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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

APRIL 2018 - VOL. 74 - NO. 4

COMMODORES SECOND IN NICOLLET

... *earning near-A scores in Music and Singing* ...

The morning of this past March 24 dawned bright and sunny in the Twin Cities as the Minneapolis Commodores and other area Barbershoppers prepared to embark on the 75 or 80 mile journey to Nicollet, Minnesota (home of the incomparable *Schmidt's Meats*), to compete in the 2018 10,000 Lakes Division contests.

But the weather gods had other snows to bank and conjured up a capricious winter blow, the front of which was directed toward the Mankato area and its environs. Its focal point was St. Peter through which we would have to traverse to get to Nicollet.

Undaunted, **Janet Johnson**, **Sandy & Brooks Bergerson** and I climbed into **Lance Johnson's** big GMC SUV (well stocked with emergency rations and potables) to begin the trek to on-stage glory later that day in Nicollet.

Encountering no flying snow on the way, we expeditiously entered St. Peter on cleared roads but adorned with large plowed mounds at roadside. The road to Nicollet had some residual slush but we arrived without incident. (Unfortunately the gods were really unkind to the La Crosse Barbershop Chorus. The transit company that contracted to bring them to the contest refused, for safety reasons, to allow the trip.)

The competition program was delayed only hour in spite of a hopelessly waylaid Music judge, a problem judiciously resolved when the Commodores' **Paul Wigley** was recruited to fill the vacant chair.

All told, seven choruses crossed the stage. When the smoke of battle cleared GNU had lapped the pack with an 86.1% performance highlighted by their wonderful rendition of *Santa Fe* (from *Newsies*). The Commodores

placed second with a 75.9 % score, but a somewhat disappointing Performance tally. The Willmar Chorus, directed by former Commodore, **Todd Mattison**, was third with 72.8%, followed by the surprising St. Paul *North Star Chorus* that for the second consecutive year received the *Most Improved Chorus* trophy. All seven choruses including *St. Croix Valley*, *St. Cloud*, and *Dunn County* qualified for the LOL District contests in October in Rochester.



Schmidt's Meats in Nicollet

Nine quartets, including *All this Mess*, from out-of-Division, competed. A new, or at least unheralded, quartet from GNU, *Hi-Mark*, wowed the assembly with their performance, winning at 74.9%. AND were named Novice Champions. (Bob Dykstra was especially pleased to hear the old chestnut, *A Son of the Sea*, from the contest stage again.) *Sound Image* from Willmar with tenor, Todd Mattison, placed third.

Three Commodore quartets trod the stage that day. *Hall Pass* with **David Bechard**, tenor, **Tony Mason**, lead, **Dave Casperson**, bass, and **Paul Wigley**, baritone, finished 4th among the 10,000 Lakes entrants (5th over all). Paul fortunately had been relieved from adjudication duties. Thy scored 64.2%. *Swipe* with **Ken Wentworth**, tenor, **Conrad Ward**, lead, **Andy Richards**, bass, and **Mark Bloomquist**, baritone were 7th. *BOMP* with **Harvey Weiss**, tenor, **Andy Cook**, lead, **Dan Cole**, bass, and **Jim Johannsen**, baritone, and forsaking their better-polished "rock" for Barbershop, finished in 8th place.

Paul Wigley was quite relieved when he saw that his scores were in line with those of the other judges and was taken aback when a fellow judge remarked how unusual it was to have two really good choruses at a division contest.

SUNSHINE HOTLINE



By Mark Bloomquist, Sunshine Chairman

Kaleb Smith continues his recovery from gall bladder removal surgery and we hope to see him on the risers soon. Caleb and his family would appreciate your continued thoughts and prayers during his recovery.



Chuck Guthrie, wintering in Arizona, is recovering from pneumonia for which he was hospitalized. Please keep Chuck and companion **Pat Graciovac** in your thoughts and prayers.

Sharon Maas had an overnight in the hospital due to suspected heart issues but which turned out to be negative --likely just a matter of dehydration. She returned home the next day and is feeling normal again. Our best to Denny and Sharon with hopes for no similar episodes.

