

ST. CROIX VALLEY CHAPTER

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 23, 2010
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Stillwater, MN

Members present - Adam Blegen, Roger Bosmoe, Mike Franssen, Dennis Garner, Dick Kelm, Judd Orff, Don Paulson, Warren Wilson, and Jerry Herbst
Members not present - Mac Barlass, Louis Nosan, and Tyler Smith

1. Meeting called to order by Mike Franssen at 6:07 pm with the song, *Down Our Way*.

Approval of Minutes

Moved/Judd Orff, Second/Roger Bosmoe, Motion Carried to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2010 regular board meeting
Moved/Judd Orff, Second/Dick Kelm, Motion Carried to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2010 special board meeting

Receive Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Recap Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

January Receipts & Disbursements

Receipts

Dick Kelm (Pass the Hat)	\$	114.00
Duane Hall (Pass the Hat)		50.00
Barbershop Harmony Society (Member Dues)		21.00
Tyler Smith (Web Site Refund)		20.00
Presbyterian Homes (Boutwells Landing Performance)		<u>300.00</u>
Cash Receipts	\$	505.00

Disbursements

Matthew Hall (January & February Director's Fee)	\$	600.00
Tyler Smith (January & February Web Site Fee)		40.00
Tyler Smith (Valentine Supplies)		95.00
Ron House (COTs - Harmony Brigade)		85.00
Norm Becker (Uniform Refund)		125.00
GSB Medal Music Inc. (Music "Halls of Ivy")		140.00
Mac Barlass (2 pair of shoes)		13.98
St. Paul Lutheran Church (January Rehearsal Usage)		140.00
Judy Smith (Computer Supplies \$50.96 - Valentine Materials \$102.84)		153.80
Land O'Lakes District (Due Assessment)		<u>488.10</u>
Cash Disbursements	\$	1,877.88

Funds carried over from November	\$	7,140.62
December Receipts		505.00
December Disbursements		<u>1,877.88</u>
Checkbook Balance		5,767.74
Uniform Deposit		1,242.00
Youth in Harmony		2,175.00
Social Fund		185.00
Compact Disc Fund		<u>3,000.00</u>
	\$	(834.26)

Compact Disc (A Christmas Present)	\$	3,869.58
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Submitted by Don Paulson

Additional Comments: Don handed out a preliminary budget for 2010 and has asked that board members review it and add expected spending in their areas, including show spending. This information is due for the March board meeting.

A member is needed to audit the books for 2009. Duane Hall will be asked since he's done this before. Completion target is May 15th.

Moved/ Roger Bosmoe, Second/Jerry Herbst, Motion Carried to receive the January 2010 treasurer's report.

Additional Agenda Items

New Member Approval - Jerry Herbst

Approval of Agenda

Moved/Warren Wilson, Second/Judd Orff, Motion Carried to approve the agenda as amended.

2. Officer Status Reports

President - Dennis

President Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Thank you to the quartets that sang valentines, I hope you had as much fun as M & D did. Valentines are usually a big financial boost to the chapter and I expect this year to no exception. It's not too early to be thinking about next year, get together with 3 other guys and have some fun in a quartet and be ready for Feb 14, 2011.

Dennis Garner

Secretary - Jerry

Secretary Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Recent Accomplishments:

The Land O' Lakes District Achievement Awards 2009 reporting form has been completed and sent to Dick Teeters. This year we achieved 2090 total points as compared to 1691 last year, so our chapter has been much more active this year.

A membership application for Gary Sumner was sent to the society and his membership kit should be arriving soon.

Current Plans:

Review society membership information on ebiz to make sure members email addresses, phone numbers, etc. are up to date.

Issue CJ-20 contest entry for spring division contest as soon as contest songs have been selected.

Issue minutes for the February 23rd meeting.

Items for Board Action:

Approve minutes of January 19, 2010 regular board meeting and January 26, 2010 special board meeting.

