

ST. CROIX VALLEY CHAPTER

July 26, 2011 Board Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church – Stillwater, MN

Minutes

Members present:

Michael Franssen

Duane Schuh

Mark Witmer

Judd Orff

Mac Barlass

Warren Wilson

Louie Nosan

Don Paulson

Adam Blegen

Jim Mohn

Dennis Garner (arrived 6:45)

Also present:

Matt Hall (arrived 6:26)

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The meeting was called to order by Michael Franssen at 6:06 p.m. We sang Let Me Call You Sweetheart.

1. Minutes of the Board meeting of June 21, 2011 were approved.

The Treasurer's report was received as presented.

Under additional agenda items, we added, under Old Business, an update on trailer signage. Under New Business, we added uniform deposits, a donation to the Harmony Foundation golf tournament, and a possible venue change for rehearsals. With these additions, the agenda for the meeting was approved.

2. Officer status reports were provided to the group for review prior to the meeting. Related to these reports were the following:
  - a. Marketing/PR: Mac commented regarding Christmas show planning. Neither Roger Bull nor Paul Wigley can MC. A local radio personality, who MC'd for us a few years ago, may be approached.
  - b. Chapter Development: Adam commented that a quartet from Prescott has visited us, that a potential new bass (Ed) has tendered an application and that Lee Jackson's friend seems interested in membership.

The various reports were approved.

3. The following committee reports were received:

- a. Christmas Show: Mac's comments are above. Matt discussed, with Mac's input, the finalization of music for this show.

- b. Spring Show: Matt addressed the Board with a suggested finale for the quartet section of the show. It was well received.
4. Old Business: Judd has been further exploring trailer signage ideas with a resource he has. It has come down to two viable options. He shared copies of the two “looks” with the group. The lower cost option (\$920) has liked best. The matter was tabled.
5. Under New Business, there were five topics:
  - a. Uniform deposits: Don noted that he recently did a record check and that there are 16 members who have not yet made their uniform deposits. This was discussed and consensus emerged that sending the noted members a friendly reminder letter and/or email is a good step.
  - b. Harmony Foundation Golf Tournament: This event is being held this year on August 8<sup>th</sup>, with certain members of our chorus among the committee organizing the event. Judd noted that last year the chapter provided a \$250 sponsorship and inquired whether the chapter would be willing to do so again this year. Moved, seconded and carried that SCV will provide a \$250 donation/sponsorship to the Tournament this year.
  - c. Rehearsal venue: When we recently sang at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church (OSLC) the fine acoustics were noted by many in our group. Since then, a chorus member, who is also an OSLC member, has been exploring whether the church might be available to us as a rehearsal location. We could use the sanctuary, have the old sanctuary as a back-up space, have easy access to risers each rehearsal and the proposed annual donation might be only \$100. Matt opined very favorably on the matter. It was agreed that our Chorus Manager’s (Tyler Smith) input will be important, as our current rehearsal location is due to his fine work and his being a member of St. Paul Lutheran. After further discussion, the matter was tabled.
  - d. Nominating Committee: It was noted that we are at the time of year where it becomes important to form a Nominating Committee for enlisting guys to be officers in 2012. Approved by consensus that the 2012 Nominating Committee will be comprised of Dennis Garner, Mac Barlass and Judd Orff.
  - e. The group noted how enjoyable the media from the International Convention was, which was arranged by Tyler Smith. A live video feed of the International Convention was shown at a local business establishment. Tyler was there every day and it was a delightful experience for all. Also, he secured an online replay that many got to enjoy. A big thank you was extended to Tyler Smith for his superb efforts.
6. Additional Agenda Items: Addressed above.

As we prepared to adjourn, chorus member Dale Schueffner joined us and provided an update on his discussions with OSLC. Everything is favorable for us to make the move. It was agreed that Matt and Judd will seek Tyler’s input on the matter.

