

Keep a record (by chapter Music and Performance VP, or chapter Secretary, or other chapter officer) of the names of your members who have sung in a quartet for an "audience", with the date that they sing, and the initials of the other three singers.

An "audience" is defined as one or more persons for whom the quartet is singing. This can be a Singing Valentine, singing in a nursing home or hospital, anything similar, or of course singing on a stage. It's all on the "honor system".

"Rookie" members (0-2 years) who sing in a quartet are certainly counted toward your QSA goal, but their names are not included in the "veteran" list even if they do sing in a quartet. This is a bonus.

Send both lists (the names of all applicable "veterans" and the names of all who sang in a quartet with required information) signed by chapter officer, to me by Email (TonyChiro@juno.com) or snail mail (12713 W. 8th Ave Golden, Colo 80401).

Your chapter will receive the "QSA" certificate award and be recognized in District meetings and publications.

Meeting the rules of the "QSA" Award implies that your audience is listening to your quartet sing, so that YOU can experience the joy of being directly responsible for your part in the combined sound that brings joy into the life of the listener. This is the true quartet experience (not just rehearsing in your tenor's basement).

Elaborating on the statement in "rule" #1 above, I am asking all experienced quartet singers to be willing to allow new quartet singers to step into their quartet for an initial experience (like a nursing home visit) so that he can sing with confidence in a well-tuned quartet. The quartet singers that I have met are typically very gracious and would be thrilled with such an opportunity.

I realize that there are some very content chorus singers who would no sooner sing in a quartet than they would "streak" across the infield at a Colorado Rockies game. This is not an effort to put anyone into an uncomfortable or embarrassing position. But I hope every barbershopper reading this article will *consider* the potential joys and benefits to themselves and others, and *consider* what might be a

starting point within their comfort zone, and *consider* giving it a try.

Will YOUR chapter be one to receive the "QSA" Award and help us reach the district goal of 50% of all chapters receiving the award? Will YOU be one of the quartet singers in your chapter?

Becoming the BEST you can be

Singing and performing at your BEST will enhance your enjoyment of barbershop, right? The Rocky Mountain District serves YOU by presenting HEP (Harmony Education Program) in Estes Park, Colorado on February 6-7-8, 2004. What better way to prepare for your first venture as a quartet singer, or for Singing Valentines, or for the Spring Prelims (April 23-24, Cheyenne), or just to improve YOUR contribution to your chorus or quartet.

Do you realize that the 1998 Gold-medal quartet "Revival" and the 2003 Silver-medal quartet "Gotcha!" and other faculty all spend this weekend away from their family and business for the purpose of HELPING YOU? They receive no compensation (except expenses) for making this sacrifice to help others enjoy our hobby at a higher level. When you are a better barbershopper, your audiences enjoy barbershop more. And then you become a better ambassador for barbershop, attracting more people to sing with us and to listen to us. These are some of the reasons why quartets like "Revival" and "Gotcha!" who have become so accomplished at barbershop singing will make this effort...to enhance everyone's greater enjoyment of barbershop. Will *you* make the effort to attend?

You will not want to miss the Saturday night show, with these two outstanding HEP faculty quartets, the RMD's own "Storm Front" (#17 International), other top quartets in our district who will be receiving coaching at HEP, and a Youth Barbershop presentation that'll light your fire.

Check out the district website www.RMDsing.org for all the details on HEP (class schedule, faculty bio's, registration information). Come to HEP and be enthused by some of the BEST in Barbershop to become the BEST you can be.



**Storm
Front**

Contact:
720-201-5193
Sydney Libsack
kermit222@aol.com



Eleventh Hour
A Barber Shop Quartet

David Waddell - Tenor Neil Rower - Baritone
Emil Milner - Lead James Curts - Bass

Contact: David Waddell (303) 678-9967

Here's a Barbershop Quartet that
GUARANTEES* You'll Have Fun!

You won't believe...

The Chordial Celebration



Dan Rod Steve Gary

Until you hear and see them at their zany best!

To book *The Chordial Celebration* for your show, call:

Gary Drown at (308) 236-2083

***GUARANTEE:** If one member of the audience goes home without laughing, our fee will be ~~cheerfully~~ refunded!

District Board for 2004

Serving the chapters and barbershoppers in the Rocky Mountain District:

VP Chorus Director Development

Rod Sgrignoli
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772 E. 9630 South
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District Goals for 2004-05

QUARTET DEVELOPMENT, MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

2004: To award 50% of the RMD chapters with the "QSA" award. (The "QSA" award...spebsQSA...Quartet Singing in America...is achieved by having 50% or more of the veteran members...2 full years in Society...sing in a quartet for an audience.

Measurement (2004): present minimum of 18 "QSA" awards (of 36 chapters)

2005: To award 55% of the RMD chapters with the "QSA" award.

Measurement (2005): present minimum of 20 "QSA" awards (of 36 chapters)

2005: To have 10 quartets at the International Convention in Salt Lake City proficient on 10 popular barbershop songs (which will be promoted in advance of the convention),

wandering the convention together and willing to let any convention attendee tag into the quartet and sing. This will be the best quartet experience visiting barbershoppers have ever had at an International Convention.

Measurement (2005): have 10 host quartets with 10 songs at 2005 International Convention in Salt Lake City.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, CSLT AND CHAPTER COACHES

2004: To survey all chapters for potential leaders and locate at least one man for every two chapters in the district capable of stepping into district committee leadership roles.

Measurement (2004): locate a minimum of 18 potential district leaders.

2005: To have designated assistants to district Secretary and Treasurer and all members of the Operations Team working with the current leaders.