Take-away points from Nicollet

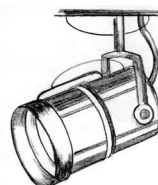
By David Speidel, Ass't Director

From my perspective I was very happy with the performance of the up-tune. The chorus did pretty much everything we had worked on. For example, a much better job on the dynamics and keeping the flow of the song. I'm sure, as we heard from the judges, we need to do more of the same.

We could do more to develop *contrasts* – which is something I was very concerned about in the weeks leading up to contest. This also includes confidence in pickups by the lead section. The scores indicate that we didn't fall backwards as so often happens from District to Division contest. In some respect I thought we improved.

The place where we fell down a little was in our performance. But this is what happens when we don't spend a significant amount of time working the contest vehicles. It is my hope that

Commodore Spotlight



**Steve
Hardy
is ...**

that former Commodore who more recently with *St. Croix Crossing* won the gold medal singing baritone in the Society's 2018 Senior Quartet Contest held in Orange County, California last January.

Steve is a first class Barbershop singer (in almost all parts), trumpet player, arranger, and just a great fellow to have around.

He is now and has been for several years, a loyal member of the St. Paul Chapter, sticking with them through thick and thin, and serving in it with unwavering dedication that I am sure has played a part in the resurgence of the *North Star Chorus*—as exemplified by their earning two successive *Most Improved Chorus* awards in recent competitions.

Congratulations to you, Steve, and to your hard-working chorus.

everyone, and I mean everyone, will step it up when it comes to delivering the enjoyment of the music through *body* and *facial* language.

As I said, given the circumstances, and with all the performing we've been doing, I'm very happy with the scores.

Editor's Note: When a unique opportunity arose for our director, Paul Wigley, one that he just could not refuse, he turned the directing chores over to our two Davids, Speidel and Bechard, and charged them to lead us through last year's District and this spring's Division contests. They have done so with determination and skill.

This was not only a tribute to their dedication but also testimony to the unwavering confidence Paul exhibited when posting the challenge ... all the better for a very special group of Barbershoppers



March re-enlistments

Walter Dawson.....	4 yrs.
Kaleb Smith.....	8 yrs.
James Norman.....	10 yrs.
David Bechard.....	12 yrs.
David Casperson.....	15 yrs.
Bob Ostergaard.....	15 yrs.
James Erickson.....	16 yrs.
John Carlotto.....	17 yrs.
Harvey Weiss.....	19 yrs.
Guy St Martin.....	27 yrs.
Jim Windey.....	29 yrs.
David Speidel.....	43 yrs.
LeRoy Zimmerman.....	46 yrs.
Bob Griffith.....	55 yrs.
Bob Dykstra.....	66 yrs.

Happy Birthday

04/12	Janet Johnson
04/14	Char Carlotto
04/15	Janet Huyck
04/16	Dan Slattery
04/18	Kathy Nelson
04/19	Sarah Hartmann
04/20	Chuck Gribble
04/22	Jamye Casperson
04/24	Bob Dillon
04/26	Walter Macwicz
04/26	Becky Wigley
04/29	Dan Smith
05/04	Dale Lynch
05/05	Roger Meyer
05/06	Kay Foy
05/06	Rich Ongna

Happy Anniversary

04/11	Chuck & Kelly McKown
04/12	Gene & Karene Heupel
04/22	Jim & Judy Johannsen
04/27	Dick & Sarah Hartmann (50)
04/30	Matt & Allison Richards

PLEASE NOTE: If your birthday/anniversary dates are missing, please notify the Editor so you won't be missed next time.

**Capital "B" in
Barbershop?
Why not?**

*Editor's Note: I apologize, dedicated (and most charitable) readers, for the absence of **Georgia Grind** in this issue. Mr. Ericson has been so deeply involved with **Grind** research that he must be excused for his lapse into albeit well-earned aggrandizement for himself and particularly his wife, Mary, the unquestionable power behind our bulletin's loyal scribe. See below.*



Jim Erickson

Mary and Jim Erickson elected to the Chippewa Area Historical Society "Hall of Fame"

By Jim Erickson, Civic-minded citizen and undaunted baritone

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, has a rich history in fur trading with Native Americans, logging the huge forests originally thought never possible to be completely harvested, taming the wild Chippewa River and so many other subjects of historical interest. The Chippewa Area Historical Society constantly works to educate the public and preserve important artifacts. Its fascinating museum, housed in a former nunnery, is currently raising

funds to build a new 3.5-million-dollar facility in an ideal location between the widely popular Irvine Park, and the huge lodge of Leinenkugels Brewery.

