacobson.....53 yrs.  
 Thurm Slack.....59 yrs.

wherever the car was on the race track. The driver was dependent on the high and unfaltering performance of each engine component. If a spark plug didn't fire or a fuel filter clogged, the race would be lost.

**Dave B** mentioned that last week when he got home after practice, he shared with his wife the excitement he felt after conducting our chorus which was like driving a Ferrari. I would invite you to join me in my goal to be a high performing component of our Directors' Ferraris.

We can reach this goal by knowing our music, maintaining 500-horsepower energy from the first to last measure, watching and responding to the director's hands as if they were on the steering wheel of a Ferrari, and maintaining performance posture and facial expression similar to that when admiring the look of a sleek, highly-poished, high performance automobile.

Gentlemen, we have some of the finest drivers in the Society. *Start your engines and let's win some competitions!*

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



*Chapter members are always welcome to attend the Board meetings.*

### From meeting of August 10

• **Marketing:** **Matt Richards** and **Don Keller** have begun working on the graphics for the 2018 annual show.



Bill Warp

**Dan Slattery** will be soliciting ads and sponsorships for the annual show.

**Russ Born** will be working to re-engage with **Ev Nau's** Sponsorship Program.

• **Membership:** Discussion was held regarding a possible merger of the Membership and Marketing Committees.

• **Music & Performance:** **Pete Benson** will be conducting the pre-contest retreat on Saturday, September 23.

The problem of lack of uniformity of black dress shoes among the members, when performing in more formal attire, was discussed.

**Old Business:** President Denny arranged for the old truck to be hauled away thereby earning \$200 for the chapter.

**Next Meeting October 12 at Wooddale Lutheran.**

## Happy Anniversary

09/15 Jim & Linda Lee  
 09/16 Dan & Susan Krekelberg (45)  
 09/26 Darrell J & Helga Egertson  
 10/07 Kevin & Janet Huyck  
 10/09 Jim & Judy Windey  
 10/10 Stephen L & Sally Daniel  
 10/14 Dean R. & Kristen Lambert  
 10/16 Tony & Natalie Lapakko (5)  
 10/29 Kirk & Teresa Douglas  
 10/30 David & Catherine Wall

**PLEASE NOTE:** If your birthday or anniversary dates are missing from these lists, please notify the Editor.

## SUNSHINE HOTLINE



By Mark Bloomquist, Sunshine  
Chairman

• **Ebie Richards** is at home from her recent hospitalization and has embarked on a cardiac rehab program. She also has arranged for and is using a home med-alert system.



Mark Bloomquist

• **Glenn Retter's** laryngeal cancer has been successfully treated but his singing voice has been compromised. He won't be on the risers with us for a time but will

be leading the cheers at our performances.

• **Jim Erickson** is readying for his hip surgery on November 1 and is not sure when he might be able to return to the chorus. There is a riser-chair always available for him if needed.

• **John Hansen** is dealing with sleep apnea and in addition has developed some cardiac problems.

• **Jeanne**, my wife, has finished with the preliminary therapy and is now ready to proceed with the surgery for her breast cancer.

• **Russ Born** is undergoing evaluation for a kidney transplant. His kidneys are not functioning properly.

**Remember:** Please keep me updated about those ailing and remember a note, a card, a call, and prayers are always welcome.

## Flying with the Roadrunners

Ron Thomley, Original Roadrunner tenor

*Conclusion: Recall that last month after the boys played hop-scotch with a severe storm, and although low on fuel, landed safely in Winona. The saga continues ...*



Ron Thomley

After a job in Illinois in 1977, Norm made arrangements for a coaching audition with super coach, **Lyle Pilcher**. The session was held in Racine at the home of Lyle's friend, Jarmela Speta [a Sweet Adeline of note]. After introductions, he asked us to sing a song for him. We sang our hearts off on a ballad after which Lyle said, "at least you weren't totally offensive to me." A true "left handed" compliment??

We continued to work with the coach for an hour or so, and it was time to head for the Twin Cities. It was cold out and evidently "Crash" Pye didn't give the engine enough of a warm-up. When we got up to altitude, the engine produced a loud "bang", and the

engine cut out. There was a deafening silence in the plane. "May Day!" It was great relief when the engine "kicked in" again. It should be noted that Coach Pilcher chose not to add the Roadrunners to his stable of "upper crust" quartets.

One time we flew commercially to a show in Winnipeg. It was interesting because the passengers included the trumpet player/orchestra leader, **Doc Severinson**, from the Johnny Carson Show. When we got to the airport in Winnipeg the Roadrunners and Severinson were taken aside and asked about our "work permits". Work permits? We had sung in Canada several times, never hearing of a work permit. "Are you getting paid?", asked a clerk. "Oh yeah, we better be getting paid!", Wile E. answered. It took some time, but finally an officer from the Winnipeg chapter came and sorted things out. Evidently, Severinson solved the problem, also.

