

**The Bulletin of the Miami-Shelby Chapter's Melody Men Chorus**  
*A Friendly Bunch of Guys in the Johnny Appleseed District Who Love to Sing*

**June 2006**

**FACE to FACE**

*My View From The Front*

*By Dick Baker*

Last weekend, I, again, attended JAD's Apple Corps. This time things turned out a bit differently.

The weather was cool for mid June but the campus at Kenyon College was beautiful. Jacket weather didn't lessen our enthusiasm. Unfortunately, many students were expecting t-shirt weather and were chilly.

I had signed up for 2 classes, Advanced Directing and View from the Pits (what the judges look for). The first one was taught by Mike O'Niell, the 'new guy' from Kenosha. He is young and full of spirit. He was able to get us 'seasoned' directors to look at what we were doing and find ways to improve our directing styles. We learned a lot and had fun in the bargain. Mike is a great addition to the staff at International.

Now comes the different part. At the General Session on Saturday morning, we found out that Skipp Kropp, a faculty member, had to leave to attend to a family matter. The Dean, Steve Patrick, asked both Woody and Me to take over his Barber Polecat Class. That turned out to be great fun. Although, both of us had to double at tenor on occasion, we were able to get both new and older members through the songbook quite well. Since both of us direct choruses and teach new music, It was great fun to work on the 'old' stuff. We had four 1 1/4 hour sessions of singing.

The finale show was an event. We heard from quartets that are bound for International Competitions in Indy. The Allies, The Hot Air Buffoons, The Alliance Chorus and FRED all performed to the delight of the invited local residents and the barbershoppers in attendance. The Afterglow was full of gang singing and the occasional beverage.

On the way home Sunday morning, we stopped at Bob Evans for breakfast. We discussed the possibility of being on the faculty next year to teach a class in repertoire or sight singing. Who knows? This might change my Apple Corps experiences from now on.



*Mr. Baker*

**RIVERFRONT ROMANCE**

*By Dick Baker*

Last month, my quartet, Senior Class, was contacted to help an enthusiastic young man propose to his girl. They both enjoy music and he wanted the occasion to be special. We worked out the logistics. The site was an overlook along the Ohio River on the Kentucky side. The small park was on a bluff about 50 feet above the river. Behind us were several, southern-style mansion houses with tall columns and rolling lawns that had graced the riverbank for many years. Across the river, we could see the ball parks and the banks where the large showboats dock.

At the appointed time, the young couple strolled by. Brian walked up and asked them if we could sing for them. We began "I'll be Loving You, Always" and she began to suspect something was up. She smiled shyly and began to tear-up. At the end of the song, the young man knelt down, took her hand in his and began his proposal. She tearfully and joyfully accepted. We sang "Everyday of My Life" for them.

Now comes a twist that none of us anticipated. One of the residents of those stately homes had heard the music and came down to investigate. She was very enthusiastic at what she found and asked us to wait for her return.

She scurried up the lawn to her home, returning with a chilled bottle of champaign and 2 tall, crystal glasses. She insisted that the soon- to-be groom open it and they toast their future. They did and we took photos of the occasion with a camera that he had provided. The lady stated that she had wanted to be married on the lawn of her mansion house many years ago but was not able to because of the weather. She volunteered the use of her beautiful front lawn for their wedding. What great memories they will have. What great fun we had.

***Senior Class Picture on Page Two***

## At The Risk of Repeating Myself.....

**By Dick Baker**

If you will look at my articles in The Notepaper somewhere in the last 3 or 4 months, you will find one I wrote about the very thing our chapter has been talking about recently. We should 'compete' in order to improve our performances. We should 'compete' to better our personal best.

The judging system has flaws and idiosyncrasies. They are putting a subjective number on an artistic performance. One judge may score a little higher than another. One judge, a little lower. Each judging panel is different. Therefore, it becomes difficult to compare year-by-year performance scores. However, they are consistent within a given contest for all competitors. The only way to judge if you have improved is to compare placement within that contest. Each performing group tries to improve, which raises the bar for all.