Recently, Mary and I were elected to the 2017 Hall of Fame by the Society's Board of Directors. It was especially meaningful to Mary, as her father was instrumental in the Society's origin in the early 70s and became its first president. The award recognized our participation in, and contribution to, the Society's efforts. Mary is a member of the Board of Directors and we both have served as volunteers on several committees.

We became involved when asked to put together an exhibit-room on early family kitchens. It became known as "Grandma's Kitchen" and featured items you may have found in your grandma's culinary workspace. Then, a "toy" exhibit. And thereaf-

ter, we assisted in a myriad of ways to meet museum needs, creating and filling exhibits at Oktoberfest and even being pioneer characters in a parade to mention a few.

Mary's teaching background is a real asset in handling groups of second graders who tour the museum. And I write for the museum's quarterly newsletter and am a Historical-Marker Committee member for which

I create the text of new byway markers to be posted throughout Chippewa County. I find it a unique challenge to put in just a few words, lots of information.

Dressing up as a pioneer woman and voyageur, we both participate in the *Past Passed*

Here, a spring event along Duncan Creek where over 600 fourth graders come each year to see olden-times skills demonstrated.

As you might guess, Mary and I remain actively involved in the future of this exciting museum venture.



Mary & Jim

Jim Richards Memorial Chord Candy # 117

In Flanders Fields ... poem by John McCrae, arr. Paul Paddock, inspired by Stephan Chapman



Jim Richards

In Flanders Fields is a poem written during the First World War by Canadian physician Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae, referring to the battlefields in the Belgian provinces of West Flanders, East Flanders and Nord-Pas-de-Calais (French Flanders). He wrote it after a funeral service in memoriam of his comrade, who died of a gun shell blast in the war. Its references to the red poppies that grew over the graves of fallen soldiers resulted in the remembrance poppy becoming one of the world's most recognized memorial symbols for soldiers who have died in conflict. The poem was adapted into several choral arrangements, my favorite of which by



Paul Paddock

Stephen Chatman. I sang this with University of North Carolina - Asheville choir and again with University of Minnesota Men's Choir for a WWI dedication concert at St. Paul's Cathedral in St. Paul, and was very moved by it. So, I wrote out a few versions of the opening stanza line because frankly, this is tenor melody, true to Chatman's version, and can be conducted in time or with some rubato. Enjoy! Note: *America entered World War I against Germany on April 2, 1917.*

Georgia Grind

By Jim Erickson, *Bequoted Baritone*

"In the beginning," No, wait, that was another best seller. But the beginning of this article was actually in last



Jim Erickson

month's article. To refresh just a moment, I was just rummaging through archived sheet music to see if I had a copy of "Can you feel the love tonight." I came across some typewritten notes on yellowed paper entitled, **"Notes on Ajer's Stage Presence Comments to Hilltop Singers 9/8/89."** Familiar topic, but not person. **Larry Ajer's** wife **Kim (Dykstra) DeVoss** sent info to Doc and me and here (and there) some of it has appeared.

In no particular order, then, except for following his notes. And, what follows is directly quoted or paraphrased. Here we go:

Quote:

Stage Presence Comments [continued from last article, March Vol.74, #3]

Go to the stage to take something from the audience, and to give back more. "Give!" There must be a real gift back to the audience.

According to what **Al Jolson** [For youngsters, Google it.] is to have once said, "Light a candle at the beginning of the performance and it glows until the performance is over, and then goes out."

So, practice the "Energy Cube." It depends on how much space you want to control, but if you control the space you occupy and control the energy in that space, you will move that energy out such that it will affect the whole audience.

Then, in turn, take that audience's energy, play with it and give it back to the audience. The Energy Cube is real and it takes energy from one area and moves it to others. Take it, mold it, shape it and then return it!

Unquote!