Measurement (2005): have a full complement of chapter coaches, and maintain the pool of 18 individuals being mentored into leadership by current leadership team, and designate assistants to district Secretary, Treasurer, and Operations Team.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, COTS

2004: To have 108 (an average of 3 men per chapter in the RMD) attend COTS in 2004 representing 20 of the 36 chapters (55%) in the RMD.

Measurement (2004): 108 attendance at COTS with 20 chapters represented.

2005: To have 120 attend COTS in 2005 representing 24 of the 36 chapters (65%) in the RMD.

Measurement (2005): 120 in attendance at COTS, with 24 chapters represented.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

2004: Establish and implement a functioning MD team and procedures, by end July, '04.

2004: To net increase district membership by 1% in 2004.

Measurement (2004): 1% more members 12/31/04 than 12/31/03.

2005: To net increase district membership by 2% in 2005.

Measurement (2005): 2% more members 12/31/05 than 12/31/04.

YOUNG MEN IN HARMONY

2004: Establish a YMIH VP (or “point man”) in 15 chapters in the RMD

2005: Establish a YMIH VP (or “point man”) in 18 chapters in the RMD

Measurement: One YMIH VP (or “point man”) in 15 chapters in 2004

MARKETING AND Public Relations

2004: Establish a Mkt & PR VP, or Bulletin Editor, or Webmaster in 25 chapters in the RMD

Measurement: One Marketing & PR VP, or Bulletin Editor, or Webmaster in 25 chapters in 2004

2005: Establish a Marketing & PR VP, or Bulletin Editor, or Webmaster in 28 chapters in the RMD

Although each of the District officers has individual goals in his respective department, we have established these six priority goals for the years 2004 and 2005.

Have you ever enjoyed singing with barbershoppers who are not members of your chapter? I have. It’s a wonderful experience, AFTER the somewhat painful and prolonged process of deciding WHAT SONG we all know (same arrangement, etc).

To make the International Convention in Salt Lake City (2005) the BEST pick-up quartet experience ever, the RMD will have 10 host quartets (hopefully “cream of the crop”) who will stroll the convention (identified by host quartet shirts) willing to accept anyone into their quartet to sing any of 10 pre-announced songs. Not to disparage the great chords of Barberpole Cat songs (which they’ll gladly sing too), but these will be songs that most of the general population knows. One reason we are the “best kept secret” is because we sing “secret” (obscure) songs that

no one has ever heard of (unless they are at least 75 years old). Even non-barbershoppers will be able to sing in a pick-up quartet, because virtually EVERYONE knows the words and melody to “America The Beautiful” (which will be one of the 10 songs). Let’s fill Salt Lake City with some GREAT singing.

While the Quartet Development goal has to do with singing, the remaining 5 district goals have to do with leadership and management. This is not to imply that leadership and management are more important than singing. To the contrary, the PURPOSE of leadership and management (in SPEBSQSA) is to enable more and better singing.

EVERYONE reading this Vocal Expressions or RMD Web page has personal strengths and gifts that can be used to advance barbershop harmony. Service to the Barbershop Harmony Society and its mission by utilizing your strengths and gifts is rewarding and exhilarating, and should be enjoyed by EVERY barbershopper in one way or another. To paraphrase a universally-known oration: “Ask not what your [chapter, District] can do for you,...(you finish)...”

Tony Pranaitis
RMD President



^{RMD} Vocal Expressions
 The ^{RMD} **Vocal Expressions** magazine publication schedule is: January 10, April 1 and August 10 by the Rocky Mountain District, SPEBSQSA, Inc. All submissions for issues are due 15 days prior, i.e July 25 for August 10 issue. Non-member subscription price is \$5.00 per year. Member subscriptions are \$3.00 which are paid for by the member's RMD dues. Please send all articles by e-mail; include as text in the e-mail or attach in "text only," ASCII text, or Word or PDF formats. You can also mail IBM discs to me. If you have any custom-sized pages and/or ad copy with special logo, art, or type style, send a sharp black and white, camera-ready original to size or in proportion. Send copy and info with size requirements.

RMD Vision Statement
 Enriching lives in the Rocky Mountain District through singing in harmony.

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woody@grwffyn.com
 RMD website: www.rmdsing.org

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Quartet Card	1 7/8" X 3 3/8"	\$30.00

Send payment with your order – thanks.

Spring Convention: April 23 – 25 in Cheyenne

An excellent Convention Center in Cheyenne, Wyoming (with an ideal theatre for both performers and audience, and ideally-situated hotels for headquarters and overflow lodging) with very reasonable pricing has been secured for our Spring Convention.

Cheyenne is just about 100 miles north of Denver, connected by a 75 mile-per-hour freeway, I-25.

The hospitality in Cheyenne is expected to be a good-old-western-welcome!

Our highly-capable Events Team, led by Lee Ischinger and George Davidson, have researched this facility and area services and find the fit to be perfect for our needs. You can bet that these men will continue the tradition of outstanding convention quality that we have come to expect.

We anticipate an outstanding field of quartets as evidenced at both of our 2003 conventions. We will also build upon the inaugural success of the Rocky Mountain Invitational, and we encourage all chapter Music and Performance Vice Presidents (and chapter boards and chorus directors) to consider the potential benefit of this performance opportunity and evaluation (by audience and judges)...and to begin planning now for their "best shot" at entertainment in the Rocky Mountain Invitational.

Registration information will be forthcoming soon, and you can get the most up-to-the-minute details on the Spring Convention in Cheyenne on our district website www.RMDsing.org. Or contact Lee Ischinger if you have any questions not answered on the website.