I maintain that the only *ones* we 'compete' against are ourselves. I do not wish to 'beat' another chorus. In fact, if asked, I would coach them to the best of my ability and theirs. We do that for each other (*which used to be the 'encouragement' part of our hobby. Sorry but I think we may have lost some of that*)

I hope we can participate in the activities of our Society. We can only improve as singers and performers. I encourage all chorus members to stay around during a competition and listen to the other choruses to see what is done and how it is rewarded. That will help all of us to see what is necessary to improve.

## Signs that your chapter needs help

- ❖ Attendance is dropping off. Members who used to come every week miss a couple of meetings every month
- ❖ It takes longer to get off the music than it used to
- ❖ You hear comments that the meetings are boring
- ❖ Members grumble about the songs you are learning
- ❖ Chapter officers frequently miss meetings
- ❖ It is hard to get members to commit to singouts
- ❖ The general membership does not want the chapter to compete
- ❖ A general lack of motivation

*Gentlemen, if this list seems vaguely familiar it should. You will find it on page 17 of the March/April 2006 issue of the Harmonizer.*

*As we continue to discuss where our chapter is going and whether there are enough active people to get there I must say that the above list is all too familiar. About the only one I would argue about is getting members to participate in singouts although it is true that we have a bit of a difficulty getting many to sign up in advance. I wonder why that is?*

*The interesting side of all of this is that we continue to sing pretty well, our audiences are responsive and in many ways we are having fun. That's not a bad way to enjoy our hobby. Dale McKinney*



**Senior Class, consisting of Brian Barford as lead, Dick Lentz as tenor, and the infamous Charles "Woody" Woodrow as Bari, let Dick sing bass with them so long as he sings well and enjoys himself. He does!**

**Left to Right in back: Woody, Brian, and Dick Lentz, with Dick Baker in front.**

***For Those of You Going to Indy.... Have you ever wished you could sing with one of our top society quartets? Here it is:***

## **SING WITH THE CHAMPS**

--Sign-up is on Wednesday afternoon at 3:30  
--SWTC is Saturday starting at 9 AM.  
--Both take place at the Harmony Market Place (usually near Registration)

Quartets and order Saturday is:

9:00 to 9:30.....	ACOUSTIX
9:30 to 10:00.....	Sun Tones
10:00 to 10:30.....	GOTCHA
10:30 to 11:00.....	Happiness Emporium
11:00 to 11:30.....	Realtime
11:30 to 12:00.....	FRED (signing up leads only)

Remember, this is on SATURDAY, at the Harmony Market Place. If you don't make it on Wednesday to sign up (the line may start forming for some of the popular quartets at 2pm!), you can stop by about a half hour before the quartet your are interested in singing with is scheduled, and see if there are any cancellations or extra slots available... then wait and see if we run "fast" and an extra slot opens up. We'll have a "waiting list" that you can sign up on, then pay your money if you actually do get to sing.

Any other questions, email Phil directly <suephil@Juno.com> before June 23. Come and have fun with us... Being in the audience is sometimes just as much fun as being onstage! (and it's free!)

In Harmony (4-part, of course),  
Kim Orloff  
for Phil Hansen & the AIC

From: "The McAlexanders" <bradnann@sbcglobal.net>

Date: Mon, 12 Jun 2006 19:37:35 -0000

It's been awhile since we posted this, so ...

**If you're looking for information about the city of Indianapolis, or about the convention, a great resource is the Circle City Sound web site (the Greater Indianapolis chapter of BHS, host chapter for the convention).**

<http://www.circlecitysound.org>

If you have any specific questions that you don't find answers to on the web site, send them to us and we'll either get you answers or forward them on to someone who can.

Would you like to volunteer to help with one or more of the convention activities? As thanks for your time, you'll get a free convention shirt (those nice gold polo shirts that we wore last year at the registration desk in Salt Lake City), and the gratitude of a very busy bunch of guys. A volunteer form is also available on the web site, and there's an email contact listed on the form in case you have any questions.

We're looking forward to seeing you all here in Indianapolis soon!

Brad and Ann McAlexander  
Convention Committee



**Jim Riley to the great Gary Roeth Karnack: "Not enough jobs for all the volunteers....."**

**"The card says! What would be a nice problem for the Miami-Shelby Chapter to have!!"**

## MANAGEMENT!

*The above was submitted by Don Walter who used to be one, i.e., management. I made that up. ... Dale McKinney*

A man in a hot air balloon realized he was lost. He reduced his altitude and spotted a woman below. He descended a bit more and shouted: "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The woman below replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 45 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be in Information Technology," said the balloonist.