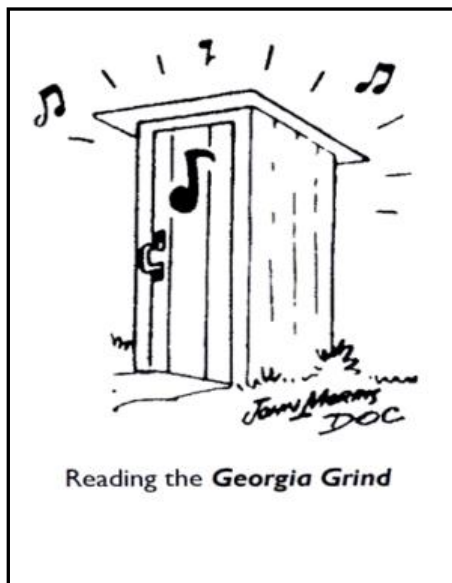
Erickson is signaling a little turn in the Stage Presence Comments:

Quote: again!

Stand as you personally like to with a strong belief in yourself. What is your goal in the song? How you sing it is real and only you can do it like you do. What is your objective in singing this song? What is the message of the song? Think about what you are asking. I wish to do...What?

In an "up" song, the only goal may be having fun, so...have fun! In the song, "Forgive Me," you must remember the circumstances of sometime when you really did something wrong and you now want to be forgiven. The real objective of that song is to ask someone to forgive you. Sing it accordingly.

For body movement, use your shoul-



der, not faces. Lead with your shoulder and relax. For gestures, there is the gesture itself and finally the justification for the gesture. Did you believe it? Did this motion deal with the tension you had built up.?

"Something caused me tension and I had to move to release the tension." I was satisfied with my release of tension and why I did it. "I believe what I did. It was real to me."

Unquote!

I have absolutely no recollection of visiting the **Hilltop Singers** in 1989, but I am guessing that my quartet, the **New Day Quartet**, attended a rehearsal one night probably with **Thurm Slack**, possibly a member of Hilltop then, encouraging it.

Thurm, although presently inactive, and I, of the original quartet, are Commodores. Don't know how I took such notes. Whatever the case, I should tell you more about Larry Ajer. (I will be glad to send you more information about his life, but unable to provide it here. Just e-mail me and request it.)

He grew up in New Richmond, Wisconsin. Once exposed to Barbershop harmony, he joined the Cincinnati Gateway Chorus and stood next to a young, 14-year-old kid named **Joe Connelly** and they became lifelong friends. Larry became a BHS judge and a renowned coach. He wrote two mainstay manuals for singing and performing. They are, *The Inner Game of Music Workbook for Barbershop Quartets and Choruses* and *All the World's a Stage...Are You a Player on It*.

Of special interest to us, as Commodores, is that Larry was married in 1993 to **Kim Dykstra** whom he met at a Sweet Adeline Contest. Kim is the daughter of the Commodores' own **Bob** and the late **Lou Dykstra**. She was a many time Regional Quartet and chorus champion in Sweet Adelines. Lest I forget, Larry also coached **Judy Olson's** chorus, the **Twin City Show Chorus**. Coaching and mentoring way too many to mention here.

Larry did so for quartets and choruses alike with the same zest and fervor. He left this world on June 14, 1998 in Phoenix, Arizona, and obviously has been greatly missed. Talking about Larry and his comments on stage presence has been quite a departure from what I usually write. I hope you enjoyed it and can make some use of his ideas. Many thanks to Kim DeVoss who got the information to us so quickly and thoroughly. To me, it is deeply humorous to think that digging out old music from my basement file and coming across a faded page of notes can connect me to my always encouraging friend, Bob Dykstra, (departed Lou) and their daughter, and all the other connections made from that mundane search. As is said, "The pleasure is all mine." But, I hope a bit of yours, too.

Go to **Grind**, Page 5, Column 2

It's Hard Not to Smile

By Blake Wanger < President

I have recently been asked to fill out some paperwork which will be submitted to Land O Lakes District staff for their appraisal. These forms include a general chapter-status report and data that will be used to determine our overall level of achievement as a BHS chapter in many areas beyond just the quality of our singing.

As I complete these forms, I find it very hard not to smile. Although there are always some areas for improvement, the status of our chapter is, in general, very good. On the achievement side, we excel in nearly every category, including performance opportunities, active quartets and community service.

On March 24, the chorus gave an excellent performance at the 10,000 Lakes/Southwest Division Divisional Contest, despite the absence of many voices and the presence of adverse weather conditions. This year, the judges at division contest sent feedback out to me via e-mail and, upon reading their comments, it is clear that the Commodores have improved notably in recent months.