Income/Expense Matters:

None

Jerry Herbst

Additional Comments: The board members generally agreed that we will stay with the new meeting minutes format in which the officer's reports are included. A registration for the division contest can be issued once we know the songs we will sing. Judd will be checking with Matt.

Chorus Manager - Tyler

Chorus Manager Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Recent Accomplishments:

We had a very good performance at Boutwells Landing on Sunday, January 17th – our fee was \$300.

We had a very successful Singing Valentines activity singing just under 100 jobs and netting around \$4,000.00. Best year ever!

Many chorus learning tracks are available on our website for the show and other repertoire need for the CD we will make this summer.

Current Plans:

We will perform at the Valley Outreach Benefit on Sunday, March 7th at the Memorial Lutheran Church in Afton, MN. The show we put on will be essentially the same as the one hour we did at Boutwells Landing in January. Autumn Serenade and Summer Time quartets are also scheduled to perform as part of our show.

We will be rehearsing at First Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, March 9th.

Judd is also the coordinator for the Quartet Clinic at Trinity on Saturday, March 27th. Some of our Chapter quartets will attend.

We are working hard in preparation of our Annual Spring Show on Saturday, April 17th at the Stillwater Area Senior High School. The U of Wisconsin Eau Claire Singing Statesmen chorus will be our “headliners” along with some of our Chapter quartets. Bob Dykstra will be our Emcee again this year.

We are also preparing for the 10,000 Lakes Division Chorus Contest as part of the Spring Convention at Mankato on Saturday, May 1st. Actual location of the contest is the High School in Nicollet, MN.

Our Annual Blood Drive is scheduled for Saturday, May 8th, at the Stillwater Elks Club.

Our CD recording will be in May at Trinity Lutheran Church. Judd Orff has some details in his Music & Performance VP report.

Our summer church performances are scheduled for June 20 in Hudson (Ruwal Freese), July 18th or August 15th in Woodbury (Cliff Turnbull) and July 18th or August 15th in TBD.

Items for Board Action:

We are due to receive a \$350 performance fee for our participation in the Valley Outreach Benefit in Afton on March 7th. Should we consider returning that fee as our contribution to the Valley Outreach Program? We have just had an exceptional Singing Valentine fund raiser and our Spring Show expenses will be lower this year.

Tyler Smith

Marketing & PR - Mac

Marketing & PR VP Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Recent Accomplishments:

Sent 5 News Releases on Singing Valentines
Veteran's Day News release to PitchPiper
Show dates on area calendar listings
News material to Memorial Lutheran contact
Confirmed Singing For Life on May 8th at Elks

Current Plans:

One More on Memorial Lutheran
Push 2010 Show
Get more photos for show PR

Items For Board Action:

None

Mac Barlass

Chapter Development - Adam

No written report.

Music & Performance - Judd

Music & Performance VP Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Recent Accomplishments:

We continue our scheduled rehearsals to learn the new show music.

Current Plans:

We continue our scheduled rehearsals to learn the new show music.

Each week we touch on repertoire for the C.D. recording.

I've made contact with the recording company and he suggested we do a Saturday rather than Tuesday nights.

Matt has confirmed he is available May 15th & May 22nd. I've booked Trinity for May 15th with May 22 as an alternative. We can use the Garden Room for lunch if we bring in bag lunches (no charge).

I am waiting for a cost, but it will be less than usual because it isn't a show or contest.

I'm paying \$250.00 for the quartet school on March 27th.

Items for Board Action:

Confirm what I have set up for the recording.

Judd Orff

Additional Comments: Judd has reserved May 15th & May 22nd, two Saturdays, for recording at Trinity Church. The day selected will be base on chorus member availability.

Youth in Harmony - Warren

YIH VP Report for February 23, 2010 Board Meeting

Recent Accomplishments:

January, 2010 YIH Festival.