We have a very strong contact with the local schools in the Cheyenne community. The Cheyenne Wyomingaires hosted a very successful boys barbershop festival in 2002, with strong support from the local school district and its administration. This Convention will offer a huge outreach opportunity, which we intend to make available to the area youth. Let's show them OUR excitement for barbershop...plan on attending (and participating, if you can).

2004 District Directory

S-001 Boulder

Community United Church of Christ
2650 Table Mesa Drive
Boulder, CO 80303
Chorus: Timberliners Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 303-499-0788
E-mail: jcg@qadas.
Web site: www.harmonize.com/timberliners

**S-002 Colorado Springs
Pikes Peak**

Village Christian Church
3113 Primrose Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
Chorus: America The Beautiful Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 719-579-9132
Web site:

S-003 Denver Mile High

St Luke's United Methodist Church
8817 S Broadway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129-2301
Chorus: Sound of The Rockies
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 303-215-3333
E-mail: gequelch@frii.com
Web site: www.soundoftherockies.com

S-004 Longmont

St Stephen's Episcopal Church
1303 South Bross Lane
Longmont, CO 80501
Chorus: Longs Peak Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 303-922-3804
Web site: www.harmonize.com/Longmont

S-005 San Juan County

Reorganized Church of LDS
219 W 30th Street
Farmington, NM 87401
Chorus: Gaslight Chorus
Meets on: THU at 7:30
Phone: 505-326-4306

S-006 Loveland

1st Christian Church
2000 N Lincoln Ave
Loveland, CO 80538
Chorus: Valentine City Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 970-532-3292
E-mail: PA1936@AOL.COM
Web site: <http://www.valentinescitychorus.com>

S-007 Northern Black Hills

Spearfish Senior Serv Center
1306 10th
Spearfish, SD 57783
Chorus: Northern BlackHillsChorus
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 605-642-5196
E-mail: djunek@mato.com

S-008 Pocatello

Central Christian Church
918 East Center
Pocatello, ID 83201
Chorus: Idaho Gateway Chorus
Meets on: THU at 08:00
Phone: 208-237-2623
E-mail: DRommel685@aol.com
Web site: <http://members.home.com/gardun2/gateway>

S-009 Colby

Colby United Methodist Church
950 S Franklin
Colby, KS 67701
Chorus: Tumbleweed Chorus
Meets on: THU at 8:00
Phone: 785-462-3004
E-mail: dkready@we.rr.com

S-010 Santa Fe

Zia United Methodist Church
303 Richards Ave. S.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Chorus: Santa Fe Harmonizers
Meets on: MON at 6:45
Phone: 505-466-1731

S-014 Grand Junction

American Lutheran Church
1350 N 7th St
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Chorus: Bookcliff Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 970-242-8643
E-mail: bookcliffchorus@bresnan.net
Web site: <http://home.bresnan.net/~bookcliffchorus>

S-015 Rexburg

Rexburg Tabernacle
73 N. Center Street
Rexburg, ID 83440
Chorus: Carousel Chorus
Meets on: THU at 8:00
Phone: 208-520-1499

S-016 Burley

Rupert Harmony Hall
123 K Street
Rupert, ID 83350
Chorus: Snake River Flats
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 208-436-6047
E-mail: mikeh@sd151.k12.id.us

S-017 Los Alamos Area

United Church of Los Alamos
2525 Canyon Road
Los Alamos, NM 87544
Chorus: Lads of Enchantment
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 505-753-3781

S-018 Mt Rushmore

Central High School Choir
Room
433 Mt Rushmore Rd N
Rapid City, SD 57701
Chorus: Shrine of Democracy
Chorus
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 605-348-2683
E-mail: JimGogolin@aol.com

S-020 Bernalillo County

Mesa View United Methodist
Church
4701 Montano Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
Chorus: Duke City Chorus
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 505-710-2300
E-mail contact:
wfchambers@direcway.com
Web site: <http://www.dukecitychorus.com>

S-022 Albuquerque

Los Altos Christian Church
11900 Haines Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
Chorus: New MexiChords
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 505-293-0330
E-mail: singers@newmexichords.com
Web site:
www.newmexichords.com

S-024 Durango

Christ the King Lutheran Ch
495 Florida Ave
Durango, CO 81301
Chorus: Narrowgauge Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:00

Phone: 970-259-0313

E-mail:

Information@durangobarbershoppers.com

Web site:

<http://www.durangobarbershoppers.com>

S-028 Denver MountainAires

Edgewater Community
Church
2497 Fenton Street
Edgewater, CO 80215
Chorus: Denver
Mountaineers
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 303-237-3271
E-mail: sjbullead@aol.com
Web site:
www.harmonize.com/DenverMountainAires

S-030 Sterling

1st Presbyterian Church
130 South 4th St.
Sterling, CO 80751
Chorus: Centennial State
Chorus
Meets on: MON at 7:30
Phone: 970-522-3714
E-mail: pnberry@sosinc.net

S-033 Billings

Lincoln Center Music Room
415 N 39th Street
Use NW entrance to building
Billings, MT 59101
Chorus: Big Sky Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 406-252-1596
E-mail: mlouschu@aol.com

S-035 Salt Lake City

Sunday Anderson Senior
Center
868 West 900 south
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
Chorus: Beehive Statesmen
Chorus

Meets on: WED at 7:00

Phone: 801-280-5526

E-mail: RALLEN@JPS.NET

Web site:

www.beehivestatesmen.org

S-037 Montrose

Methodist Church
518 Hersum
Olathe, CO 81425
Chorus: Black Canyon
Chorus
Meets on: THU at 7:30
Phone: 970-874-3516
E-mail: williesut@aol.com
Web site:
www.blackcanyonchorus.org