"I am," replied the woman, "How did you know?"  
"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've delayed my trip."

The woman below responded, "You must be in Management."

"I am!" replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well", said the woman, "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are, due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise, which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's my fault."

## Hope You All Had A Happy Father's Day!!

***We're glad to hear that Doug MacKellar is home and doing well following some heart repairs. Heard he loved the food!***  
**Editor**

## TOP 10 WAYS TO INTIMIDATE YOUR DAUGHTER'S DATE WHEN HE COMES TO PICK HER UP

10. Sprinkle some dust on your daughter before she leaves. Explain, "It makes fingerprinting easier."
9. Challenge him at arm wrestling.
8. Introduce him to your good friend Chuck Norris.
7. Walk on stilts.
6. Casually show him your collection of five shrunken heads, then yell up to your daughter, "Number six is here."
5. Come to the door bare-chested. Do a lot of flexing.
4. Introduce him to the family by calling each family member to the living room using a whistle, then making them stand at attention and salute.
3. Answer the door in a straight jacket.
2. As they leave, talk into a walkie-talkie, "Subject is wearing khakis and a blue polo shirt, driving a green ford."
1. Say, "Let's pray."

## TOP 10 THINGS A TEENAGE DAUGHTER DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR FROM HER DAD

10. "Let me explain what 'deductible' means on car insurance."
9. "Your mom's almost ready. Where are we going on our double date?"
8. "Seems to me last year's prom dress still has some life in it."
7. "I signed us up for the pairs karaoke contest this Friday night."
6. "We ate possum toes like popcorn when I was a kid."
5. "Let's get ice cream, my treat! Just let me grab my jar of coins."
4. "I am proud that you decided to keep the family unbrow."
3. "You don't need to go shopping after all. I picked out a purse for you on my way home."
2. "I ran into Bobby at the grocery store. I told him that you're really hoping he'll ask you to the dance."
1. "By the way, I had to borrow your deodorant yesterday."

**Top Tens from <http://www.mikeysFunnies.com>**

# Show Committee Meeting

## June 6, 2006

Attendees: Bob Moore, Gary Roeth, Paul Webb, Jim Riley, Dave Maxson, Dale McKinney, Ken Crawford, Doug MacKellar, Neil Webster and Fritz LeFever.

Bob Moore asked that the first order of business be selection of contest songs. In discussion with Dick, You Keep Coming Back like a Song had seemed like a ballad that the chorus is currently singing well so a second song was needed. After discussion the options were South Rampart, I Love to Sing That Old Barbershop style and There's a Meetin' here tonight. The emphasis was to select songs that the chorus members enjoy singing and performing. The intent is to treat the contest experience as another performance. Subsequently Bob talked with Dick and his preference was South Rampart. We have twelve weeks to prepare for the September 9<sup>th</sup> Divisional at Fostoria. Bob believes the District will be held in Lima. We will need to create a learning CD ASAP.

The next order of business was 2007 show theme. Some of the prior themes were reviewed as well as the Society Scripts that the committee had reviewed. The group did some brainstorming and about a dozen different ideas were put forth. Eventually the consensus of the group was that the 2007 Show theme would be the Miami County Bicentennial Celebration.

While eating we did review two potential songs for inclusion in the show; Cabaret and Sound Celebration.

The following are some ideas that were put forth as potential slices of the Bicentennial theme.

WACO	gliders and bi-planes (a song about flight)
Indians	
Canal	Erie Canal
County Courthouse	Piqua/Troy confrontation
Mills Brothers	Mills Brother Medley
Ludlow Falls	Christmas Lights song
West Milton	Olympian – Bob Schul (sp)
A. B. Graham	4-H Founder
Veterans	Patriotic
Astronaut	
All county towns	I'd give the World
Festivals	Strawberry, pumpkin, Fort Rowdy, Mum, etc.
Pony Wagon Days	Milt in his motorized vehicle with a horse in a hitch
Piqua/Troy Rivalry	Mr. Touchdown
Underwear Capital	

We discussed researching as many of our county communities as possible for celebrities or special events, business, etc for which the communities might be well known.