Not all of our adventures were with "Crash" Pye. One fall we were booked in Fargo, No.Dak. Carl Quist, a fellow Barbershopper from the St. Croix chapter, was a pilot and offered to get us there and home again. On the way home, Carl kept using a flashlight to inspect the edge of the wings. "What are you looking

## Welcome back, Jeff!



After a number of months on sabbatical baritone Jeff Culp is back in the Commodore fold, where he continues to significantly lower the average age of the group. *Staff Photo*

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for?" somebody asked. It turns out there was ice build up on the wings and it was getting serious. Only one thing to do – drop down in altitude to a warmer temperature so the ice can melt. It worked! Somebody up there likes us!

My inspiration for writing this piece came from a recent dream. I often think back on the years when I was an active quartetter. There were so many fine times I would not trade for anything. It should be noted that my "flying time" with the Roadrunners was just a small portion of their experience. They continued for at least another 13-14 years after I left the quartet. They undoubtedly had many more "flying experiences" which could be added to this collection. I'm just thankful *For The Good Times*.

**Minneapolis Commodores  
2017 Nut Order Form**

Customer: required field \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: optional \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: optional \_\_\_\_\_ Work: optional \_\_\_\_\_  
 City / State optional \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: optional \_\_\_\_\_

Description	Quantity (pounds) (Apples are per bag)	Price/Lb.	Foil Gift Bag (Add \$1.50 per bag)	Total Amount
Deluxe Mixed Nuts (no peanuts)	_____	@ \$13.00	+ _____ =	_____
Cashews Medium PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$12.50	+ _____ =	_____
Honey Roasted Peanuts PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$4.50	+ _____ =	_____
Almonds (natural whole raw)	_____	@ \$10.50	+ _____ =	_____
Almonds (salted & roasted-whole) PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$11.00	+ _____ =	_____
Pistachios, White PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$12.00	+ _____ =	_____
Trail Mix, Deluxe PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$6.50	+ _____ =	_____
Pecans, Mammoth	_____	@ \$13.50	+ _____ =	_____
Walnuts, Chopped PRICE REDUCED !	_____	@ \$13.00	+ _____ =	_____
Dried Apples (cinnamon flavor) (5 oz package)	_____	@ \$7.50	+ NA =	_____
<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____			_____

**All orders must be prepaid**

**Please make checks payable to : The A-Commodorears**

Orders submitted by October 24th will be available to customers prior to Thanksgiving

Orders submitted by November 14th will be available by December 5th

First delivery to Chorus on Tuesday, November 14th

Second delivery on December 5th

**Salesperson:** required field \_\_\_\_\_





## ANNUAL NUT SALES KICK-OFF

*By Dick Riemenschneider – Nut Administrator*



Dick  
Riemenschneider

Here it is Labor Day again and for the Commodore Members that means the Annual Nut Sales are starting up. For new members the Annual Nut Sales are a revenue-generating program that allows every Commodore to help contribute to our treasury.

The premise is simple. Members take orders for one-pound bags of nuts to be delivered at a later date. When orders are complete the appropriate amount of bulk nuts are ordered and the bulk nuts are broken down into one-pound bags. The nuts are then distributed to the member salesman to deliver to the customers. Since this is a “wholesale product in/retail product out” operation the Commodores take the profits on the sales.

The Commodores have been doing an annual nut sales drive as a fund-raiser for many years (I have some old Nut Order Forms that date to 1983, and I don’t know if there was a Nut Sales Drive prior to that). Over those many years the nut sales effort has contributed significantly to the Commodores treasury. During my tenure as Nut Administrator, which dates to 2006, the Nut Sales Drive has contributed a total of \$109,100 to the Commodores treasury (an average of \$9,918 per year).

With the potential of that kind of cash enhancement to the Commodores’ treasury, every member should be working at selling these nuts. For those new to the program, these are top quality nuts from a Minnesota supplier. Usually they are less than two weeks from the roaster to the customer, a claim that the top-tier grocery and specialty stores cannot match. Our customers rave about the quality of our product, and our prices are at least competitive with the fancy stores (and in fact, are lower on some items). Our customers are friends and

relatives of Commodores members. Our members sell to neighbors, work mates, spouse work mates, or friends from their church. I’ve heard of orders from members’ banks, dentist office, barbershop, car mechanic, or insurance office. A lot of these orders get bigger every year because these nuts are so delicious.