S-043 Scottsbluff

First Christian Church
21st & Ave. A
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Chorus: Sugar Valley Singers
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 308-635-3250
E-mail: cnichols1@bbc.net

S-068 Utah Valley

Mountain View High School
645 W. Center St
Rm #3
Orem, UT 84057
Chorus: Utah Vly Skyline
Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 800-585-7464
E-mail:
gene.evey@Juno.com
Web site: www.uvskyline.com

S-076 Pueblo

First Congregational Church
228 W Evans Ave
Pueblo, CO 81004
Chorus: Sunsational Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 719-564-6975
Web site: www.gopueblo.com/sunsationals

S-078 Cheyenne

1st Congregational Church
3501 Forest Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Chorus: Wyomingaires
Meets on: MON at 7:30

S-079 Casper

Middle Cross Ministry
1744 S. Poplar St.
Casper, WY 82601
Chorus: Oil City Slickers
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 307-234-1460

S-081 Wasatch Front

South Valley Unitarian
Church
6800 South 2000 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84105
Chorus: Saltaires
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 801-451-8434
E-mail:
gary.forsberg@hill.af.mil
Web site: www.saltaires.org

S-082 Garfield

Methodist Church
824 Cooper Ave
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Mountain Sounds Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:30
Phone: 970-285-9526
E-mail: Bartlett@Rof.Net

S-083 Cache Valley

Advanced Restoration
3120 N. Main
Logan, UT 84341
Chorus: Bridgerland
Barbershop Ch
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 435-245-5870
E-mail: bridgerlandchorus@yahoo.com

S-084 Cedar City

Southwest ATC
510 W 800 S
Cedar City, UT 84720
Chorus: Iron County Minors
Meets on: THU at 7:00
Phone: 435-586-4993

S-088 Idaho Falls

Fairwinds-Sand Creek
3310 Valencia Dr
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
Chorus: Eagle Rock Station
Meets on: WED at 8:00
Phone: 208-524-3217

S-089 Grand County

St John the Baptist Episcopal
390 E Garnet
Granby, CO 80446
Chorus: Grand Chorale
Meets on: TUE at 7:15
Phone: 970-726-0343

S-090 Ogallala

United Church of Christ
302 N Spruce
Ogallala, NE 69153
Chorus: Cowboy Capital
Chorus
Meets on: TUE at 7:00
Phone: 308-284-8358

**S-091 Colorado Springs
Metro**

St. Paul's United Methodist
Church
2111 Carlton Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80132
Chorus: Peak Experience
Meets on: MON at 7:00
Phone: 719-528-8702
E-mail: woody@peakexperiencechorus.org
Web site: www.peakexperiencechorus.org

**Frank Thorne
Newsletter**

My name is Dom Nizza and I am a 26 year semi-retired SPEBSQSA Society Member and a member of the Frank Thorne Chapter for about six years. I have reactivated myself as a PROBE member and having been a MAD Past Metro Division Area Counselor I have resumed contact with some of my former colleagues. In fact, I have been very busy gathering information on Frank Thorne History and the number of members in each District. The total of Frank Thorne members in the Society is approximately 1,334 and I believe many would be interested in having their own Chapter Bulletin. (The old timers I'm sure, have many memorable experiences and perhaps a photo to share with us.)

This bulletin will be independently published, edited, mailed first class and paid for by me. It's quite a task I have assumed. I have a good start on it with some guidance from a retired mentor and Thorne Chapter member. He suggested that Thorne members send a few lines of their experiences and perhaps a photo to tell their story for publication. That I would have enough for several editions. I think so too. I have covered the MAD District quite well and with my trusty Large Copier (in better shape than I am) will be able to publish a credible paper. Of course, being a member of the "ink still in our veins group" you can understand what I am trying to do.

Any mail can be sent to
Dom Nizza
617 Robert St.
Ridgewood N.J. 07450
E-mail domnizza@neetzero.com

Bulletin Editor of the Year Contest!

Since Rich Allen (Salt Lake City, Utah) resigned as RMD Contest Coordinator, our Marketing & PR VP Gerry Swank has been beating the bushes for his replacement. Having no luck, he was sobbing helplessly over his keyboard when a magical email appeared with a volunteer for the job. Being the opportunist that he is, Gerry promptly fired off an email accepting before I could change my mind.

The few people I have talked to about this position seem to think that it's a perfect fit for me. Time will tell. Yeah, it is! Didn't take long, did it?

This is the official "Call for Bulletins" for the 2003 RMD Bulletin Editor of the Year Year contest. You must have published six (6) issues during 2003 to be eligible to compete in this contest. The top two bulletins will be entered into the International Bulletin Contest representing the RMD. You may enter for critique only if you so desire. But, what the heck, if you're going to send them to me, you might as well enter the contest.

Three copies of each bulletin for three consecutive issues (months?), ie. May '03, June, July '03, or perhaps May/June '03, July/August '03, Sept/October '03 are required. Your masterpieces will be judged in three categories:

Content, Grammar and Style, and Layout and Reproduction.

PROBE has many certified bulletin judges in these three categories to judge chapter bulletins. These ranks include some of the finest editors that the Society has to offer. They are administrators, quartet men, District editors, webmasters, etc. What binds them all together is their love for barbershopping and their insane belief that effective communications makes the world go 'round. I know, it's a startling concept, but think about it -- the idea may grow upon you.