We can maintain this trend by con-

tinuing to raise our expectations and then aiming to exceed them. There are few things that make me feel as proud as standing on the risers with my Commodore brothers and creating music that is exciting, emotional, powerful, and beautiful.

Together our chorus is composed of men with a very wide range of musical backgrounds and experience levels, from music majors who have been performing on stage their whole lives to guys who, before joining the chorus, only sang in the shower. And yet we are able to come together and create music that received many A-level comments from the divisional judges at Nicolle and consistently evokes effusive praise from our audiences. That is a testament to the strength of our chapter, and our commitment to be the best we can be while maintaining our unique philosophy of inclusivity.

And there is so much more on the horizon. Our exciting and unique 2018 annual show, *Pitch Pipe Per-*

fect, is this coming Saturday and will be full of great music, laughter and even a few wonderful surprises.

Next year the Commodores will celebrate their 75th-year of incorporation, a remarkable testament to the chapter's longevity. Plans are already underway to make the 2019 annual show a truly spectacular and unforgettable kickoff to the Commodore's 75th season.

And all of that is on top of all of the other great performance opportunities we will have this summer, as well as other upcoming endeavors in chapter development and community service. I am overwhelmingly proud of this chorus, what we do, how we do it, and how we serve others. As we journey further into the 2018 season, we will continue to seek out opportunities for improvement, but we are fortunate to already be standing on a very solid foundation. We really are an extraordinary organization, and a remarkable chorus.

IT IS GREAT TO BE A COMMODORE!

Grind from Page 4

Remember, guard the truth. Anything else serves no one. And be present. From moment to moment, "What is going on around you?" I feel I am getting very close to the final key in my research on the origins of the Georgia Grind. Kind of a **Rosetta Stone** is what I dug up in realms I cannot tell you about, but amazing are the episodes it reveals. In the meantime, hold fast to that which is good.



*Editor's Note: Recently, finding nothing else to do, from some arcane publication or other **Mark Ortenburger** unearthed this metaphoric bit of advice to aspiring musicians. Its medical bent definitely caught my eye so here it is. Call it ...*

Whiling away the hours ...

Contributed by Mark Ortenburger

From Karl Paulnack (Director of Music Division, Boston University) talking to his students:

"If we were a medical school, and you were here as a medical student practicing appendectomies, you'd take your work very seriously because you would imagine that some night at 2:00 a.m. someone is going to waltz into your emergency room and you are going to have to save their life. Well, my friends, someday at 8:00 p.m. someone is going to march into your concert hall and bring you a mind that is confused, a heart that is overwhelmed, a soul that is weary. Whether they go out whole again will depend on how well you do your craft"

Merry Christmas in March

Thanks to the yeoman work of **Dick** (rt.) and **Marge** (not pictured) **Riemenschneider**, President **Blake Wanger** on March 20 (ctr.) was happily able to accept a check totaling \$11,450 from Dick, resulting from the 2017 nut sales campaign. Chapter Treasurer, **John Carlotto**, (left), looks on.

Thanks go also to those hard-working Commodores who sold all those nuts and made the 2017 sales so memoable, Let's even do better in 2018



Nuts! ... Nuts! ... Nuts! ... Nuts! ... Nuts ... Nuts!

*I must go down to the seas again, to
the lonely sea and the sky,*

*And all I ask is a tall ship and a star
to steer her by ...*

*From Sea Fever by John Masefield,
first published in 1902*

HEEDING THE SIREN CALL OF THE SEA

By Arne Stefferud, Seafaring Bass

*Editor's Note: Commodore member, Arne Stefferud, will take a leave of absence from the chapter after the Spring Show to sail around the world on the tall ship, **Picton Castle**.*

To fulfill a dream I've had for about 10 years, I will board the ship in New Orleans on April 22 and begin training along with 39 other sail-trainees in "the ways of the ship". Working alongside 12 professional sailors, the sail trainees will sail the ship westerly via the Panama Canal to the Galapagos Islands, the Southwest Pacific, north and west to Bali, then across the Indian and Atlantic Oceans and end in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, on May 18, 2019. There will be at least 24 ports

of call during the voyage as described on the ship's website.