For the record, I lied about one of the items below. Matt was very sick (went to the hospital) and he arranged with Derek Glenna, Mankato Director, to be the men's clinician. Matt was bummed out but he did hang in there and made the arrangement with Derek; we have to thank him for this. Derek did a very stand-up job with the guys and had a secret code with some of them to get them to smile, no grin. Derek had 45 minutes before the first rehearsal to get his act together. The rest of the points below are correct.

Doug Miller directed our finale', Harmony, which he arranged. Liz Miller (Turba) was the clinician for the young women. Judy Olson was the clinician for the collegiate chorus.

There were 112 students, 110 handed in evaluations, and there were 3 music educators and they handed in there evaluations. Therefore, 113 evaluations were sent to James Estes so we qualify for the maximum \$1000 compensation from BHS/Harmony Foundation.

A packet including transmittal letter, event summary and the evaluations was sent to James Estes; a copy of the full packet was sent to Josh Oxley. A copy of the event summary was sent to Dick Staedt and Doug Miller.

A BIG THANK YOU!! to all the volunteers who assisted at registration, singing tags with the students, taking photos, and shoring up the parts in men's chorus. We had more volunteers than last year and it made a big difference in the balance of the joint song, Harmony.

Current Plans:

YIH 2011 Festival. The planning team is scheduling a wrap-up meeting in the near future. Next month I hope to have the results of this meeting for you. Jerry Herbst is preparing a grant application to the SCV Community Arts Council. He was successful last year and hopefully will be again this year.

Get a high school ensemble for the 2010 Christmas concert; no progress has been made on this thus far. This is one item that should be locked in before the end of the school year.

Items For Board Action:

None

Warren Wilson

Board Members At Large - Dick & Louis

No report.

Moved/ Don Paulson, Second/ Jerry Herbst, Motion Carried to accept the officer's written reports.

Note that a motion to accept reports is a new procedure for us, one that is followed at district and society meetings.

(Meeting taken over by President, Dennis Garner)

3. Committee Reports.

Annual Show - Adam

A first draft of the show script has been written. Selling sponsorships and tickets is a concern to Adam.

Mike suggested adding a \$20 level of sponsorships and adding a phone number or e-mail address in the program for each sponsor.

Dick suggested that members who donate as sponsors should instead buy a block of tickets and distribute those to people to help fill the seats.

The board recommended that Dennis call a committee together to review our sponsorship and ticket distribution procedures and to try and come up with some better ways of handling these for next years show.

Singing Valentines (included in Tyler's report)

Since Judy Smith and Georgia Kelm put in a lot of time helping to organize the Singing Valentine program, the board recommended give each of them a gift certificate as a "thank you".

Moved/ Warren Wilson, Second/Roger Bosmoe, Motion Carried to give Judy and Georgia each a \$50 gift certificate.

4. Old Business

5. New Business

Premier Sponsor for 2011

Cliff Turnbull's relative, Lorena Kennedy, is willing to make another donation to the chapter, but she wants to know specifically what the money would be used for. Dennis has asked board members to come up with ideas for items the chapter will need by the March meeting.

Valley Outreach Benefit Fee (see Chorus Manager Report)

Valley Outreach will be paying the chapter \$350 for the benefit concert. The board members agreed that this money will be donated back to Valley Outreach.

6. Additional Agenda Items

Approval of New Member - Jerry

Moved/Judd Orff, Second/Adam Blegen, Motion Carried to approve Ron Phillips as a new member of the chapter.
Matt has expressed confidence in his vocal skills.
Jerry will mail his application in tomorrow.

Riser Committee - Mike

Mike suggested a committee be put together to review storage and transportation needs of our risers and use of the VdC risers, including their purchasing new risers. Dennis plans to review the request.

Thank You Letters - Dennis

Dennis has sent thank you letters to Lorena Kennedy for her donation to fund our new CD, and to Jim Bradshaw for providing storage space for our music.