Just like last year the nuts will be in heavy-duty, heat-sealed plastic bags with professional looking labels. We also offer foil gift bags with the Commodores information on the back and a greeting label on the front complete with a “From” and “To” for gift giving. The additional cost for the foil bag is \$1.50.

Unlike last year when we had some significant price increases, the prices of four of our products have stayed the same as last year and prices of six products have actually decreased. Five products have decreased in price by \$0.50 and one product by \$1.00. As you contact your potential customers you can point out the price decreases.

We also have a relationship with several businesses that order a quantity of nuts in the foil bag as a holiday favor to their vendors or their employees. For business customers we offer custom labels on the front side of the bag with the business name and logo to promote their business. If you think a business you deal with might like to give away our product as a favor for their vendors or customers, please promote this to them. The additional cost is still only \$1.50 for the foil bag.

How does the sale of nuts break down within the chorus you ask? Last year 67 Commodores sold nuts and 2,525 pounds of product were delivered. JOHN CARLOTTO was the top salesperson selling 190 pounds, DAN COLE, second, with 135 pounds, and CARL PINARD and DENNY ROLLOFF tied for third with 124 pounds each. Within the chorus the average product delivered was 37.4 pounds per member selling. The median product delivered was 22 per member selling. If you feel you cannot sell that amount, do not despair. Thirty-seven members sold fewer than 25

pounds. Any amount you sell to others, or buy yourself, contributes to our fund raising. These nuts freeze very well and we’ve been munching on them in our house throughout the summer. Also, everyone in our family really likes the Dried Apples and finds them to be a real special treat.

You can begin selling immediately and be sure to collect the money when the order is taken. No nuts are stockpiled and only the nuts paid for are ordered. Our vendor makes only one delivery and we receive an extra 2% discount for payment within 10 days of delivery. Thus, it is essential to collect the money when making the sale.

Forms are in this issue of THE CHORDINATOR and are also distributed at chorus meetings. For help with the selling process, talk to most any Commodore and they will be willing to show you the ropes.

Most of our customers look forward to our nut sales every year. They like the very high quality of the product we sell and, of course, many like to support the Commodores. The deadline for Thanksgiving delivery is at the meeting on Tuesday, October 25. Please start selling immediately.

It’s GREAT to be a Commodore!

**TFLBTMOT**  
continues  
**The Jim Richards**  
**Matching Funds**  
**Challenge**  
**for**  
**Youth In Harmony**  
**at the**  
**11th Annual**  
**BHS Open**  
**Monday,**  
**August 13, 2018**  
**For info log on to**  
**[bhsopen.com](http://bhsopen.com)**



# Georgia Grind

By Jim Erickson, Bandstand Baritone



Jim Erickson

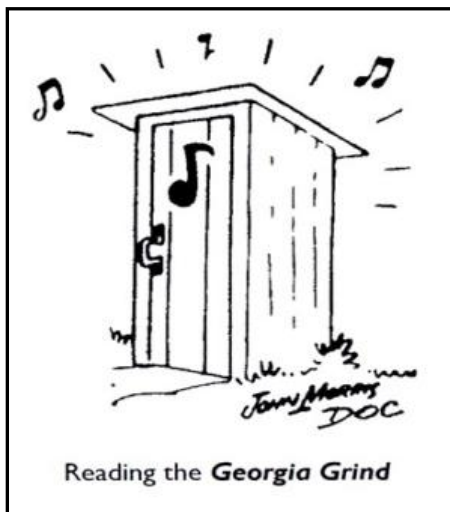
If you are a singer of Barbershop music, I would venture that for most of you, music has followed you all your life. It may have been dormant for some time with kids, jobs, and all the other things that need attention at one time or another. But each time you tapped your toe or nodded your head to the beat of your favorite music, the music in your soul was beckoning to you to blossom in some more evident way. As a Barbershopper, you are privileged to have given in to that beckoning whether it was at an early age or later on in life. Music adds a whole 'nother dimension to everything you do. And you become a much more interesting person. You might even become almost as handsome as a baritone if you sing, but I can't make that bold a promise to you.

For me, I remember mostly the different types of music that were available to me and to which I took advantage in a small Minnesota town of about 4,000. You could join just about any group there as they always appreciated one more person. On top of singing in a great high school chorus under a very talented director, you could also play in a tremendous high school band under a very talented band director. Of course you could sing in the church choir and many of us did. And then in the summers, you played in the Community Band directed by the local music-store owner. Quite a conglomeration of backgrounds in that band!