As a fellow editor (Denver MountainAires MOUNTAIN TALK), I can appreciate and sympathize with your initial thought: "What? Is he completely NUTS? Enter my bulletin -- nah, I put it out for the guys -- it's just a glorified calendar!" I remember my first entry into the BETY contest in 1977. It was pretty crude, and

no, I didn't win -- Howard Bruns of the Burley, Idaho chapter had a wonderful, informative bulletin and he did. But, I needed help - input, perspective, and I wanted to learn how to get all of my fellow members to read the darn thing! Isn't that the bottom line? I learned through trial and error, through receiving other bulletins in a Bulletin Exchange Program, from COTS classes, and finally, through teaching some COTs classes. Believe me, you never stop learning. It's a fun process. We all have to start somewhere. So, enough of my "insight" and on with the contest!

Send me your bulletins and enter the contest. Get the best and positive critiques from our hard-working judges. There are no bad bulletins; there are no losers. Trust me on this one (I also have lake property in Brush, Colorado). We have many talented editors within the RMD -- it's time to shine, gentlemen.

If you're just starting out or are convinced that this contest is a waste of time, I beg to differ. It's a great way to get help if you want (or need) it!

These judges are your friends - they want you to succeed. I want you to succeed!

Your chapter will benefit because you're taking the time to improve your bulletin for your fellow barbershoppers. Send your entry to:

Steve Jackson
215 Cheyenne St. Lot 18
Golden, CO 80403
Home: 303 384-9259
Email: sjbullead@aol.com

I must have all entries by the middle of January as I need to mail these entries out to all respective judges by Jan. 31st. Wouldn't you just love to receive a very nice wooden plaque recognizing you as the "2003 RMD Bulletin Editor of the Year" at the 2004 Spring Convention? It's a great feeling, as well as a great motivator. It can be done! Charge! Any additional questions, suggestions, cries for sanity? Contact me anytime day or night. I'm single, live by myself, and am a nightowl - enough said.

Midwinter in Biloxi!

Four, count 'em, four quartets from the RMD.
That's the most in the society!

1	Dry Heat	FWD
2	Curtain Call	FWD
3	Savoir Four	ILL
4	Borrowed Time	SWD
5	Finishing Touch	RMD
6	New York Central Connection	NED
7	Senior Class Reunion	RMD
8	Antique Gold	EVG
9	Downstate Express	LOL
10	Play It Again	ONT
11	SAGE	MAD
12	River City Rhythm	CAR
13	Joint Venture	DIX
14	Senior Class	JAD
15	Gadzooks	ILL
16	Chordial Exchange	AAMBS
17	Antiques Roadshow	PIO
18	Change of Pace	LOL
19	City Limits	CAR
20	Rabinowitz, Rabinowitz, Rabinowitz, & Raoul	SUN
21	Jukebox Swing	RMD
22	Yesterday's Heroes	RMD
23	Overstreet Connection	SWD
24	The Central Statesmen	CSD
25	Oldest Lang Syne	SLD
26	Moments in Tyme	NED
27	Top Drawer Four	NED

RMD Events Report Card: Good News and Bad News

By Lee Ischinger, VP-Events

If you were ever curious about what the District VP-Events does for the organization, I'm about to tell you more about it than you probably wanted to know!

Rocky Mountain District Events encompass the Spring and Fall Conventions and Contests as well as the HEP and COTS. To the extent that Chorus Director's Workshop Intensive (CDWI) and Top Gun classes are held in conjunction with other District Events, such as HEP or COTS, space planning and logistics for these activities are also included on the Events-VP's plate. Judges housing and transportation and space planning and logistics for RMD Board of Directors and House of Delegates meetings also fall under the Events-VP's purview. The Events-VP operates under one overarching operating objective: **"Ensure that all District Events are enjoyable to the membership and PROFITABLE."** (Emphasis added). RMD Events Program accounts for approximately 40% of the RMD annual budget and is the "engine of commerce" for generating revenue for important un-, or under-funded barbershop activities (like CDWI and Top Gun). The VP-Events, in close collaboration with the Treasurer, serves as the business manager for the District scheduling Events, selecting sites, and negotiating and signing all contracts with performance venues, hotels, etc.

For Conventions and Contests, the VP-Events is supported by the Conventions Manager (George Davidson) who leads the Conventions Team composed of the Treasurer, VP-C&J, VP-M&PR, and representatives of the local sponsoring Chapter or organization. The VP-Events works closely with the HEP and COTS Coordinators and the respective VP-M&P and VP-CSLT to schedule, negotiate, and secure space for these events in collaboration with the Treasurer and VP-M&PR. The District Webmaster, (Woody Woods) has become an integral part of all Events activities with increasing reliance on the District Web page (www.rmdsing.org) as the source of Events information and on-line registration. WHEW!

Now the good news!

The trend of "taking a loss on every sale and making it up in volume" that characterized the RMD Events program over the last several years is turning the corner. The "bleeding red ink" on Events has stopped or at least diminished. The 03' Spring Convention showed a modest loss, the 03' HEP was profitable, the 03' Fall

Convention was very profitable, and the recent COTS about broke even. Looking forward to 2004 Events, I anticipate the HEP school to be profitable, the Spring Convention in Cheyenne, WY should show a good return, the Fall Convention will again be our biggest success, and COTS should do better than break even. I have committed to increase the profitability of all 04' Events in the 04' District budget, so my work cut out for me!

The bad news!

Like everything else, the cost of Events has been increasing dramatically over the last several years, particularly the cost of airline travel for judges and instructors, performance venues, and hotel rates. To stem the flow of red ink from Events and to stay even with rising costs, the District BOD has voted to raise the 04' Convention base registration rate by \$10.00 from \$35.00 to \$45.00. In addition, a competitor's fee of \$25.00/quartet and \$50.00/chorus will be initiated to cover most of the cost of producing and distributing audio and video tapes of competitor's performances (approximately \$1,000/convention).

As a cost containment measure, the BOD also voted to change RMD policy on the way sponsoring Chapters or other organizations are remunerated for their efforts. Previously, net proceeds were split between the District and the sponsoring organization on a percentage basis: 60%/40% for Spring Convention and 75%/25% for the Fall Convention, respectively. The new policy will be flat fee based: \$1,000 Spring Convention; \$2,000 Fall Convention. Sponsoring chapter will continue to receive all net proceeds (after expenses) from the Barbershopper Shop; program advertising; other souvenir sales, golf tournaments, etc. Additional cost containment will be realized through selecting more affordable convention and other event sites and less expensive performance venues and hotel. Use of competitive bids for headquarters hotels, spirited negotiation of contracts, and better planning and accounting will further reduce costs without sacrificing the quality and enjoyment of the competitors and non-competitors alike.

Silverton Barbershop Music Festival, July 16-17, 2004

Society master director and singing teacher Joe Liles will again be the music man for the 18th annual Silverton Barbershop Music Festival on July 16 and 17, 2004, in Silverton, CO. Registration is only \$20 per man for the entire weekend's activities. We will spend Friday evening, July 16, in pre-festival activities, such as tag singing, quartet coaching, and polecat singing, and we will rehearse and sharpen our singing skills during the day on Saturday, July 17, and present a show for the public in the evening. There's always a great afterglow Saturday night.

If you plan to spend either Friday or Saturday night--or both--in Silverton, you should make your motel/hotel reservations soon. Last year Silverton was completely sold out for the festival by about June 1. You can look up the Silverton lodging guide on the web at silvertoncolorado.com, or you can call the Silverton Chamber of Commerce at 800-752-4494 for housing information.

Please make plans now to attend this great regional barbershop event. Every man gets to perform; every man wins; every man learns to sing better. Bring your quartet, and we will put you on the show. For more information, call me at 970-247-5073 or email me at Pete@DurangoPetersons.com. There will be more details about the festival in later issues of this magazine, and your chapter officers will be kept informed by email.

Carroll V. (Pete) Peterson
Durango Chapter
Silverton Festival Coordinator

RMD Barbershopper of the Year

Nominations for 2003 BOTY should be sent to Dr. Marty Smith by 1 April 2004 at drmarty@drmartysmith.com with your rationale why your nominee should be selected as Barbershopper of the Year.

The award will be presented in Cheyenne at the Spring Convention (April 23-24-25, 2004).

Marketing & Public Relations

One of the Barbershop Harmony Society's goals is to have a Marketing & Public Relations Vice President appointed in at least 75% of all chapters, by the end of 2003. This is my goal for the Rocky Mountain District Association of Chapters.

I'm sure many of you would ask, "Why is that necessary?" Our chapter is doing fine without a M & PR person, and we don't have anyone in our chapter that is experienced in that job.

Well, the Society is very concerned about the decline in membership over the past decade, and they believe, as I do, that publicity is the best way to make the general public aware of our music style, and to get new members. It doesn't matter that we form each vowel properly, or how often we perform, unless we publicize our shows. We won't increase attendance at our performances, and we won't have the opportunity to invite men who like to sing to join our chapters.

When we sing at schools, or perform at churches and malls, we always draw a pretty good crowd; people like our sound. And while we have that audience, we need to make a pitch for men who like to sing, and wives who want to get their husbands out of the house, to come and visit a chapter meeting. It's at those meetings that you can show a prospective member just how easy it is to begin to learn to sing barbershop harmony.

Some chapters just leave recruiting to chance, and hope each member will promote our hobby to others. The most successful chapters have a Marketing and Publicity vice-president as a member of their board of directors, and just being a board member causes the VP to be more aware of the responsibility to the chapter, district, and society. Being an elected VP of Marketing and Publicity will also allow the Society and District VP contact you directly and keep you informed of the various programs that have been designed to make your job easier.

So, if you're a member that likes the challenge of publicizing the events of your chapter, why not ask your board of directors to appoint you to this very important job. If you're

the president of your chapter, look around and find the best person in your chapter to do this job, and appoint him to the job.

When a new VP of Marketing & PR is elected to a chapter board of directors, don't stop there. Be sure to update the chapter officer's section of the SPEBSQSA website, and please be sure to contact me, the RMD VP for M & PR, so that I can contact you, find out your experience level, and get appropriate materials to you as soon as possible. As VP of M & PR you will also get to attend COTS in November of each year, where specific classes for this position will be taught by trained instructors and you'll get tons of ideas from the others attending the classes. COTS is an excellent way to learn about this job, and an excellent opportunity to meet and learn from others in the same position.

You'll soon come to realize that you, as the M & PR VP of your chapter, hold a very important office. An office that can truly help the society and your chapter grow in size and quality.

IT'S A GREAT JOB, SOMEBODY HAS TO DO IT, SO WHY NOT YOU?

Gerry Swank RMD VP for M & PR
SwankyBass@cs.com

Chapter Development

Greetings and Salutations, To My Partners in Barbershop

I am very excited to have this honor bestowed upon me. I have awesome duty of serving the chapters in the Rocky Mountain District as the new VP of Member Development. As a district we have the opportunity to increase the number of singers we have. Through New Member recruitment, existing member retention, and of course introducing barbershop to new areas and people. I am putting together a team of men to help me help you. At this time it is not complete but look forward for updates on my progress.

The theme of our service to you chapter officers is communication. There are membership programs and drives that have worked around the society for many years. We

as the "Membership Team" will make every effort to be available with any help or information you might need. There is a strong and knowledgeable membership committee whose main function is to help us with problems and give us ideas. After membership is retention. I feel that orientation and fellowship is the key here. I have some ideas that I would like to toss about with you chapter Presidents and Directors. You will be hearing from me soon, I plan to make phone contact with every chapter in the district. To discuss my ideas and any ideas that have worked for you and your chapter. Last but not least we are a huge chapter square mile wise. There are 35 chapters in this district 36 now with a new chapter in Colorado Springs CO. Congratulations and welcome to the district and society. We have room for more. There are several licensees and extension sites that will be contacted by myself to offer any support or encouragement that these areas may require or not and we will be on the lookout for new places to introduce our wonderful hobby. I gladly look forward to being your servant in the district. There are many things we can do to share the excitement, fellowship and yes love of our hobby and barbershop singers in general. Let's do it, let's communicate, so everybody can know what it is to ring a chord and yes maybe "Goosebumps". I would ask that you me your phone numbers and Email addresses so that I may get in touch with you Chapter Presidents, Membership VPs and Directors. Thanks

Until We Sing Again,
Your Partner In Barbershop.

D. Robin Harris VPMD

Young Men In Harmony

Greetings this new year. During the past year there have been many good activities pertaining to the YMIH and this year will be even better as more chapters get involved with the students locally. There is nothing quite like seeing the lights come on in the students eyes when they catch the vision of barbershop.

First let's recap some of the happenings

around the district this past year.

5 Festivals

Salt Lake City 105 HS students
Denver 61 HS students
Denver 172 HS students
Rexburg 200 HS students
Rexburg 240 University students

2 Demonstrations

Denver-several schools visited by Jim Debusman, Tony, and others. Total students visited not known.

Rexburg- music heritage program for 5th graders. 500 students

Rexburg-sing out for elementary schools

3 Youth Camps

Denver, Colorado

Sorroco, New Mexico

Billings, Montana(joined with Bozeman from Evergreen District)

I'm sure that there are other activities that occurred that have not been reported, but you can see there have been many exposures to Barbershop at the student level in 2003. Congratulations to all participating chapters. We are more than holding our own when compared to other districts.

There are programs for chapters at the elementary school level, the middle school level, the high school level, and the university level. These can be adjusted to fit the uniqueness of each chapter and the needs of the schools in your area so there is no need to feel like you have to invent a new program if you want to be involved in YMIH. Also from the national society level there is a movement from the Association of International Champions to help in the YMIH movement. This help will come in the form of clinician assistance and quartet assistance. I, for one, welcome the AIC and the help they can provide. If you have questions about what your chapter can do or which areas you may want to focus in please give me a call or E-mail.

OBJECTIVE 1: Have at least two NEW activities in the district in 2004

OBJECTIVE 2: Have 2 music educators go to Harmony/Directors College in 2004

OBJECTIVE 3: Have 2 College Quartets go to spring prelims for qualification in 2004.

OBJECTIVE 4: Have 2 Chapters in 2004 acquire the books "Get America

Singing...Again" volumes 1 and 2 as well as "An Introduction to Barbershop Singing for Youth". [These books will serve well in the elementary and Jr. High Schools in the district. Grant monies will need to be acquired to fund this project but it is one that every chapter can do.] (Meeting to be held throughout the year with Chapter YMIH leaders. The books for the schools as well as grant funding to be discussed at that time. OBJECTIVE 5: Have 13 or more Chapters elect or appoint a YMIH representative.

These are the goals of YMIH for the year 2004. It will take a cooperative effort from all of us to reach the goal but the rewards far surpass the efforts when you see the lights come on in the eyes of the students when they hear our music.

Phil Ricks 208- 356- 6604
E-mail Ricksco@ida.net

House of Delegates Spring 2004

HOD will meet on Friday afternoon in Cheyenne, just prior to the beginning of the Spring Prelim quartet contest. Details on exact time and place will be announced soon.

Secretary

Your Board of Directors and House of Delegates were busy in October and November of 2003 as they dealt with important and exciting issues that will affect the members of the Rocky Mountain District.

The Board spent several hours analyzing income and expenditures and formulating a balanced budget for 2004. The Board members demonstrated excellent cooperation in arriving at an acceptable budget.

The officers were introduced to a new Society policy regarding Governance and Management changes. In brief, each District will have five board members consisting of the president, executive vice president, secretary, treasurer and IPP and any additional number of at-large

board members.

Current specialist vice presidents' roles will become part of a District Operations Team (OT) elected by the HOD as full voting BOD members, but will not be required to attend board meetings. The District President will appoint operation team members, who will oversee and carry out the functional service and resources of the District. If any member of the OT also serves on the Board, his role will be as a Board vice president and not in his OT capacity.

The change takes place officially in 2005, but the RMD will practice the system in 2004.

George Brown, Robin Harris and Shawn Mondragon are new to the Board. We thank the retiring Board members for their excellent service to the RMD: Steve Baxter, Bob Shivley and Charley Bell.

Much was said in the meetings about the decline of membership in the Society, including the RMD. In contrast, the Casper Chapter was issued an award for an increase of 55.6 % in membership, an excellent achievement.

The RMD is fortunate to have the assistance of Woody Woods, who has accepted the responsibilities of RMD webmaster and editor of Vocal Expressions

The District is increasing the use of electronics in its operations. Most communication is now being done through electronic means. The Wells Fargo e-store is being used for online registration. It logs all accounting and transfers funds to the bank account.