7. Adjourn

Moved/Don Paulson, Second/Dick Kelm, Motion Carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald W. Herbst, Secretary
March 1, 2010



YOUTH HARMONY WORKSHOP
Can-Am Region 6 & Land O' Lakes District
EVENT SUMMARY

Please complete this form after the event. This information is extremely helpful to the Society and the Youth Harmony Workshop program.

Date of Event: January 16, 2010

Location: Osceola, Wisconsin (Polk County) High School

Sponsoring Chapter(s) or District: Vallee de Croix, Sweet Adeline Chapter, and Polk County (Indianhead) and St. Croix Valley (Croix Chordsmen) Barbershop Chapters

Number of Students: Male: 25 Female: 87 Collegiate: +/- 12 (incl. in male/female)

Number of Music Educators: 3 (one clinician, one member of a teaching quartet, one planning team member)

Name(s) of Clinician(s):

Women: Director – Liz Miller, Elementary Music, Osseo, MN School District
Presentation – Judy Olson, Sweet Adeline International Faculty & Jackie Hillman, Vallee' de Croix

Men: Director – Derek Glenna, Director, Riverblenders Chorus (sub. for Matt Hall, St. Croix Valley)

Presentation – Connie Miller, City of Lakes Sweet Adeline Chorus

Joint : Director – Doug Miller, District President, LO'L District, and Arranger of "Harmony"

Collegiate: Director – Judy Olson, Sweet Adeline International Faculty

Name(s) of Teaching Quartet(s): Women: ICE, ; Men: Bright Knights and Prove It!

Was this a cosponsored event with Sweet Adeline's or Harmony Incorporated? (Circle one) [Yes] No

Comments/Summary:

We had 112 students participating, and 110 student evaluations were returned. Very generally, the evaluations were all positive with the music, the directors, the teaching quartets and the choreography getting the highest marks. Most of the students said they would return again next year, if able. Nine said No; one is an exchange student, one is graduating and not eligible, one will be going into college and feels work and studies will take precedence, and a fourth is getting married and will have other things on her/his mind. This is consistent with last year's evaluations and a large percent of the students did return this year.

Receiving the lowest marks were standing on risers for long periods combined with crowded conditions and the lack of longer breaks. This year the lack of men wasn't cited as a negative, possibly for two reasons: the women were split and the men stood chorus center so the balance on "Harmony" was better, and there were approximately 20 older male singers, including the two men's teaching quartets.

This is the first year that we did sectionals; several students appreciated having them and some felt they should have been longer. This year the school's choral director, Vickie Salmon, set up rooms, with pianos, to have sectionals in. There was some confusion as to which section went where. Complicating this process was the fact that there was also an athletic event taking place in the high school and parts of the school that could have been used were blocked off.

A major change for the festival this year was the inclusion of a Collegiate Chorus. This is the third festival which has included both young women and men. There were enough returning students of college age to form a small ensemble. This, incidentally, was requested by the college students and it was a real plus. The collegiate students also participated in the women's and men's choruses. Several of the collegiate students requested that their ensemble be more stand-alone. A planning team member/ME also suggests including high school seniors with this ensemble. This year the rehearsal time for the collegiate ensemble was limited to 45 minutes.

This year the teaching quartet for the women was ICE, which has competed internationally. They received very high ratings. There were two teaching quartets for the men: Bright Knights, a chapter quartet from the Indianhead Chorus, and Prove It! a quartet that is recently formed for the purpose of competing in the BHS's collegiate contest. To begin the day, ICE and Prove It! each did a song in the first period.

This year we used the teaching quartets in rehearsals, teaching individual parts in both the general rehearsals and in sectionals, and anchoring the sections during the rehearsals. The men's teaching quartets also performed, together with the male volunteers, with the young men in concert.

Tag singing became a more formal (How formal can you get singing tags?) part of the day this year. Break time was also tag-time; the teaching quartets and volunteers all encouraged the students to do tags. A few students cited this as what they liked best, and several thought it should become part of the concert.

In concert the women's' and men's' choruses each performed two songs, and the collegiate chorus sang one song; all were acappella. The women performed "Fun In Just One Lifetime" and "Under The Boardwalk." The women took their choreography to new heights with "Under The Boardwalk;" it was outstanding. The men sang two barbershop arrangements and put some choreography with the "Honey/Little 'Lize Medley." The collegiate chorus performed "Friends," a David Wright arrangement. Each teaching

quartet also performed three songs in concert. The breadth of songs performed by the choruses and teaching quartets showed the students just how varied barbershop can be.

As a finale' the women and men came together to sing "Harmony," a song not only arranged for SSAATTBB in the Barber Shop Style by Doug Miller, President of the Land O' Lakes District, but this year he directed it. This is the third year we sang this song, the students love it, and it is becoming a standard for the festival. It was listed by several students as the thing they liked best about the festival. This year the balance of sound, men to women, was the best it has been, compared to the two previous years. Some students also requested that additional joint songs be sung at future festivals.

The audience for the concert was not standing room only, but it was close. There were only a few empty seats in the 400 seat auditorium. As you can imagine, the crowd was extremely interested in everything, and again the students were rewarded with a standing ovation after "Harmony."

As one of the planning team stated before the festival, "This is a year of changes." After the festival, we can add, "and flexibility." In sequence, the following happened:

1. From the outset there was question about who the teaching quartet and clinician for the men would be. When it became apparent that our initial plans could not take place, Shawn Gudmunsen, clinician the previous two years, was contacted and agreed to be the clinician. Also, Bright Knights a chapter quartet with the Indianhead Chorus agreed to be the teaching quartet.
2. Approximately 12 weeks before the festival, Prove It! formed and we asked them to also be part of the festival staff as a teaching quartet and to give them a bit of performance time before they competed in the BHS Collegiate Contest (this was their first performance).
3. Approximately 6 weeks before the festival, the men's clinician apprised the planning team that he would not be able to participate. Luckily it took us only about two weeks to find a replacement in Matt Hall, Croix Chordsmen Chorus.
4. Approximately four weeks prior to the festival the women's lead choreographer apprised the planning team that she would not be able to participate. Luckily a replacement, Jackie Hillman, also of the Vallee' de Croix Chorus, stepped in. Judy Olson, choreographer on the faculty of Sweet Adelines International and Director of the Collegiate Chorus was already scheduled; together the team of Liz Miller, Judy Olson and Jackie Hillman did a fantastic job.
5. At 6:30 a.m. Saturday morning, the planning team received a phone call from Matt Hall telling us he was very ill and could not participate but that the Director of the Mankato Riverblenders, Derek Glenna was planning to attend the festival and agreed to direct the men.

6. At 8:15 a.m. Saturday morning Derek Glenna was given the music for the men's chorus and did a stand-up job directing them.

The Planning Team finally took a deep breath.

As a side bar:

Following initial contacts with James Estes, BHS and Lori Decker-Wright, SAI, Dr. Timothy Wollenzein, Director, International Music Camp, on the campus of the Peace Garden, Minot, North Dakota, was invited by Kathy Lucken of our planning team to attend our festival. His initial contact with the BHS and SAI was to inquire about music that could be included in his camp's repertoire. After the invitation from our planning team, his interest expanded into seeing how an all day festival could be organized. We can only hope that he took some very valuable and positive information back with him.

We do know that positive connections were made because one of our volunteers had resided in the region and was part of the Peace Garden's construction. Dr. Wollenzein was also introduced to Judy Olson and Judd Orff. Judy Olson, a faculty member of Sweet Adelines International and choreography clinician, and Judd Orff, Croix Chordsmen volunteer and LO'L District Representative to the BHS are sending Dr. Wollenzein lists of local, district and society resources that can be tapped.