Every Thursday summer evening, the Community Band members would climb the stairs up to the second story of the old-fashioned, gingerbread-architected "cupola" bandstand surrounded by streets, trees in the adjoining park, and parking areas. We wore white shirts with black ties and as we warmed up, cars would start to gather. Every place they could park was eventually taken and sometimes the

best they could do was get out of their cars a block away and walk over ... or just cruise slowly by as we played. The tradition was that at the end of each song, every car would honk its horn many times in appreciation. Recalling that still gives me shivers. The *Light Cavalry Overture* was a special audience favorite.

I won't go on about later years and I don't want you to think that I am dissatisfied about how much music I have experienced. But. But.... A bunch more certainly would have been welcomed. Maybe that's why I harp (No pun intended—or was it?) on making your music bucket list. And then acting on it.



What does music do for you? You, individually, I mean. Last weekend my wife, Mary, and I were at a Farmer's Market in Phoenix Park, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, an outstanding newer facility on the Chippewa River next to downtown. People from all walks of life (pretty trite, eh?) come there on Saturdays to listen to a music group or two set up in the gazebo, buy gorgeous flower arrangements, fill their bags with delicious looking produce, sample the breads and on and on.

Don't forget the honey and maple syrup. After making our choices, we stopped at the bakery-vendor's stand, bought a blueberry scone and some fresh ground and brewed coffee. Then sat under the trees sharing the scone, sipping the brew, and listening to the entertaining music. Can't have a much more pleasant morning than that.

And I best not forget a fabulous display of peppers at the Market. red, green, yellow, mixed and all bunched indiscriminately in an eyeful, pilefull [sic]. Fresh, shiny, voluptuous(?), a virtual explosion of healthy goodness. (See picture below. That is if you, Doc, can see fit to include it.) Stretching this a bit, but it did remind me that the palette is much richer when there is an abundance of diversity showing off in its best light. OK, this is just plain hokey, but it does remind me of music in all dimensions. The blend of gathered singing human voices resounding into other's human ears strikes something very primeval in us and, whether you can carry a tune or not, it satisfies a longing of souls to be communicating with each other in community. Or, in words I can understand, listening to music can make us feel a range of emotions, but mostly better ones! Just like the eye can appreciate the vibrant color of peppers, so can the ear appreciate the vibrant musical sounds.



So, make the most of your music. And, as I always say, hold fast to that which is good. That includes in the biggest way, music in its many reaches. Too, pay attention to what is going on around you. These days it seems so important in many, many ways, to be alert. Bring out the best in other people by your singing. And smile while doing it. If you enjoy music as much as you profess, how will others know if you don't express it? I mean really show it, not just with one of those wimpy, "I think I'm smiling"—but I really am just looking pleasant. Further, don't think I have lost my way in researching the origins of the Georgia Grind. I am ever closer to some things that have been hidden until recently and once I get my hip replaced, I will be back at the search. More on that, next time.



## Doc's Bag



By Dr. Hardin Olson, Editor

When **Andy Cook** was unavailable on Saturday, August 22, to transport our risers to our Minnetonka sing-out venue, **Dan Cole** made the trek to Eagan to pick up Andy's massive Ford 150 pickup, then to pick up the trailer at House of Prayer, on to Minnetonka, back to HOP after the performance, out to Andy's place to return the truck, and finally home to his humble abode ... no World Perks miles, *just the gratitude of the Commodores* (and a lot of time-off in Purgatory).



Hardin Olson

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As the Commodores prepare for the 2017 LOL Chorus Competition in Rochester in October, we are realizing how we are so blessed to have two first-line assistant directors. **Paul Wigley** and his daughter, the beautiful **Sarah**, have a teaching/judging commitment in England over our contest weekend and thus **David Speidel** and **David Bechard** will be sharing the directing duties in contest. No question, ... the Commodores will be in good hands.

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Those of you who know Rochester Barbershopper **Gary Rogness** will be pleased to know that that, all things considered, he has been tolerating his biweekly chemotherapy quite well.

In my conversation with him on September 24, Gary said he will be having a follow-up scan to check on the status of his cancer, following which the therapeutic plan will be modified as necessary. As an aside, he related that the Drill-Sergeant (his wife, **Ginger**) is taking excellent care of him.

Furthermore, in order to be sure to be having a *good week* at District Contest time, Gary has arranged with his doctors to add a week to his next chemo cycle. Needless to say, Judy and I are looking forward to our visit with him (and the Sergeant).

## Minneapolis Commodores

Minneapolis Commodores – Great Plains Harmony Traveling Trophy



### Meet the JAKE

JAKE is the unofficial mascot of the Minneapolis Commodores, crafted in the most secure laboratory of Ortenburger Enterprises, Inc. in Eden Prairie, out of the finest organic materials available. Quiet, yet affable, Jake has adapted admirably to his new home in the *Loren Berthilson Rehearsal Hall*, in the House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Richfield, home of the Commodore Chorus.

