

River Ramblings

Editor - Jeffrey Grimmer

Riverblenders 2011 Annual Auction

The Annual Riverblenders Auction took place on August 27th, at the home of Carol and Jeff Grimmer. The weather, as usual, was undecided. It wasn't sure if it was suppose to rain or be a wonderful day. We lucked out again and had a wonderful day!

Arvid Zenk and Stan Bruss showed up an hour early in order to learn the operation of the "Riverblenders" sound system under the guidance of Jeff Grimmer.

Members and guests started showing up around 2 p.m. to socialize and then at 4 p.m. "Chef Grimmer" announced the commencement of eating. We had a feast fit for a king! Thank you to everyone for bringing such wonderful food.

The Quartet Contest was organized by Curt Buhl and went off without a hitch. Not only did Curt introduce the quartets in fine fashion he also prepared stories that he told between each group - great job Curt! The judges were: Dianna Nathanson, Sue Gray, Mary Jane Blethen, Shelly Huls, and Jane Zenk, they did an outstanding job. At the start of the contest there was only one registered quartet, but by the time Curt finished, there were seven entered into the contest. In first place was "Dixie 4", second place "We Don't Care", and in third place was "We Three +1".

The auction was headed by auctioneer "Ryan Kuisle", who did an outstanding job of not only selling the items but also keeping us entertained. Ryan received help from Chuck & Doris Brooks

grandchildren Daniel and David. They did a great job helping to pass out the purchased items and gathering up the money! Bailey Blethen was the recorder of who bought what and how much they paid. Ron Meyer was the Treasurer. Thanks to them. A total of 44 items brought in **\$2,515,000.00** dollars in Blender Bucks!

The top item was a bottle of White Zinfandel Wine from the Bruss Winery with a bid of \$300,000.00, purchased by Chuck Schubbe. Right behind that was another bottle of wine from the Bruss Winery, a bottle of Gewurztraminer purchased for \$190,000.00 by Willy Derner. Tied for second place with, the same bid, was a group of baseball caps purchased by Ron Meyer (two of them from the 2006 US Open). The fourth highest bid came from Jim Mongeau of \$180,000.00 for a wooden shelf.

Thanks go out to the folks that brought in so many fine items.

Free apples were given out to the guests that wanted them. Most of the crowd left a little earlier this year due to the Vikings preseason game and the fact that the "Riverblenders" were singing at churches the next morning. The church performers had to get to their car pool areas between 6:15 and 6:30 a.m.!!!!

A wonderful time was had by all and we look forward to next years auction. New money and new rule sheets will be out very soon with new ways to earn money - Keep posted!



R to L - Auctioneer - Ryan Kuisle, helpers Daniel Nathanson and David Nathanson



OOPS - Wayne can smile!!!



Jim Mongeau, Chuck Schubbe and Bruce Gray looking over an auction treasurer

2011 Auction Quartet Contest



1st Place: "Dixie 4"

Steve Pettis, Joel Botten, Chuck Brooks, Doug Peterson



2nd Place: "We Don't Care"

Wayne Hughes, Bruce Gray, Sandy Allen, Ron Conrad



3rd Place: "We Three +1"

Len Huls, Jeff Grimmer, Sandy Allen, Ryan Kuisle



"Simply 4"

Len Huls, Ron Meyer, Kelly Gage, chuck Schubbe



"Three Baritones and a Lead"

Doug Peterson, Curt Buhl, Jim Mongeau, Chuck Schubbe



"Feeling Fine 4"

Wayne Hughes, Arv Zenk, Stan Bruss, Jim Mongeau



"My Wild Irish Boys"

Jeff Grimmer, Marv Ostrom, Willy Derner, Ryan Kuisle



"Quartet Contest MC"

Curt Buhl and his side kick Sahli

Auction Photos: r. meyer

Chorus Information

On Saturday September 17th
at 7pm The Mankato
Riverblenders will present

"A Night at the Auditions"

at the Gordon Hanson
Auditorium at USC in Wells.

This performance is
sponsored by the Wells
Historical Society and all
proceeds go to finance the
operation of the Wells Depot
and Museum. This
presentation will feature the
entire Chorus of
approximately 35 members
plus a number of Chapter
Quartets.

Tickets are \$10 for Adults
and \$5 for Students.

Please plan on attending and
supporting the Wells
Historical Society.

Music Repertoire

January 2011

Baby Face
Battle Hymn
Everybody Loves a Lover
Fun in one Lifetime
Georgia
God Bless America
Hello Mary Lou
Irish Blessing
Let there be Peace
Oh Canada
Once Upon a Time
Paper Moon
Star Spangled Banner
Wonderful World
Zip-a-dee-do-dah

Church Songs:

All Hail the Power of Jesus
Name
Feeling Fine
Morte Christie
Roll is Called up Yonder
Turn Your Radio on

Contest Songs

Fall 2011:

Nighttime in Dixieland
You don't Know Me

This information can also be
found on
www.singmankato.com. the
Riverblenders Web-Site

Welcome Back!!!