Casstown, Lena, Conover and Fletcher – Dave Maxson  
Tipp City – Ken Crawford  
Pleasant Hill – Gary Roeth  
Covington and Bradford – Fritz LeFever  
Piqua – Paul Webb  
Troy – Jim Riley  
West Milton, Potsdam, Ludlow Falls, Laura – Bob Moore  
Brandt and Phoenton – Dale McKinney  
Millers Grove, Nashville, Fredericktown –

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THE MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER, SPEBSQSA, INC. HELD JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> 2006 GREENSTREET UMC, PIQUA OHIO.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Moore. Board members present in addition to Pres. Moore were:  
Dave Eleyet Ken Crawford Jim Riley  
Dale McKinney Art Wehneman Dan Black

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report was approved by a motion, second and a voice vote.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the month of May indicated receipts of \$6,496.88, Expenses of \$6,778.55 and an ending balance in all funds of \$13,037.87.

The report was passed by a motion, second and a voice vote.

## PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Dale brought a performance request from the Arcanum Lions Club for sometime in July or early August. We would need to take risers and also the sound system. They would pay \$200.00. After some discussion it was decided by consensus to turn this one down.

## MUSIC V P

Jim Riley has two pieces of sacred music arranged by Joe Liles which he would like to bring to the chorus. After some discussion it was decided to have Jim contact Joe Liles to find out the cost of the arrangers fees as well as shipping .etc.

## OLD BUSINESS

The question of donations to The Music Warehouse as well as to the Champaign Co. Children's Choir was tabled until a later date.

## NEW BUSINESS

Dan Black moved that the Board cover 100% of the expenses up to \$1000.00 for all members going to Apple Corp. Dale McKinney seconded. Motion carried.

The idea of using yard signs as a means of attracting new members was discussed with no action taken.

There being nothing further the meeting was adjourned with a motion, second and an affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully submitted. Dave Eleyet Secy.

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No date was set for the next meeting.

At chorus rehearsal one other development occurred. Don Heffner approached Bob and volunteered to take on the Membership VP job if it is open next year and would be willing to help with Ad Sales (Tickets too?).

5 Respectfully Submitted, Bob Moore

## 2006 Chapter Officers

President	Bob Moore
Secretary	Dave Eleyet
Treasurer	Ken Crawford
VP Music	Jim Riley
VP Membership	Mark Reedy
Program Co-ordinator	Dale McKinney
Director of Public Relations	Open
Trustee 2006	Art Wehneman
Trustee 2006	Jim Haley
Trustee 2007	Bill Ganger
Trustee 2007	Dan Black
Trustee 2008	Theran Huffman
Trustee 2008	Neil Webster
Past President & District Delegate	Open
Show Chairman	Mark Reedy
Show Director	Dave Maxson
Service Chairman	Gordon Davis
Music Librarian	Art Wehneman
Quartet Contact	John Gearhardt
Editor	Jim Moore
Bulletin Production/ Distribution	Jim Haley
YMIH Chairman	Dale McKinney
Director	Richard Baker
Ass't Directors	Bob Moore Brian Phillips

## Miami-Shelby Calendar

Rehearsals Every Tuesday evening at Greene Street Methodist Church from 7:30 to 10:00

- Jul 2-9 BHS International Convention in Indianapolis
- Jul 16<sup>h</sup> Troy First Presbyterian Church, 10am Service (3-4 songs)  
Troy First United Church of Christ, 10:30am Service (Full Service)
- Sun, Jul 23<sup>rd</sup> St. John's Lutheran Church in Piqua
- Sun, Jul 30<sup>th</sup> Shiloh in Dayton, Full Service
- Sun, Aug 13<sup>th</sup> Miami County Fair
- Sat, Au 19<sup>th</sup> Darke County Fair
- Sun, Aug 27<sup>th</sup> Rosewood Plus (3-4 songs each) + Lunch and Golf Outing
- Sat, Sep 9<sup>th</sup> Divisional Performance - Fostoria
- Sat, Oct 21<sup>st</sup> District Performance - Lima

NotePaper is scheduled for distribution on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Miami-Shelby NotePaper  
c/o Jim Moore  
208 Stonemont Ct.  
West Milton, Ohio 45383-1135



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