I will keep apprised of Commodore songs and hope to rejoin the chorus in June 2019 for summer perfor-



The Picton Castle

mances. I will bring back some sea shanties for the chorus to learn as well. They won't be in Barbershop harmonies, but are excellent after-glow songs!

Here are links to webpages for more information:

Picton Castle Tallship website: Includes map of the world voyage.

<http://www.picton-castle.com/>

Details about the World Voyage:

<http://www.picton-castle.com/voyages/the-voyages/duplicate-of-world-voyage-7.html>

Location of the Picton Castle updated daily

<http://www.picton-castle.com/voyages/current-location.html>

The Captain's Log that describes what's happened recently. The ship is currently sailing to Galveston TX for a Tallship Festival this weekend [April 7-8]. It will also attend festivals in Pensacola, Florida, and New Orleans this month before setting sail on the World Voyage.

http://www.picton-castle.com/captains_log/

I hope to set up a blog of the voyage and if successful, will send out an email regarding it prior to April 22. Otherwise, check out Arne's Facebook page as well as "The Captain's Log" for updates.

Welcome Aboard

Bill Mark and his wife, **Mary Kay**, live in Faribault, Minnesota. He was born in Osage, Iowa, and finished high school there before moving on to Drake University in Des Moines where he earned a business degree.

Bill worked in product development and management of equipment and tools.

A 30 year experience in church choir had filled his musical bucket, at least until he serendipitously saw and then heard the sound of a Barbershop chorus marching in a Faribault parade 15 years ago. Since then Bill, a fine bass, has been a dedicated member of the *Faribault Lakelanders*.

At the recent N.P.Harmony Brigade Rally, Bill met several Commodores who invited him to visit our chapter. Feeling quite welcome, he decided to enroll with us a dual member.

Doc's Bag



By Dr. Hardin Olson, Editor

Most of you have been unaware that my wife, Judy, has been undergoing radiation and chemotherapy for a recurrence of her cervical cancer first diagnosed and then treated surgically and seemingly successfully over seven years ago.



Hardin Olson

She had a suspicious Pap smear in February with a follow-up biopsy showing a small focus of tumor. Since then Judy completed the six prescribed courses of chemotherapy and about four weeks of daily (not weekends) radiation with only three treatments remaining.

Judy has been fortunate that the side

effects have been comparatively minimal, the major one being extreme fatigue. She has continued working and cannot say enough about how kind her employers and co-workers have been, allowing her the complete freedom to get to her appointments and to set her own schedule.

Judy's advice to you ladies out there: *Don't hedge on your Pap smears!*

On Saturday, April 7, I had a conversation with my favorite bass, **Gary Rogness**. His follow-up scan last week was quite favorable. The lung tumor site was virtually clear and there was no apparent increase in the residual tumor.

The plan is to continue the new regimen for six months barring any unexpected changes.

Gary's phone: 507/990-2000

Address: 4119 7th Place NW

Rochester, MN 55901



SUPPORT

HARMONY FOUNDATION

LETTERS

March 13, 2018

Just finished reading most recent issue [February] of Chord-Inator. When I wrote about the vital signs of a vibrant chapter in the *Pitch Piper*, it must have been your chapter I had in mind. You are doing outreach, you are helping the youth discover the fun of singing. You elected in this gray-ing-of-members era, a young dynamic person as your president, you are involved in Brigade and quartets. No question, your chapter is one that should be emulated. Wonderful issue, wonderful chapter.

Rudy Zarling [LOL Hall of Fame Inductee 2011 and LOL TREASURE]

Hello, Dr. Olson.

I write in appreciation for your fine blurb on the cover of the latest [February] Chord-Inator, and your supportive comments.

Like you, we were all on tenterhooks as the results were announced in their usual interminable fashion. Like you, our brows became more and more furrowed as the announcements wound through 5th, then 4th, then 3rd ... we had, after all, "been there and done that"! BUT ... we all felt pretty strong about our set. I don't think any of us believed that we'd be totally skunked (like we were in Orlando in 2013 ... BOY, what a hard bump *that* was!), but we couldn't be really *sure* ... until they said *Easy Street* for 2nd. Then we knew: we had it. Still, the moment they said, "with *blah, blah, blah* points the winner is ... *St. Croix Crossing*", I felt a tremendous emotional kick and couldn't resist a fist pump and a loud "YEAH!"