7. Motion to adjourn was made at 7:00 p.m. Such motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mark Witmer*  
Secretary

## ***President Report for July 26th Board Meeting***

### **Reflection thoughts:**

**\*\* Thankful - personal growth** The time everyone puts in and is willing to share with this chorus – touching hearts and minds of all around us... setting guidelines down to keep us growing – sharing – caring – a family of parallel interests (a total music ministry to ourselves and others) – just Ringing Cords & enjoying a moment through others eyes... and being here for one another... A massive WOW!

**\*\* Gratitude** –Your Prayers - Sincere Smiles & Hugs, ... Just a THANK YOU... a standing “O” .. Several Standing “O’s”... Just...Just SAYS IT ALL!!! Chokes one up inside to be part of something- Sooooo BIG– Being part of St Croix Valley – GNU – all the Choruses & Quartets – not just in LOL – But the World... .... A very hard to describe... moment in time... that happened... Just Knowing everyone from home could reach out and watch us... and root for us... and Cheer Us ON... And we will all continue to be part of this in the future... ... Health Mind and Spirit were all aligned in time... AN UNBELIEVABLE THRILL!!!! From the bottom of my heart... THANK YOU!!! Cause this is where it all started for me... Singing with St Croix Valley & learning & Doing Valentines All Day (on TV Even)!!!....

### **Personal - Board Goals:**

Help all facets of board –brainstorm with & during all activities to continue to:

- Learning everyone’s name – and backgrounds or skills – then using them (LOL Wow this is a tough one for me... NO A major project for me... )
- Having Fun & really enjoy doing our music craft
- Bring Our Chapter into the public eye and well known in our homes surrounding areas...
- Continually Attracting new members with everything we do
- CD Sales at every event (churches etc...)
- Cutting a new CD every two years... Like out own Christmas CD or Gospel CD or Patriotic CD or Country, Rock or Pop CD...specializing in the different music varieties and putting our own barbershop twist.
- Taking Pictures at practices & events... and posting 1 or 2 with every news letter

### **Accomplishments:**

- \* Sing & perform well as a team - Passing it Forward
- \* Being in a Gold-metal Performance and bringing home the Silver Metal... Knowing who really won... Whooo Hooo! And never forgetting the hearts here at home - I took all of you w/ me
- \* Chorus activates both behind scenes and with my brothers clicking and tuning in.
- \* Listening - This has been really tough for me... My mouth – need I say more
- \* Leadership - Singing Skills & Training... Take notes and share ... Passing it Foreword.

### **Current Plans:**

**\*\*\* Shows: Getting work positions filled... get sign up sheets out to fill positions**

**\*\*\* Knowing attendance and absentness**

**\*\*\* Education – encourage** all members to attend opportunities and improve – have board discussion on helping pay for education and the things we love to do...

**\*\*\* 5 year planning Calendar & Annual & Christmas Show Themes with modifiable Script...** for the person or team of people can fill the shoes and then plan the 5<sup>th</sup> year out show. Wow...

**\*\*\* Updating Manuals** – Mac is being very instrumental here

**Board Action:** Cliff T presentation and goals - setting up trust Fund & working off interest for chorus needs or individual chorus needs.

**Michael Franssen**

**Secretary's Report – July 2011**

- A CJ20, for our competition at District this autumn, has been submitted.
- If there are insights as to what International wants re 2010 achievement awards/form, I welcome them. We are good with the District on this topic and I am not familiar with any other needs/requests.

**Mark Witmer**

## *Chorus Manager Report for July 26, 2011 Board Meeting*

### Recent Accomplishments:

We had a nice group of members sing at the Special Olympics at the U of M on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Many thanks to those that participated and special thanks to Duane Hall for being our Director.

We performed well at the annual multi-chorus performance at the Como pavilion in St. Paul. That is always fun and the audience is always appreciative of the choruses.

Church singing in July at two Prescott churches went very well with a good turnout of members. We sang 9 songs at each church and were basically the whole service. Sharon & Warren hosted a picnic for the chapter at their home after the church singing – great job and thanks a bunch for the air conditioning!.

We hosted a Chapter Webcast Party for the International Contests. The party was held at Pub Monique in downtown Stillwater. We pretty much had the upstairs all to ourselves. An added bonus was to allow our members to view the delayed webcast at home through Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. It was well worth the \$99 our Chapter spent to acquire the rights to the webcast.