In fact, Jake is so comfortable in his new digs that he is dreading his upcoming sojourn to Rochester, Minnesota, for the LOL District Contest. He is nearly frantic that if the Commodores let him down he may have to spend the winter in frigid, windswept FARGO, God help him (and us)!



On Saturday, September 23, assistant directors David Speidel (left) and David Bechard (rt.) welcomed coach, Pete Benson (ctr.), to House of Prayer for our second pre-contest retreat. He must, without a doubt, be one of the Society's best vocal coaches, who, with his easy-going, yet laser-like style, gave us a number of tools which, if utilized consistently, could help us break the illusive A-level barrier. Time will tell. In the meantime, Pete, a huge thank-you for sharing your expertise with us. *Staff Photo*

### It's Time to Golf!

**What:** The First Annual Glenn Aronson Open

**Where:** Kenyon Golf & Country Club, Kenyon, Minnesota

**When:** Saturday October 7, 2017, Tee Time 12:30 p.m.

**Who:** All past, present, and future Barbershoppers, wives, relatives, and friends.

**Format:** Men's, women's, mixed foursomes, playing the 9-hole course twice in a scramble format

**Prizes:** Low men's, women's, and mixed foursomes, also 6-hole prizes and best-singing foursome.

**Register ASAP** with **Chuck Guthrie** at [cgut@charter.net](mailto:cgut@charter.net)

**Cost:** \$40 paid at the clubhouse as you sign in. Spots will be found for singles.

**Dr. Hardin Olson, Bulletin Editor**  
 3020 St. Albans Mill Road #109  
 Minnetonka, MN 55305  
 952/229-4525  
[olson118@umn.edu](mailto:olson118@umn.edu)

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### Chapter Quartets

BOMP  
 Dan Cole.....612/940-4554  
 CHORD SMASH  
 James Estes.....612/237-3234  
 EASY LISTENIN'  
 Dan Slattery..... 651/747-6384  
 HOT COMMODITY  
 Dave Speidel.....612/437-4325  
 JUST ONE MORE  
 Nate Weimer.....316/204-8756  
 RING IT ON  
 Andy Richards..... 651/639-9312  
 RIVER CITY QUARTET  
 John Chouinard.....651/343-4145  
 MINNESOTA GO-4's  
 Harvey Weiss.....763/439-4447  
 RANDOM SAMPLE  
 Darrell Egertson.....952/943-8737  
 SWYPE  
 Mark Bloomquist.....952/541-0232  
 SOUNDS of RENOWN (VLQ)  
 Mark Ortenburger.....952/942-8382  
 THE SHOES  
 Andy Richards.....651/639-9312

### CHORD-INATOR

*1st Place*  
**2013 PROBE HARD-COPY  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 BULLETIN CONTEST**

**PROBE Hall of Honor  
 Dr. Hardin Olson  
 2016**

The *Chord-Inator* is available on the Minneapolis Chapter's website [minneapoliscommodore.org](http://minneapoliscommodore.org) starting with the January 2006 issue.



*Neither shared with the Girl  
 Scouts nor dumped by the  
 Sweet Adelines.*

*Logo courtesy of Bob Clark*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

To:

### LOOKING AHEAD

- November 14, Tuesday, **Christmas Concert** rehearsal with TC Show Chorus
- November 28, Tuesday, **Christmas Concert** rehearsal with TC Show Chorus
- December 3, Sunday, **Christmas Concert**
- March 24, 2018, Saturday, **!0,000 Lakes Division Contest, Stillwater**
- April 14, 2018, **Annual Show, Bethel University**

### District Level

- October 27-28, **LOL District Convention, Rochester, MN**

### International Level

- January 16-21, 2018, **Midwinter Convention, Orange County, California**

**1st CLASS  
 POSTAGE  
 HERE**

### 2017 Barbershopper Of The Year **Dan True**

**Commodores and others \*  
 contributing to this issue.**

Mark Bloomquist  
 Jim Erickson  
 Denny Maas  
 Hardin Olson  
 Dick Riemenschneider  
 Ron Thomley  
 Bill Warp  
 Paul Wigley



**CHORD-INATOR  
 MINNEAPOLIS COMMODORES  
 Minneapolis Chapter of SPEBSQSA  
 MEETING EVERY TUES -7:00 p.m.  
 House of Prayer Lutheran Church  
 7625 Chicago Ave. S.  
 Richfield, MN 55423  
GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME**