River Ramblings Editor-Jeffrey Grimmer

A Good Day for the LO'L at Kansas City!



2nd Place Silver Medals - Hilltop, MN - Great Northern Union Chorus



10th Place -VOCE Manhattan/Westchester County Shenago Valley/Frank Thorne



45th Place - Grand Design Mankato/Hilltop/St. Croix Valley



22nd Place - GQ Hilltop/Frank Thorne



25th Place - Expedition Greendale/Hilltop/St. Charles



49 Place - Rooftop Rhythm Oshkosh/Northbrook/Frank Thorne



38th Place - Main Street Station La Crosse/West Allis/Frank Thorne

The LO'L had a great day in Kansas City. The "Great Northern Union" from Hilltop, Minnesota, finished 5 points out of first place. Now, lets think about that for a minute - 5 points out of 3,000 total points, given out by 15 judges! WOW! That's cutting it mighty close! Congratulations from the entire Mankato "Riverblenders" Chapter on an outstanding job. What we hear from the people that attended the contest is that you guys won!!! A standing ovation even before you started singing your last notes!!! UNBELIEVABLE!!!

The Mankato Chapter had several fellas singing with "GNU" as dual members, they were: Derek Glena, Charlie Johnson, Bill Lydecker, Doug Peterson, and Greg Rosevold. We know they were thrilled to be able to pin a silver medal onto their uniforms.

Congratulation also go out to all of the LO'L Quartets that competed in the contest. By looking over the scores, we all see that you sang very well. CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Scoring from the Contest

KANSAS





1st Place - Masters of Harmony - Santa Fe Springs, CA-FWD

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Quartet and Chorus Convention

International, Quartet Finals, Kansas City, Missouri, July 9, 2011
Contest Legend: 1-International Quartet (3 Rounds), 2-International Dealer's Choice Award (3 Rounds), 2-International International Dealer's Choice Award (3 Rounds), 2-International Dealer's Choice Award (3 Rounds), 2







1st Place Collegiate Quartet Prestige - JAD

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Quartet and Chorus Convention

| uarter-Finals | Song | | MUS | | SNGL.1 | | Ayg |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|------|-------|
| 21 Voices Unlimited | I'm Into Something Good | | 396 | 408 | 402 | 2404 | 80.1 |
| (1) [CSD] | What A Day For A Dayd | ream | 393 | 409 | 396 | | |
| 22 GQ | My Foolish Heart | | 404 | 396 | | 2389 | 79.6 |
| (1) [LOL] | The Night Has A Thouse | and Eyes | 394 | 394 | 399 | | |
| 22 Chameleon | I'm Into Something Good | i | 398 | 397 | | 2389 | 79.6 |
| (1) [ONT] | You Don't Know Me | | 401 | 402 | 395 | | |
| 24 Maverick | That's Life | | 412 | 400 | | 2388 | 79.6 |
| (1) [JAD] | It's Foxy | | 401 | 394 | 389 | | |
| 25 Expedition | Heart Of My Heart (The | Story Of The Rose) | 406 | 400 | | 2381 | 79.4 |
| (1) [LOL] | Tired Of Me | | _397 | 389 | 393 | | |
| 26 Frank the Dog | I Won't Send Roses | | 403 | 403 | | 2374 | 79.1 |
| (1) [MAD] | One For My Baby (And I | | 401 | 397 | 386 | | |
| 27 Q-Tones | Until The The Real Thing | 3 | 402 401 | 390 | 395 389 | 2365 | 78.8 |
| (1) [SNOBS] | Mr. Success | | | | | | |
| 28 95 North | May I Never Love Again | | 398 | 392 | 394 | 2361 | 78.7 |
| (1) [FWD] | | lome/When My Sugar Walks Down The | 396 | 388 | | 2358 | |
| | | One More For The Road) | | | | 2358 | 78.6 |
| | Somethin' About Ya | | 402 | 386 | 389 | | |
| 30 Quadraphonics | I'll Get By (As Long As I | Have You) | 396 | 395 | | 2357 | 78.6 |
| (1) [EVG] | After You've Gone | v.a | 396 | 391 | 387 | | 70.4 |
| 31 Cadillac Jack | Their Hearts Were Full C | or Spring | 389 | 389 | | 2351 | 78.4 |
| (1,2) [JAD] | Rock It For Me | | 397 | 393 | 392 | | 70.0 |
| 32 Flashback | Redhead Medley | | 399 | 385 | | 2348 | 78.3 |
| (1) [SUN] | When I Leave The Work | | 398 | 386 | 392 | | |
| 33 Let's Sing! | You Took Advantage Of | | 387 | 388 | | 2343 | 78.1 |
| (1) [NSC] | | One More For The Road) | 396 | 399 | 387 | | |
| 34 The Real McCoy | Old Fashioned Girl | | 391 | 390 | | 2340 | 78.0 |
| (1) [DIX] | Roly Poly | | 385 | 395 | 391 | | |
| 35 Alliance | Oh! Look At Me Now | | 392 | 382 | | 2336 | 77.9 |
| (1) [AAMBS] | What Kind Of Fool Am I | | 394 | 385 | 394 | | |
| 36 Noise Boys | Love Me And The World | | 396 | 393 | 389 | 2335 | 77.8 |
| _ (1) [CSD] | I Never Miss The Sunsh | ine | 385 | 387 | 385 | | |
| 37 Rush Street | What'll I Do? | | 387 | 387 | 386 | 2325 | 77.5 |
| (1) [ILL] | Taking A Chance On Lo | | 390 | 389 | 386 | | |
| 38 Main Street Station | Do You Really Love Me: | ? | 388 | 385 | 389 | 2313 | 77.1 |
| (1) [LOL] | Don't Break The Heart T | | 384 | 382 | 385 | | |
| 39 Steel | Put Your Arms Around N | le Honey | 386 | 384 | 383 | 2309 | 77.0 |
| (1) [BABS] | If I Had My Way | | 385 | 385 | 386 | | |
| 40 The Crew | Almost Like Being In Lo | | 391 | 379 | 378 | 2307 | 76.9 |
| (1) [RMD] | Then I'll Be Tired Of You | i | 395 | 385 | 379 | | |
| 41 The Elements | Fly Me To The Moon | | 379 | 386 | 385 | 2306 | 76.9 |
| (1,2) [RMD] | Original Dixieland One S | itep | 384 | 388 | 384 | | |
| 42 Evolution | Little Pal | | 387 | 385 | 383 | 2305 | 76.8 |
| (1) [BABS] | Hello My Baby | | 386 | 385 | 379 | | |
| 43 The Daddy-Ohs! | If I Could Be With You | | 384 | 383 | 390 | 2304 | 76.8 |
| (1) [CAR] | The County Fair | | 381 | 384 | 382 | | |
| 44 Racketeers | Hello My Baby | | 387 | 383 | 380 | 2301 | 76.7 |
| (1) [SWD] | Heart Of My Heart (The | Story Of The Rose) | 386 | 384 | 381 | | |
| 45 Grand Design | Smilin' Through | | 387 | 382 | | 2297 | 76.6 |
| (1,2) [LOL] | | n' The Girls/They're All Sweeties (Medle | 384 | 380 | 380 | | |
| 46 Progression | Look Me Up When You'i | | 389 | 378 | | 2293 | 76.4 |
| (1,2) [CSD] | My Romance | | 383 | 383 | 379 | | |
| 47 Mainstream | Stormy Weather | | 389 | 379 | | 2281 | 76.0 |
| (1,2) [SLD] | Little Pal | | 383 | 382 | 372 | - | |
| 48 Anthem | On The Street Where Yo | ou Live | 375 | 382 | | 2280 | 76.0 |
| (1,2) [CAR] | | One More For The Road) | 384 | 384 | 381 | | |
| 49 Rooftop Rhythm | That Tumble Down Shar | | 382 | 380 | | 2279 | 76.0 |
| (1,2) [LOL] | The One I Love Belongs | | 382 | 378 | 379 | | 70.0 |
| 50 Four Man Fishin' Tackle C | | | 367 | 380 | | 2244 | 74.8 |
| (1,2) [PIO] | Over The Rainbow (Part | | 372 | 383 | 371 | | , 4.0 |
| nel: Administrator(s) | Music Ver The Rainbow (Part | Presentation | | _3 <u>83</u> _ | 3/1 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| hn Santora - MAD | Jim Kahlke - EVG | John Coffin - RMD | | | ord - JA | | |
| n Galloway, Jr EVG | Dave Rubin - JAD | Joe Hunter Jr - MAD | | | sman - | | |
| an O'Leary - NED | Jeff Taylor - ONT | Ritchie Lavene - MAD | | | ert - FV | | |
| | Paul Wigley - LOL | Marty Lovick - EVG | | | ewellen | |) |
| | David Wright - CSD | Barry Towner - ONT | | rid Mills | | | |

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Quartet and Chorus Convention

| Chapter / Nickname | Song MUS PRS SNG Total Avg |
|---|--|
| 1 Santa Fe Springs, CA | Stranger In Paradise 468 471 473 2829 94.3 |
| Masters of Harmony [FWD] | Alabama Jubilee 472 475 470 |
| 2 Hilltop, MN | You Keep Coming Back Like A Song 457 472 469 2824 94.1 |
| Great Northern Union [LOL] | One Of Those Songs (Medley) 466 489 471 |
| ##3 Toronto, ON | I Got Rhythm/Farewell, Farewell To L 453 456 448 2733 91.1 |
| The Northern Lights [ONT] | The Party's Over 458 468 450 |
| ##3 Denver Mile High, CO | Aaron Dale - David Wright Medley 452 463 455 2733 91.1 |
| Sound of The Rockies [RMD] | The Greatest Barbershop Chart 451 471 441 |
| 5 Alexandria, VA | If I Loved You 441 452 448 2663 88.8 |
| | |
| Alexandria Harmonizers [MAD] | |
| 6 Elizabethtown, KY | Since I Don't Have You 435 454 435 2661 88.7 |
| Kentucky Vocal Union [CAR] | Rock This Town 436 468 433 |
| 7 Wellington, New Zealand | I Dream Of Jeanie 438 430 436 2592 86.4 |
| Vocal FX [NZABS] | Oh! Look At Me Now 430 431 427 |
| 8 Greater Central Ohio, OH | How Deep Is The Ocean? 428 434 429 2578 85.9 |
| The Alliance [JAD] | Put Your Arms Around Me, Honey 429 429 429 |
| 9 Atlanta Metro, GA | More Than You Know 420 422 425 2539 84.6 |
| Atlanta Vocal Project [DIX] | Hard Hearted Hannah (The Vamp Of 424 424 424 |
| 10 Bay Area, CA | When You Look In The Heart Of A Ro 423 416 430 2519 84.0 |
| | |
| Voices In Harmony [FWD] | |
| 11 Nashville, TN | Aladdin Medley 1 395 438 418 2516 83.9 |
| Music City Chorus [DIX] | Aladdin Medley 2 400 445 420 |
| 12 Fremont, NE | Young And Foolish 413 414 414 2488 82.9 |
| Pathfinder Chorus [CSD] | 'Cross That Mason-Dixon Line 407 425 415 |
| 13 Metro Kansas City, MO | Time After Time 411 415 424 2482 82.7 |
| Central Standard [CSD] | Strike Up The Band 404 413 415 |
| 14 Kansas City, MO | Love Me, And The World Is Mine 415 412 412 2470 82.3 |
| Heart of America [CSD] | Yes Sir, That's My Baby 408 415 408 |
| 15 Bloomington, IL | Just A Kid Named Joe 405 420 411 2461 82.0 |
| Sound of Illinois [ILL] | Oliver (Medley) 398 419 408 |
| 16 Greater Indianapolis, IN | Cry Me A River 409 405 414 2451 81.7 |
| | |
| Circle City Sound [CAR] | I Had Someone Else Before I Had Yo 401 410 412 |
| 17 Greater Phoenix, AZ | The More I See You 412 408 410 2441 81.4 |
| Spirit of Phoenix [FWD] | When You've Got A Song In Your Hea 403 407 401 |
| 18 Jacksonville Big O, FL | The Little Boy 414 403 407 2440 81.3 |
| The Big Orange [SUN] | I Wan'na Be Like You 406 412 398 |
| 19 Perth, Australia | I Have Dreamed 407 404 407 2429 81.0 |
| Vocal Evolution [AAMBS] | I Got Rhythm 403 403 405 |
| 20 San Marcos, TX | On The Street Where You Live 413 394 408 2420 80.7 |
| The Marcsmen [SWD] | Goodbye Dixie, Goodbye (Medley) 404 396 405 |
| 20 Salem, OR | Cheer Up, Charlie 408 407 400 2420 80.7 |
| | Come Fly With Me 406 403 396 |
| Senate-Aires [EVG] | Time After Time 396 404 402 2409 80.3 |
| | |
| Houston Tidelanders [SWD] | If The Lord Be Willin' 396 411 400 |
| 23 Bellevue, WA | Their Hearts Were Full Of Spring 407 396 402 2388 79.6 |
| Northwest Sound [EVG] | 'Deed I Do 399 389 395 |
| 24 Tampa, FL | The Masquerade Is Over 398 386 401 2355 78.5 |
| Heralds of Harmony [SUN] | Sentimental Gentleman From Georgia 392 388 390 |
| 25 Mt. Pleasant, MI | Oh, Lady Be Good 389 375 391 2322 77.4 |
| Mountaintown Singers [PIO] | I'm In Love Again/I'm In Love With Yo 392 381 394 |
| 26 Bristol, England | Come Take Your Place In My Heart 384 382 388 2292 76.4 |
| Great Western Chorus [BABS] | All Aboard For Dixie Land 379 385 374 |
| | |
| 27 Hamilton Square, NJ | |
| Brothers in Harmony [MAD] | Imagine 298- 413 407 |
| 28 Research Triangle Park, NC | Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie 375 370 369 2238 74.6 |
| General Assembly Chorus [NSC] | Story Of The Rose, The (Heart Of My 377 377 370 |
| 29 Providence, RI | World War I (Medley) 372 372 371 2221 74.0 |
| | KP 368 369 369 |
| Narragansett Bay Chorus [NED] | |
| Narragansett Bay Chorus [NED] 30 Batavia, NY | Way You Look Tonight 371 356 359 2171 72.4 |

Personal Insights into Kansas City

I have participated in a number of International contests, the first being with the Mankato "Riverblenders" in 1981. I still recall waiting in line to get on stage and trying to quell the nerves. Then, in about 6 minutes, it was over! Since that first experience, I have participated in 8 International contests, and the most recent in Kansas City has to be the high point. Kansas City doesn't sound too exciting but we found it to be a very friendly and comfortable city to move about in. The Sprint Center, where all the events were held, was only a short walk from most hotels, bus transportation was readily available, and the hotel accommodations were reasonable and comfortable. We, my wife and I, attended most of the chorus and quartet competitions and found them entertaining. The quality of singing and performance was exceptional. From the front runners to the lower scorers they all deserved to be there.

The most striking thing to me was the obvious presence of young men, both in quartets and choruses. Young Men in Harmony were well represented! Unfortunately, I wasn't able to take in the College Quartet Contest. But, of the quartets I did hear, they did not lack for talent and enthusiasm. The future looks bright for the Society.

If you haven't attended an International Convention I recommend you do. It will give you a much broader perspective of this great Society we are members of.

Obviously the "GNU" performance was memorable. The audience reception was unbelievable. The entire crowd was on their feet before our last note was sung. It was a thrill I have never experienced. I never in my wildest dreams

thought that I would ever put a silver medal on my chest. In my early years in Barbershop I never thought I would ever have the opportunity to be in this situation to even compete. The long hours of practice, the sectionals, the coaching session and the directors constant demand for perfection paid off. I am humbled by the experience. It was a team effort with everyone taking control of his space and pulling together. There were no heroics. Everyman was important, and believing that we could do it carried the day. It is an experience I will never forget, hopefully, so I can bore my great grandchildren with the details.

The "Riverblenders" got me started singing

The "Riverblenders" got me started singing Barbershop and for that I am grateful. Make sure others have that opportunity in the future.

The Mankato "Riverblenders" were well represented at KC. Greg Rosevold, Doug Peterson, Bill Lydecker, Derek Glena and I were singing with "GNU". In the audience was Warren Hettinga, one of the "Riverblenders" directors in 1981. He was there to watch his son, Don Hettinga, also an "old" "Riverblender", singing in his debut quartet appearance. We had fun cheering for "Grand Design" and I took great pride in watching my old quartet buddy, Leonard Huls, put out those golden tenor notes with confidence. This is a young quartet to watch and they will be back! Also from Florida was Charlie Barbarisi, a mainstay in the early years of the "Riverblenders". He was singing with the "Tampa Chorus", and in the audience was Chuck Schubbe the venerable LO'L Board member.

I hope I didn't miss anyone. It was great to be away from home sharing this experience with so many friends!

Charley Johnson

"Riverblender" & "GNU" member

The International Convention in Kansas City, MO, was a great event. The Land O' Lakes District was well represented. Six Quartets and the Great Northern Union Chorus gave the people from LO'L good reason to be very proud.

Our quartets all sang very well and I need to express the appreciation from the LO'L Board and OPS team for the hard work all of the contenders from LO'L put in to qualify for the international competition. A special thanks to Grand Design and GNU for the super job at Kansas City.

The education program in the LOL is really bearing fruit. We are planning on making more improvements to our District Education program, so stay tuned as Dave Sylte will be getting information for quartet schools, Chapter officer and Administration training and many other good things that will transpire this coming year.

District Executive Vice President - Chuck Schubbe

Celebration of Life Janet Youngblom June 7, 1937 ~ July 10, 2011



On July 10, 2011, the wife of member Charles Youngblom was taken from us. 29 "Riverblenders" went to support Charles as he said his goodbyes to his wife of 54 years. We were honored to be invited to sing at the Celebration of Life Service held for Janet and we wish all the best to Charles and his family.

Mary Ostrom another member of the "Riverblenders" wrote the following poems for Charles and his family.

Lifetime Partner

Mary Ostrom

From a lifetime partner its hard to depart,
Long the attachment, a matter of the heart.
You've promised together, long it shall be,
Tho ups and downs on the Youngblom's sea.
Janet to Charlie - a faithful mate,
Her wifely duties, what 'ere on her plate.
Now she is gone and will be sadly missed,
The book of memories will be lovingly kissed.
Life will go on from pillar to post,
Family and friends there when needed the most.
We're grateful the Riverblenders will be there to sing,
And shed words of comfort like they know how to bring.

For Charles Mary Ostrom

A pleasant thought to the funeral were singing,
From the men in the chorus condolences bringing.
We're not a bunch of fellas who gather Tuesday night,
We're a fraternity caring and doing what's right.
We love our brothers, concerned with each one,
We'll gather again when this life is done.

Calendar

August 2, 2011 - Tuesday

Christ the King

Show & Music Committees meet - 6 PM Regular Practice - 7 PM

August 7, 2011 - Sunday

Church Performances

August 9, 2011 - Tuesday

Christ the King

Board Meeting Meeting - 6 PM

Regular Practice - 7 PM

August 16, 2011 - Tuesday

Christ the King

Show Committee Meeting - 6 PM Regular Practice - 7 PM

August 21, 2011 - Sunday

Church Performances

August 27, 2011 - Saturday

Annual BBS Auction
Jeff & Carol Grimmer's

August 28, 2011 - Sunday

Well's Area Churches

September 17, 2011 - Saturday

Wells Show

October 21-22, 2011 - Fri/Sat

LO'L District Contest

April 14, 2012 - Saturday

Annual Shows:

Crossview Covenant Church

Item of Interest

2012 Show Music - the "Disney" theme music has been chosen and is available for you on CD

Contact - Doug Peterson

Summer Church Performances



The Choir Director, at one of the churches, was grateful for one of the songs we sang. It was not a song the members of her church would ordinarily hear, due to music restrictions in their church.

I've have observed this season, on a number of occasions, of a member of the audience in awe of something that we were singing. The song obviously touched them and it clearly was a special moment for them.

I recall two standing ovations on July 17th. believe there were a couple more standing ovations earlier this summer. Makes one feel proud!

We are half way through the church performances and I have definitely observed enough reactions and remarks from our audiences, that I eagerly look forward to the balance of the Sunday singing season. An observation, related, but unrelated to the Sundays - the feedback we got from the folks at Janet Youngblom's Celebration of Life was just great.

Thank you to all members that attended, it was awesome, in my humble opinion.

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Ron Meyer

Church Performance Chairman



June 12th:

Christ the King - Mankato Centenary United Methodist - Mankato First Congregational - Mankato Grace Lutheran - Mankato Laurel's Peak

June 26th:

Our Saviors Lutheran - Mankato Hilltop United Methodist - Mankato Bethlehem Lutheran - Mankato ıst Presbyterian - Mankato Hosanna Lutheran - Mankato Pathstone Living - Mankato

July 17th:

ıst Presbyterian - Lake Crystal ıst United Methodist - Lake Crystal Zion Lutheran - Lake Crystal Belgrade United Methodist - N. Mankato Messiah Lutheran - N. Mankato Koppen Gardens - N. Mankato

July 24th:

First Congregational - Waseca Evangelical United Methodist - Waseca Faith United Methodist - Waseca Lake Shore Nursing Home - Waseca United Methodist - Janesville Janesville Nursing Home - Janesville

A Card from Lake Crystal





2012 "Disney" Show

On April 14th, 2012 we will endeavor to produce our own "Disney" show. We have most of the people in place to do their, as always, great jobs! However, we do have several positions that need to be filled. The jobs that we do while on this committee are relatively easy to perform and not that time consuming. We are blessed to have a well organized document to show us the way! We also have lots of members that have done most of these jobs at some time as a "Riverblender" and are eager to help us out.

Our first meeting is Tuesday, August 2, 2011, 6 PM at Christ the King Lutheran Church. This will be a joint meeting with the Music Committee so that we can get the music finalized. We were smart enough to get some of the music out to the members over a year ago and have a handle on several songs. The chapter quartets have received lists of applicable songs and are selecting what they wish to sing. Tim and Thom Schubbe have indicated to me that they have come up with some great ideas on how we may put this show together. They will let us know what these are on the 2nd, so plan on attending the meeting.

The second meeting will be August 9th at the same time and location. After this meeting we will have further meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the same time and location. Other meetings may be needed as we get closer to the show.

Thanks to the members that have reaffirmed their commitment to working on the 2012 show. However, we are in the need of several other people. As I stated earlier, these jobs are not that time consuming if you start on them right away. We have 8 months until the show so you will have plenty of time to get your tasks completed.

I am not the type of person that will go out and call everyone personally for help in filling these positions. Please look over the list of needed help and volunteer for one of them. This chorus is a great chorus because of the dedication of its members. If everyone does a little the chorus can do a lot. So, check out your commitment to the chorus, and if it is lacking, this is an opportunity to give back.

Remember that all members are welcomed to attend these meetings.

Open Positions:

Assistant Show Chairman - (Will become 2013 Show Chairman)

Publicity Chairman - (need 2 people or more) Ad Sales Chairman - (need 2 people or more) Chorus Director to work with committees

It appears that we need a minimum of 6 people, but it would be easier if we have 10. The main ones are the Chairmen and then we can get helpers to aid them in their work.

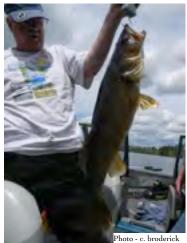
Current Positions Filled:

Show Chairman - Jeff Grimmer
Executive Committee - Current Board of Directors
Ron Larson - Finances/Web Site
Tim Schubbe - Show Script & Costumes
Thom Schubbe - Show Script & Costumes
Doug Peterson - Contracts/Housing/Qt/Info
Chuck Schubbe - Pre and Afterglows
Music Committee - Songs
Steve Pettis - Hard copy
Jon S'berg - Ticket Sales
Ryan Kuisle - Work to support show as PVP
A big thank you to the fells that have already
volunteered!!

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

August 2nd
August 9th
September 20th
October 18th
November 15th
December 20th
January 17th
February 15th
March 15th
April 14th - SHOW

2012 Show Chairman Jeffrey Grimmer



Jeff & his 30 inch 10# Walleye

Quartet News

Magic has had a very interesting spring. Nine sing outs, mostly in the Mankato area, and two in St. James. We have been working with our new bass, Stan Bruss, and he is learning a lot of new songs. He continues to measure one of us up while he is being introduced and he is having a great time. Frank Selvey will sing with us on the two chorus shows this fall. Thanks Frank!

I heard Soul Purpose sing at the grand opening of the Ecumen Senior Housing in St. Peter and they did a terrific job. Quarteting is where it's at. I would encourage more quarteting.

We are currently busy learning new songs for the spring show.

Thanks Jeff for a wonderful publication.

Bruce Gray for MAGIC





GRAND DESIGN" on the contest stage in Kansas City

Jeff,

We just want to thank you and the entire "Riverblenders" Chorus for your verbal and financial support leading up to our international debut in Kansas City. It was a real thrill to hear Mankato announced on the international stage

(reminded me a little of Detroit in '81). Thanks again and we hope that we can get the chapter's name in many more international programs in years to come.

Singcerely,

Grand Design Quartet

June was a slow month for RFD but we are ramping up to a very busy September.

We did have the privilege of singing for Mike Maes (former Riverblender Bass) and his now wife Kris at their wedding on June 26th. The wedding was relatively informal and was held at the family cabin on Lake Washington. Two really neat things about the performance were: It was a complete surprise for Mike! Kris sang the female part with us on Lida Rose. She was awesome!!! We sang 2

songs in the wedding and then toasted the couple with "Irish Blessing" Thanks to them for having us and we wish them all the happiness for the rest of their lives. We continue to work on more parodies along the farmer theme and hopefully we will be singing them soon.

We are also looking for several songs to sing on the 2012 show. Never a dull moment!

Jeff Grimmer for **RFD**



Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.



Benefits of Membership, Continued

Assistance from Headquarters Staff

- Advice on shows and scripts
- · Assistance with securing copyright clearances on sheet music, including securing permission to arrange a song
- · Distribution of published and unpublished arrangements from over 800 vocal arrangers
- · Assistance with securing mechanical and synchronization licenses for audio and video recordings
- · General information and records research
- Interpretation of rules and regulations
- Interpretation of bylaws and statements of policy
- · Reservation of a quartet's name in the Quartet Registry
- Staff visitations to chapters and districts
- · Access The Old Songs Library
- · Processing of chapter and district dues

Member Pricing

- Harmony University Harmony College/Directors College/Quartet College
- · For exhibitors at the International Convention
- · Advertising in The Harmonizer

Competition

Enter Barbershop Harmony Society-sanctioned district and international contests for quartets and choruses geared to a variety of performers, including:

- International Chorus Championship
- International Quartet Championship
- International Seniors Quartet Championship
- International Youth Festival & Contest
- Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest

Protection and Use of the Name and Logo

The Society allocates resources to the protection of our name and logo not only in North America, but around the world. Members may use the Barbershop Harmony Society name and "signature" logo to identify affiliation with the world's largest all-male singing organization.

Other Benefits

- · Chapter insurance and bonding at a fraction of normal cost
- · Performance license clearance
- Non-profit classification under section 501(c)(3) of US tax code
- Membership development assistance
- · Access to patron lists and former singers
- Special member pricing from Hertz

On June 30, 2011, 27 Riverblenders ventured north to the "Church of the Holy Communion" in St. Peter to partake in a "Celebration of our Nation". It was a hot evening but we did an outstanding job and wish to thank the congregation for inviting us to share this event with them. Thanks also to Arv Zenk for directing.