Actually, though, I was not surprised. I had noticed during the preceding month or so that our "default" had rather suddenly seemed to have risen to a higher level. You mentioned in your piece that we chose to compete with two ballads instead of the usual "ballad and a barnburner" strategy. Indeed, I noticed something different from the moment we decided to take on *Smilin' Thru*. It sounded so good,

so quickly; it just seemed right for us right from the start. It obliged us to pay more attention to the softs, and the blend, the purity of the sound and the ensemble. We had, for so long, been dedicated to making sure we did NOT sound like a typical Senior Quartet, and I now suspect that we had gotten in our own way by choosing more "fun" and boisterous material that distracted us from some core issues that needed fixing. *Smilin' Thru* changed all that. We calmed down, adjusted, listened, and started having more and more "tingly" moments; those times when the expansion gets so strong that the hairs stand up on your forearms.

And so we won ... because, at last, we deserved to win. It took a while (!), but what a treat it was to finally plant our flag on the SUMMIT.

Thanks again for your piece; another example of the wonderful support we've been grateful to feel from all of our LOL brothers. Onward!

Jared Hoke, Bass of *St. Croix Crossing*

Editor's Note: (Jared's note was received shortly after the March issue went to press.) It appears to me that there is some cogent food-for-thought in that third paragraph.

Hi, Hardin.

Please accept this belated note of thanks for the Commodores' kind thoughts, cards, donations, and love during our Mom's passing. I want to especially thank **Mark Bloomquist** for stopping by Mom's Hospital Room to check on all of us. (He also picked Dad up and gave him a ride to the Brigade the other day.)

It means so much to us to know there are so many who care. Thanks also to you and Judy for bringing dinner to Dad. We appreciate you both so very much.

Lastly, regarding Larry's notes to the chorus. He was so organized and sincere. Those notes sound so much like him. He was speaking about the energy cube. He always said the flame of your candle should burn brightly on stage, and go out as you leave the stage thereby giving the

**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**

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Arne Stefferud.....651/772-4367

Through 2018/19

Dave Casperson.....651/432-4922
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Kim Ward (Community Rep.).....763/413-9273

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Assistant Directors: Gary Jacobson (on leave),
Davie Speidel, Dave Bechard

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Lead Section Leader.**Vacant**
Assistant - Dan Smith

Bari Section LeadersDave Speidel
Assistant - Matt Richards

Bass Section Leaders.....Dave Casperson

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Group Organizer Administrator.....Matt Richards

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

Historian.....**Vacant**

Learning Tracks.....Dan Smith

Librarian.....Carl Pinard

Name TagsDan 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

SunshineMark Bloomquist

Swipe EditorBill Warp

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

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

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

energy back to the audience. I don't speak as eloquently as he did, but that is the gist of it.

Thanks again for everything.

Love, Kim Dykstra DeVoss for Paul, Randy, Dad, and our families.

Dr. Hardin Olson, Bulletin Editor
 3020 St. Albans Mill Road #109
 Minnetonka, MN 55305
 952/229-4525
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 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

- April 12, Thursday, Tech Rehearsal, Bethel University
- April 14, Annual Show, Bethel University
- June 3, Sunday, Appreciation & BOTY Celebration
- June 14, Thursday, Roseville Performance
- June 24, Sunday, Arboretum Performance
- July 10, Tuesday, Area Chapter Singout, Como Park
- July 18, Wednesday, Hastings Performance
- August 5, Sunday, Sing at Como Park with the TC Show Chorus.
- August 25, Saturday, Retreat - TBD
- September 22, Saturday, Retreat - TBD

District Level

- May 4-5, Fri/Sat, LOL District Spring Convention and Internat'l Prelims, Franklin, Wisconsin
- October 26-27, Fri/Sat, LOL District Fall Convention, Rochester, Minn.

International Level

- July 1-8, 2018 International Convention, Orlando, Fla.

**1st CLASS
POSTAGE
HERE**

2017 Barbershopper Of The Year *Dan True*

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

Kim Dykstra DeVoss*

Jim Erickson

Jared Hoke*

Hardin Olson

Paul Paddock

David Speidel

Arne Stefferud

Blake Wanger

Rudy Zarling*



**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**