

June 2008

**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**



2008 ACES Concert Another Superb Performance

If you missed this ACES Concert (Sixth Annual), you missed something special.

On Sunday, March 2, 2008, over one hundred 4th and 5th grade students from 16 schools throughout Miami County gathered for a concert at Troy High School. They began to arrive about 1:45 in the afternoon to meet each other and Connie Palmus, the guest director for this ACES performance. Connie is a retired music educator from Northmont and is associated with the Kettering Youth Choir.

It was their introduction to one another and the chemistry was just right. The individual music teachers from each school had prepared their respective students by introducing and practicing their musical selections for the afternoon. This takes a lot of time and dedication on the part of the teachers as often this instruction is accomplished outside of the normal classroom periods.

The students practiced in the choir room for about an hour before going on stage for the first time for their one and only run-through. There were some added features this year as the song, Shenandoah, included a flute accompaniment and a couple of students provided additional variation with the "C Drum" and "Rain Stick." It was then that about thirty members of the Melody Men Chorus joined the students on stage to rehearse a couple of combined numbers. That was when the stage got really full.

Just before 3:30pm the students returned to the choir room to enjoy some light refreshment and final performance instruction. By 4pm they were back on stage and singing to a pretty full auditorium of family and friends. The sound that these youngsters created, their attentiveness and their apparent love of singing combined for an outstanding performance. The program was over by 5pm but the excitement in the hallways continued as students were congratulated by family and friends.

This event which involves children from throughout the county is special. If you have never attended ACES, mark your calendar for the first Sunday in March of 2009. The planning has already begun for the next ACES concert.



2008 Chapter Show Entertains with Quality Performances

Kudos From An Adoring Fan

Gentlemen,

I attended the 2008 1:30 p.m. show this year. As usual it was a superior performance. The first half was so hilarious and I laughed through the entire time. Do you always get the type casting correct?

The second half was magical. The singing was harmony personified and then some; but what amazed me even more was all the choreography. It made you look so professional and everyone was in sync. The chorus has never looked so in tune with each other and if I had been a judge - you would have won hands down. Well in my mind you did! Anyway, I think you should do more of the same and I am surely looking forward to next year's show.

By the way, my cousins said the show is NEVER long enough and they missed the chorus quartets singing. I told them it is something to look forward to for next year.

So, thank you for bringing joy to so many people through your musical talents and for blessing your world with your harmony!

Sincerely and with love,

Roberta Webb



Mr. Baker

A GREAT SPRING SEASON

By Dick Baker

As the header for this column states, this has been a great season for the Melody Men Chorus. In March, we were privileged to take the stage with over 100 5th and 6th graders in the annual presentation of the ACES youth chorus. The boys and girls from Miami County schools were very talented and presented a great program for the parents and grandparents in attendance. The chorus is always amazed by their talents and consider it an honor to sing with them.

In May, we presented our annual spring show: 'On With The Show?', a spoof about the problems and trials presented to a chapter when they have their 'dress rehearsal'. As some of you can attest, we have experienced some of these disasters in the past including the collapse of the entire Broadway stage set a few years ago. We really had to scramble to fix that one.

I want to say how pleased I was by the singing and performances of the chorus. Our music had 'life' to it. We were able to have quality and expressiveness in our music. I heard many fine compliments about how well the chorus sang and the effect on the audience. I am looking forward to next year. The show committee already has a script and songs have been selected.

Our next project is to get ready for the jobs at the local churches. We will be working on cleaning up the repertoire and trying some new songs as well.

²Thank you for a great spring season!



Images from the Max & Erma's Fund Raiser



Cup of Tea submitted by Don Heffner as received via e-mail from a "friend." ... Dale

One day my mother was out and my dad was in charge of me. I was maybe 2 1/2 years old and had just recovered from an accident. Someone had given me a little 'tea set' as a get-well gift and it was one of my favorite toys.

Daddy was in the living room engrossed in the evening news when I brought Daddy a little cup of 'tea', which was just water. After several cups of tea and lots of praise for such yummy tea, my Mom came home. My Dad made her wait in the living room to watch me bring him a cup of tea, because it was 'just the cutest thing!'

My Mom waited, and sure enough, here I come down the hall with a cup of tea for Daddy and she watches him drink it up. Then she says, (as only a mother would know) 'Did it ever occur to you that the only place that baby can reach to get water is the toilet?'



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER SPEBSQSA INC.
MONDAY APRIL 7TH 2008 AT GREENE STREET UMC PIQUA OHIO.**

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Dan Black. The roll was taken. Those present in addition to Pres. Black were;

Bob Moore	Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford	Jim Riley	Jeff Hunter
Dale McKinney	Brian Phillips	Art Wehneman	Tom Gregg	Nathan Walters
Tom Geohegan	Director; Dick Baker			

SECRETARY'S REPORT.....Dave Eleyet

The minutes of the previous meetings(March 3rd and March 25th) were approved as presented by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT.....Ken Crawford

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

PROGRAM V P.....Dale Mckinney

The Miami County Fair performance fee has been finalized at \$450.00. Brian Phillips moved to accept. Tom Geohegan seconded. Motion carried.

The Darke County fair performance is still in process with no word yet.

NOTE; Dale has since notified the Chapter that the Darke County Fair Board would not accept our offer therefore the performance has been cancelled.

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP.....Brian Phillips

Brian would like the Boards permission to donate 10 tickets to the local radio station WPTW to be given away as prizes. Jim Riley moved to do so. Nate Walter seconded. Motion carried.

PAST PRESIDENT.....Bob Moore

Bob notified the Board that he has arranged for PAY PAL to be used by the general public to purchase show tickets.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dick reported that the show music is "on time" Also he is looking at "Zing went the strings" and "Blue Moon" for contest numbers.

OLD BUSINESS

The subject of new class B shirts was tabled on a motion by Nate Walters and a second by Jeff Hunter. Motion carried.

Members survey. Tom Geohegan presented a sample of a survey which he had assembled. After some discussion Jeff and Nate offered to edit it and present it at the next Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan will ask John Gearhardt to contact the quartet "Ringmaster" to set up their performance at the Christmas Party. This is the quartet that the Chapter won a performance of their choosing at COTS.

Nate Walter brought before the Chapter the possibility of purchasing a pocket size digital audio recorder for use in recording chorus songs which could then be transferred to a CD and give to chorus members who request them. After some discussion the motion was made to proceed if okd by the music committee. Tom Geohegan moved to do so. Art Wehneman seconded. Motion carried.

Dale McKinney reported that Sterling House Rest Home would like to attend the dress rehearsal as a group. This was declined by consensus.

There being nothing further the meeting was declared adjourned by President Dan Black

Respectfully submitted

Dave Eleyet Secretary

MINUTES OF A CALLED MEETING HELD DURING BREAK APRIL 22ND

President Dan Black called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

Show Ticket Chairman Julian Fasano asked that the Board give their approval to giving two free tickets to Bill Fultz and two to Neal Webster. Nick Tumbleson moved we do so. Art Wehneman seconded. Motion carried.

As there was nothing further Dan declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Eleyet Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER SPEBSQSA INC.
MARCH 3RD 2008 AT GREENE STREET UMC PIQUA OHIO**

In the absence of President Dan Black the meeting was called to order by Past President Bob Moore. The roll was taken. Those present were:

Bob Moore	Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford	Jim Riley	Dale McKinney
Brian Phillips	Nick Tumbleson	Art Wehneman	Tom Geoghegan	
Director Dick Baker	Guest Steve McCall			

Secretary's Report.....Dave Eleyet

The minutes of the February 4th meeting were read and approved by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Treasurer's Report.....Ken Crawford

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Program VP.....Dale McKinney

Two performances were accepted by the Board. They were; St. John Luthern Church, Covington, August 17th Sunday and Tipp City Community Gathering, May 13th, St. Johns Hall. Both were accepted with a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

A McCauley Center performance in Urbana sometime during April was rejected by consensus due to the upcoming show.

We are still waiting on the Darke Co. Fair contact to either accept or reject our offer.

Membership VP.....Jeff Hunter

Jeff informed the Board that due to fact he has changed employment he will be unable to attend all of the rehearsals on Tuesday eve. As a result the IBH night which was scheduled for sometime in May was cancelled by consensus.

MusicVP.....Jim Riley

Jim is looking at music for the 2009 show.

Public RelationsVP.....Brian Phillips

Brian reported that two articles concerning the recent ACES concert have appeared in the Piqua papers.

For publicity purposes Jim Haley will cover the Southern half of Miami Co and Brian will cover the Northern portion.

Old Business

The Board has received a bid from the Eagles Lodge in Piqua to host the afterglo this year. The bid was \$500.00 and we provide our own food plus \$6.00 per hour for the bar tender. They also put in a bid of \$300.00 for the room plus a certain amount for the food. Steve McCall has obtained a bid from the Jaborwocky(sp?) room at \$7.00 per plate inc meat tray,cheese,veggies and desert. It was decided by consensus to pursue a bid from the Apple Tree, a meeting room close by and let the Jaborwocky provide the refreshments.

We have also obtained a bid from the Eagles Lodge of \$1000.00 including food for the 2008 Christmas party. No action was taken on this.

The contents of the new Chapter information booklet was discussed with no action taken.

As there was nothing further the meeting was adjourned by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully submitted Dave Eleyet Secy.

Minutes of a special called meeting held during break March 25th 2008 at our regular rehearsal.

Members present were;

Bob Moore	Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford
Brian Phillips	Tom Gregg	Jim Riley
Nick Tumbleson	Jeff Hunter	Nate Walters
Tom Geoghegan	Art Wehneman	Guest; Steve McCall

Bob Moore called the meeting to order.

Steve McCall reported on a bid from The Piqua Eagles Lodge to host the 2008 afterglo. The bid was \$300.00 for the room and \$631.00 for the food .There will be an open bar. Tickets will be \$8.00 ea. After a short discussion Nick Tumbleson moved we accept. Art Wehneman seconded. Motion carried.

There being nothing further Bob Moore declared the meeting adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER SPEBSQSA INC.
FEBRUARY 4TH 2008 AT GREEN STREET UMC PIQUA OHIO**

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Black. The roll was taken. Those present in addition to Pres. Black were;

Bob Moore	Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford	Jim Riley	Jeff Hunter
Dale McKinney	Brian Phillips	Art Wehneman	Nathan Walter	Tom Geoghegan

Secretary's Report.....Dave Eleyet

The Secretary's minutes were found to contain three errors. The sentence: Guest will also be given a pocket folio with the chapter's current repertoire instead of the guest books we are now using: will be deleted. The preceding sentence will read :Commencing the first week of Feb. all members and guest.....

Also change the words: Reserved seating: to Preferred seating

After the corrections were noted the minutes were approved by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Treasurer's Report.....Ken Crawford

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote. The question of past due uniform fees and dues was discussed. Ken will continue to send e-mails to those members in this category.

Program VP.....Dale McKinney

The Chorus has again been asked to give a performance at the Miami County Fair. The date is Sunday Aug.10th and the time slot is from one to three PM. The fee will be negotiated with a minimum of \$400.00. This was accepted by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Membership VP.....Jeff Hunter

Jeff would like to resurrect the yard sign program in the coming weeks probably in the Piqua and surrounding areas.

Jeff would also like for the choreography to be passed out with those songs with which it is used.

Music VP.....Jim Riley

"The Song Is Ended" and "Bye Bye Blackbird" will be brought back on 2/5/08 and 2/12/08 respectively.

Public Relations.....Brian Phillips

Brian would like to resurrect the business cards which were passed out to chorus members over a year ago. Brian will also be asking for help to contact newspapers and radio stations in the surrounding counties.

Old Business

Discussion was held concerning the preferred seating plan for this years show. As a result a motion was made by Dale McKinney that there be six rows dedicated to preferred seating which would be approximately eighty eight seats. These will be sold until the Tuesday previous to the show. Ken Crawford seconded. Motion carried.

Nate Walters informed the Board that the Edison State College location is not available for the 2008 Installation Dinner/Christmas Party. By consensus it was agreed to have Brian check with the Eagles Lodge and report back

New Business

Another Max & Ermas fund raiser was discussed. May 6th will be the date. Ken Crawford will coordinate.

At the recent COTS the chapter won a free performance by the quartet "Ringmaster". Bob Moore made a motion that they perform at the chapter Christmas party. Tom Geoghegan seconded. Motion carried.

The recent meeting with Society Marketing VP Todd Wilson was discussed. It was decided by consensus to hold a Board retreat to discuss such topics as Member participation/involvement, turnout for performances, and jobs within the chapter. The retreat will be Saturday Feb.23rd from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm at Edison State College. A member survey may be used in conjunction with this.

Dave Eleyet submitted the slate of chapter officers for 2008 and moved they be accepted by the board. Brian Phillips seconded. Motion carried. A copy will be attached to and made part of these minutes.

As there was nothing further the meeting was adjourned by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Eleyet Secretary,

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIAMI-SHELBY CHAPTER SPEBSQSA INC.
JANUARY 21ST 2008 AT GREENE STREET UMC PIQUA OHIO

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Black. The roll was taken. Those present were in addition to Pres. Black were:

Bob Moore	Dave Eleyet	Ken Crawford	Jim Riley
Jeff Hunter	Dale McKinney	Brian Phillips	Nick Tumbleson
Art Wehneman	Nathan Walters	Tom Geoghegan	Director; Dick Baker

Secretary.....Dave Eleyet

The minutes of the Dec.3rd Dec.11th 2007 and the Jan,8th 2008, meeting were read and approved by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

Treasurer.....Ken Crawford

The Treasurer's report for the month of December was approved as presented by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote. A copy will be filed with these minutes.

Ken presented the preliminary budget for 2008. After discussion this was approved on a motion by Art Wehneman and a second by Nick Tumbleson and an affirmative voice vote.

Public Relations VP.....Brian Phillips

Brian informed us that he has become a member of PROBE(Public Relations Officers & Bulletin Editors)

Music Director.....Dick Baker

All music has been presented as planed. ACES concert music will be forthcoming.

Old Business

One call phone chain. Bob Moore would like to purchase one 500 call package for \$59.95 for 12 months. Brian Phillips moved to do so. Nate Walters seconded. Motion carried.

Nate Walters will check with Edison State College on the Christmas Party prices and available dates.

The question of uniform shirt replacement was tabled until March. Don Zerkle and Jim Haley will assist Gary Roeth in handling the uniform chair and will work toward assuming total responsibility.

New Business

Commencing the first week of Feb.(or sooner)members will be greeted at the door where they will be checked in, given a program and any new music needed that night.

Guest will also be given a pocket folio with the chapter's current repertoire instead of the guest books we are now using. This was all agreed to by consensus.

The Audit Committee for 2008 will be Don Zerkle and Brian Phillips.

Bob Moore and possibly Nate Walters will handle updating and maintenance of the Chapter Web Page and Calendar.

Ticket prices for the 2008 show were discussed. On a motion by Art Wehneman and a second by Brian Phillips the prices will be as follows;

Reserved seating(presale only).....	\$15.00
General admission at the door.....	\$12.00
“ “ presale.....	\$10.00
“ “ 10 or more.....	\$ 8.00
All Students.....	\$ 5.00

The motion carried.

The question of sponsoring a community blood drive was discussed with no action taken.

As there was nothing further the meeting was adjourned by a motion/second and an affirmative voice vote.

The next meeting will be February 4th 2008 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted Dave Eleyet Secretary

2008 Chapter Officers

President	Dan Black
Secretary	Dave Eleyet
Treasurer	Ken Crawford
VP Music	Jim Riley
VP Membership	Jeff Hunter
Program Coordinator	Dale McKinney
Director of Public Relations	Brian Phillips
Trustee 2008	Theran Huffman
Trustee 2008	Neil Webster
Trustee 2009	Art Wehneman
Trustee 2009	Thomas Gregg
Trustee 2010	
Trustee 2010	
District Delegate	Dick Baker
Safety & Security	Ron Ventura
Show Chairman	Mark Reedy
Show Director	Dave Maxson
Service Chairman	Gordon Davis
Music Librarian	Art Wehneman
Quartet Contact	Dick Baker
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

**Now preparing for contest
and the summer's many
church performances. Make
rehearsals count so a good
impression can be made!**

**Rehearsal every Tuesday Evening
at Greene Street Methodist Church
in Piqua, Ohio, starting at 7:30 PM.
Guests always welcome.**

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

Miami-Shelby NotePaper
c/o Jim Moore
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West Milton, Ohio 45383-1135



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