Our weekly “program” part of our Chapter Meetings continues to be well received. We have added “Treats” for socializing after the meetings. The Tenors were the first to provide treats and did a great job last Tuesday. Baritones are responsible for the treats tonight. All donations go to the LOL District contribution for the Youth Chorus Festival at the Society’s Mid-Winter Convention next January. Last Tuesday’s total donation was \$27.50.

### Current Plans:

We continue to have a busy schedule this summer and fall starting with our singing at 2 churches in Woodbury on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, along with some of our members also singing at the Twins game that same day.

Tonight the Program is Barberpole Cat qualifying lead by Cliff Turnbull. Next week Doc Stewart will present the Barbershopper Of The Month Award.

Looks like we will have a good turnout for the Fall Convention in Rochester on the weekend of October 21<sup>st</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>. Carl Quist is coordinating the housing and Denny Garner is coordinating the tickets. I am handling the Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, dinner. We have invited the Minneapolis Commodores to join us for dinner.

### Items for Board Action:

None.

Tyler Smith

## Marketing & PR VP Report for July 19, 2011 Board Meeting

### **Accomplishments:**

- news releases for church sings
- news for Special Olympics,
- news and photos for Prescott Churches
- news for Como Park

### **Current Plans:**

- looking into "Quartets in Hospitals"
- Planning a "Quartet Brochure"
- Doing more with Radio spots

### **Xmas show:**

- Have Paul's youth group from Lakeville coming in
- Have Roger Bull for Emcee
- Going over songs lists
- Have tentative rehearsal dates
- Will meet with Matt & Derek asap

### **Items for Board Action:**

Where are those Policies?

Mac Barlass

## **ST. CROIX VALLEY BOARD MEETING June 19th 2011**

### **Judd Orff VP M&P**

1. Como Park was another great hit for SCV. Thanks to all who made the effort. The 5 cancellations on the day was too bad, but we still did a great job. (like Mike would say YAHOO)
2. Prescott is now history and another good performance by the chorus.
3. Christmas folders should be ready to roll by mid-August.
4. I would like the risers each week after September 1st for Contest and Christmas show preparation.
5. I will plan a Saturday retreat practice for late September to work on the contest set.

**ST. CROIX VALLEY CHAPTER  
BOARD MEETING  
OFFICER AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STATUS REPORT**

**YIH VP for July 19, 2011 Board Meeting**

**I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and NON-ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

**ITEM:** Have you noticed the number of young men that have attended the rehearsals lately? Thanks to Dennis G. for bringing his neighbor (Please bring him back!) and to Lorell for bringing his grandsons.

**ITEM: 2011/12 YIH Festival, Saint Croix Falls HS**

- An initial planning meeting was held February 3 and some of the work assignments were made; I could not attend
- A date for the festival is set for January 14, 2012; the festival will be held at Saint Croix Falls HS
- Jon Buss is working with Shawn Gudmunsen, SCF Choral Director on music selection for the men
- The over-arching goal for the 2011/12 festival is to get more young men
- Another goal, and this was reflected in the clinicians' evaluations, is to get the music to the students earlier; and I would add, make sure there are learning tracks

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION:** None

**ITEM: Harmony Explosion Camp, 2012**

- Currently we (Jon Buss and I) are planning to have a three day HXC
  - the date is not selected, we want to avoid conflicts like Fathers' Day, if possible
  - we would like to dovetail with the Lakes Chord College but this is not absolutely necessary
- Sam Sather is on board as the clinician -- we will use the music he picked for last year since we have copies and learning tracks for all the songs
- Tentatively the venue for the camp will be UW-RF
- Main Street Station has been contacted to determine their availability as a teaching quartet

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION:** None

**II. ON THE PLATE:**

- Contact school districts to determine how we can better promote the January 14, 2012 festival
- Contact District officers to determine its posture on holding the 2012 Harmony Explosion Camp
- If it is a go, determine the District's role and support
- If it is a go, coordinate the date, venue, begin detailing to camp and set up the support team