

KEEPING THE  
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

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## *From the Prez.*

Roller coasters used to terrify me. For many years - until I was probably too old for this to be ok - I was the kind of kid who wanted to go on roller coasters, tried to go on roller coasters, and started to go on roller coasters... but then I would freak out and cry enough that my disappointed and not-too-long-suffering dad would have to, grumpily, leave the queue and return me to my mom and younger siblings.

Many childhood phobias can either be caused or solved by cousins. In this case, my older cousins and their quick sarcasm and even quicker fists solved this particular fear. Turns out I was WAY more scared of them than I was of roller coasters.

The first time my dad and uncle dropped us off at a theme park by ourselves, we got to the front of the line, and I started to want to



**Tony Mason**

cry, and my oldest cousin made it abundantly clear that it was either roller coaster fear or real life pain.

To quote the knight in *The Last Crusade*, I chose wisely. And to my surprise I had fun! We rode that roller coaster 5 times in one day, and I've been a huge fan ever since. Like so many other things in life, what used to scare me now thrills me.

Live singing and performance used to give me that same roller coaster anxiety. Even when I joined the Commodores at 40 I had this "am I good enough, can I do this, will I be able to fit in?" roller-coaster-stomach-pitting feeling that almost made me wait to join this marvelous community.

Fear (mostly) subsided when I got onto the risers and then onto the stage, and as I got to know so many of the good people in this chapter. I've learned to embrace stage anxiety and the challenge and joy of a capella singing like an old friend. I've now, like a good coaster experience, learned to absolutely enjoy the feelings of relative abandon and lack of control that we all feel as we make live music together.

I love it so much when things go well. Chords ring. Goosebump time. But I can't be the only one here who also loves it when things are just a little scary. When we don't quite know if we're going to make it to the end of a tag, when voices crack, when a word or note is forgotten (not due to lack of rehearsal, but just due to the heat of the moment).

My friends, here is to the pursuit of perfection and also to the ability to truly enjoy and learn from imperfect real-life, real-time, performing. Here's to embracing stage anxiety, trying new things (like quartetting, MCX, etc), and to being willing to lean into new and wonderful opportunities.

It is a joy to know you.

## **It's Great to be a Commodore!**

# Congratulations to our 2024 Barbershopper of the Year!

## Director Dave Bechard



Minneapolis, Minn. Chapter  
Land O'Lakes District, BHS  
Meetings every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Oak Knoll Lutheran Church  
600 Hopkins Crossroad  
Minnetonka, MN 55305

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**Harvey Weiss**

**Barbershop Groaners**

1. Senior citizens shouldn't eat so much Health Food. They need all the Preservatives they can get. (Bob Hope)
2. Mary had a little lamb. (The Doctor Fainted)
3. Keep your mind off your neighbors hot dish! (Minnesota Ten Commandments # 8)
4. She was just a farmer's daughter, but I never could attract her.
5. Meet me in the pawn shop honey, I want to get you a loan.
6. No matter how hungry a horse gets, he just can't eat a bit.
7. Pelvis, the second cousin of Elvis.
8. Bernadette-the art of torching a mortgage.
9. Pharmacist- a helper on the farm.
10. Eye dropper, a clumsy Ophthalmologist.



**" Your car has been keyed. The good news is that the damage appears to B minor. "**

Coach **James Estes** providing expert advice to the LEAD section. (Editorial comment: That should read the **FINEST** Lead section in the Society! :-) ).



**Paul Paddock**

### *Jim Richards Memorial Chord Candy # 150*

It's summertime! Time to hit the beach! Here's a nice easy tag version of a Beach Boys ballad that's meant to remind you of the time when you and your sweetheart met surfing on the beach and fell in love. "Surfer Girl" is a song by the Beach Boys from their 1963 album *Surfer Girl*. Written and sung by **Brian Wilson**, it was released as a single, backed with "Little Deuce Coupe", on July 22, 1963, and was the first Beach Boys record to have Brian Wilson officially credited as the producer. Wilson frequently referred to the song as his first original composition. However, his closest high school friends disputed this, recalling that Wilson had written numerous songs prior. The lyrics were inspired by Judy Bowles, Wilson's first serious girlfriend, whom he had dated for three and a half years. The music also was inspired by a Dion and the Belmonts version of "When You Wish Upon a Star," which has the same AABA form. As a solo artist, Wilson later covered it for the tribute album "In the Key of Disney (2011)". The Beach Boys actually did a lot of (you could call it) tag-singing especially in their early years, experimenting with different harmonies and developing their sound. You'll note the lead hanger with repeat-emphasis of the title backed by the other parts at the end. Not meant to be ground down or screamed in any way, but just a gentle, calm set of waves (sound waves!) to dip your feet in. Let this set your mood for the summer!

## Surfer Girl

Music by Brian Wilson  
arranged by Paul Paddock

Do you love me? Do you, sur - fer girl?  
(sur - fer girl, sur - fer girl)

## Northern Pines Harmony Brigade rocks the Twin Cities

In May, the NPHB once again hosted their annual convention in Plymouth. Capping off a weekend of fun quartet singing, the Brigade delivered a great free concert to the public. What a great time. Make sure you sign up to join in the fun next May!



**BOMP** is offering what we hope is a fun opportunity for you to sing a song with us. We believe that the easiest introduction to quarteting is to sing your part with three other members of an established quartet. Here's how the program will work. We'll send you a list of songs from our core repertoire. You choose one and the part you'd like to sing, and we'll send you the music and tracks. When you're ready, we'll schedule some time at one of our rehearsals, most likely before chorus rehearsal, where you can step in and sing in a quartet with three other parts. It's as easy as that. You commit to learning a new song and we'll commit to having fun singing with you. If you've already sung in a quartet but just want to try a little Doo Wop or maybe another part you're welcome to participate.

If you have any questions or think you might be interested, please contact one of us to get things underway.

Mark Ortenburger  
Harvey Weiss  
Bill Walkowski  
Dave Wall

#### 5 Songs to Choose From:

- Boardwalk / 2:15 (Easy, Lead is the star here)
- Breaking Up is Hard to Do / 1:38 (Medium, nice harmony duets)
- Who Put the BOMP / 2:47 (Challenging, but lots of Doo Wop nonsense syllables)
- Come Go With Me / 2:09 (medium)
- Bye, Bye Love / 2:26 (Medium)



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*This logo is neither shared with the Girl Scouts nor dumped by the Sweet Adelines.*

*Logo courtesy of Bob Clark*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Chapter Quartets**

**To:**

- BOMP
- Mark Ortenberger.....952-250-0968
- JUST ONE MORE
- Nate Weimer.....316-204-8756
- SWYPE
- Mark Bloomquist.....612-325-9349
- CINEMATIX
- Steve Grady.....952-334-7500
- HALL PASS
- Dave Casperson.....651-247-6319

***LOOKING AHEAD***

**2024**

- July 31            Lakeville concert
- Aug 20            Como concert
- Sept 5            Show tech rehearsal
- Sept 7            Annual Show, Minnehaha Academy
- Oct 11            Convention
- Dec 7             Christmas Show

The *Chord-Inator* is available on the Minneapolis Chapter's website [minneapoliscommodores.org](http://minneapoliscommodores.org)

**CHORD-INATOR  
MINNEAPOLIS COMMODORES  
Minneapolis Chapter of BHS  
MEETING EVERY TUES -7:00 p.m.  
LOCATION:  
Oak Knoll Lutheran Church  
600 Hopkins Crossroad  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
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