The Board set the registration fee for the 2004 Spring Convention at \$45 for early registration and \$55 thereafter.

The Board also changed the fee schedule for convention sponsoring organizations. Rather than a percentage split, the sponsor will be paid \$1000 for each Spring Convention and \$2000 for each Fall Convention. Not affected are other net revenues, which are generated during the convention and kept by the sponsor.

We can look forward to an exciting 2004 in the Rocky Mountain District. The programs being presented will enhance this great hobby we call Barbershopping.

Chapter Counselor Assignments

Rocky Mountain District

Chapter counselors serve as advisors to chapters in discovering resources, ideas, and solutions to reaching chapter goals AS DEFINED BY THE CHAPTER ITSELF

Sharon Gardner
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(801) 546-0055
svgardner@interfold.com
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Rexburg, ID

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Utah Valley, UT

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Spearfish, SD
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Sterling, CO
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Denver MountainAires, CO
Pueblo, CO
Boulder, CO

...Weather Bulletin!.....Immediate Release Requested!...

...a Storm Watch is in effect for the Rocky Mountain District...

2003 International Semi-Finalists and 2002 Rocky Mountain District Champions, **Storm Front**, will be moving into your area in the near future.



Dave Jim Syd Darin

Storm Front

Come see these two-time International Semi-Finalists at an event near you!

February 6-8, 2004 **RMD HEP School** – Estes Park, CO

Think you might like them on your show?

Want to hear what they sound like?

For booking and recording info contact:

Sydney Libsack

334 Octillo Street

Brighton, Colorado 80601

720-201-5193

syd@stormfrontquartet.com

Or visit them online at www.stormfrontquartet.com



Debut Recording
Featured in
Mainely A Capella!

2004 Calendar

Jan. 25-Feb. 1	Midwinter Convention, Biloxi MS
Feb. 6-8	RMD HEP School, Estes Park
Mar. 12-13	Denver Mile High Chapter Shows, Gates Hall, Denver U
Apr. 17	Loveland Chapter Show
Apr 17	Denver Mountaineers – Kennedy High School
**Apr 17	Colorado Springs Metro Chapter Show - St Paul's UMC
Apr. 9-10	Burley Chapter Show - King Fine Arts Center
Apr. 23-24	RMD Spring Convention & Quartet Prelims, Cheyenne WY
** Apr 23-24	Bernalillo County Chapter Show - Kimo Theater
**May 1	Billings Chapter Show - Alberta Bair Theater
May 1	Colby Chapter Show - Colby College Theater
May 7	Salt Lake City Chapter Show - Layton High School
May 8	Salt Lake City Chapter Show - Highland High School
**May 14-15	Wasatch Front Chapter Shows - Rose Wagner Arts Center
**May 15	Grand Junction Chapter Shows - Moss Center, Mesa State College
May 15	Longmont Chapter Show - Skyline High School
Jun. 27-Jul. 4	International Convention, Louisville KY
Jul 16-17	Silverton Barbershop Music Festival, Silverton, CO
Oct. 8-10	RMD Fall Convention
* Dec. 11	Denver Mile High Chapter Shows

2005 Calendar

* Mar 11-12	Denver Mile High Chapter Shows
Apr. 22-23	RMD Spring Convention & Quartet Prelims
Jul. 3-9	International Convention, Salt Lake City
Sep. 23-25	RMD Fall Convention
*Dec 8	Denver Mile High Christmas Show

ASCAP and BMI***By Gordon Springer, RMD Secretary***

ASCAP presented the Society with a new licensing agreement, which the Society initially rejected, then renegotiated. BMI licensing has not changed. The new procedure is as follows:

Ticketed shows require a license. In general, this includes only the annual show, Christmas show or a Cabaret show. If there is no admission charge or if all proceeds are donated to a charity, a license is still required with an accompanying fee. Singouts or performances sponsored by others do not require licensing by our chapters. Instructions are on the ASCAP procedure and the BMI Application found on the Society website.

The BMI license works like the ASCAP/BMI license used to. Send an application form to the District Secretary (that's me) with the required fee BEFORE the show, like you've always done. If it's in order, I'll issue the license, like I've always done. Once form sent to me is adequate. I will sign it, make copies and return one to you for your license. This will also be information for the Events Calendar. The same non-conflict rules are still in effect.

The BMI application can be downloaded from www.spebsqsa.org/bmi. Click on "BMI/SESAC Application". The fee schedule is attached to the application. The fee is based on seating capacity and highest price of admission. The resulting fee is multiplied by the number of performances.

After the show, register directly with ASCAP and pay the required fee. The fee is based on maximum seating capacity of the show venue and gross revenue from all performances of the show. There is a minimum annual fee (starting in 2004) of \$183. If the fees for all shows for the year are less than \$183, ASCAP will bill you for the difference. If you have no qualifying shows during the year, you pay nothing.

The ASCAP procedure and rate schedule can be accessed at www.spebsqsa.org/ascap. After your show, follow the outlined procedure.

Rocky Mountain District
Vocal Expressions
SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Woody Woods, Editor
3875 Dolphin Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

woody@grwffyn.com
(719) 528-8702



Submission for the April 1, 2004
Vocal Expressions
are due
March 15, 2004

2006 Calendar

Apr. 28-29	RMD Spring Convention
Jul. 2-9	International Convention, Indianapolis IN
Sep. 29-Oct. 1	RMD Fall Convention

2007 Calendar

Apr. 27-29	RMD Spring Convention
Jul. 1-8	International Convention, Denver CO
Sep. 28-30	RMD Fall Convention

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