Photo - j. grimmer

Marv Ostrom & Charles Youngblom are back at it!!!

Calendar

September 6, 2011 - Tuesday

Loyola High School
Regular Practice - 7 PM

September 13, 2011 - Tuesday

Loyola High School
Board Meeting Meeting - 6 PM
Regular Practice - 7 PM

September 17, 2011 - Saturday

Wells Show

September 20, 2011 - Tuesday

Loyola High School
Show Committee Meeting - 6 PM
Regular Practice - 7 PM

September 27, 2011 -

Loyola High School
Coaching with
PETE BENSON - 7 PM

October 18 2011 -

Loyola High School
Coaching with
PETE BENSON - 7 PM

October 21-22, 2011 - Fri/Sat

Rochester, MN
LO'L District Contest

December 20, 2011 - Tuesday

Hilltoppers
Christ The King - 11 a.m.

February, 2012

Valentines

April 14, 2012 - Saturday

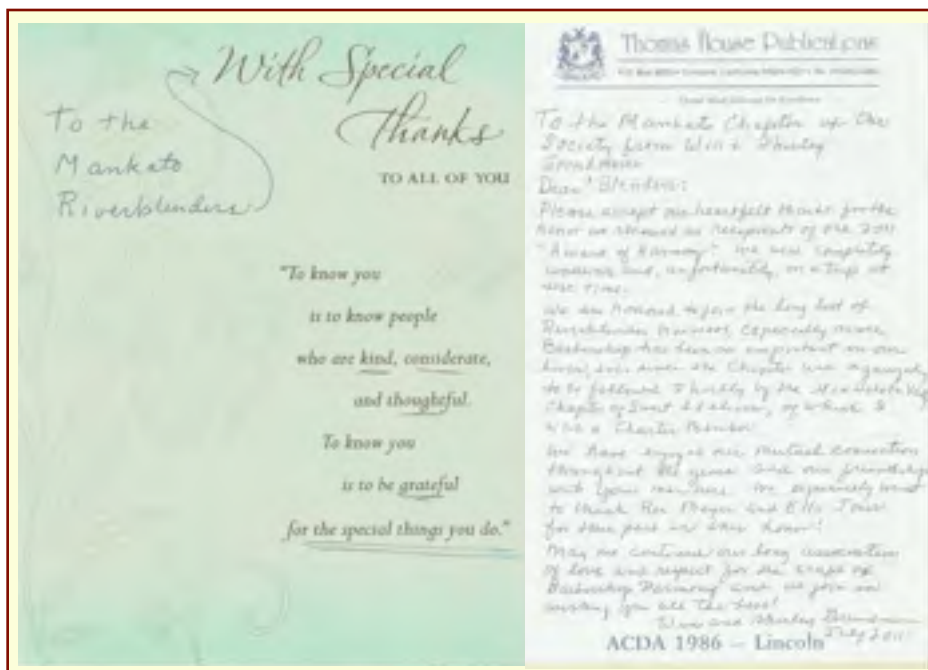
Annual Shows:
Crossview Covenant Church
2 & 7 p.m.

Items of Interest

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

Contact - Doug Peterson

Dean Eggers - Husband of Clara and father of daughter Patti, long time friends of the Riverblenders, recently passed

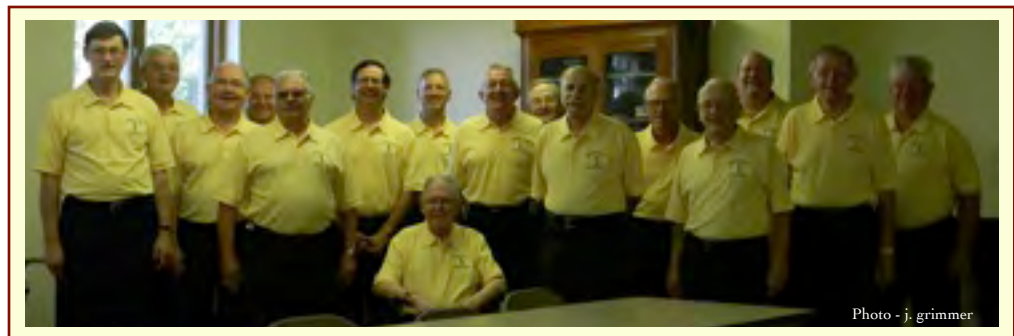


A Card from Win and Shirley Grundmeier - 2010 Award of Harmony Recipients

Summer Church Performances



Chorus members at August 7, 2011 Church Performances



Chorus members at August 21, 2011 Church Performances

August 7th:

Trinity Lutheran - St. Peter
First Lutheran - St. Peter
Union Presbyterian - St. Peter
Scandian Grove Lutheran - Norseland
First Lutheran - Lafayette

August 21st:

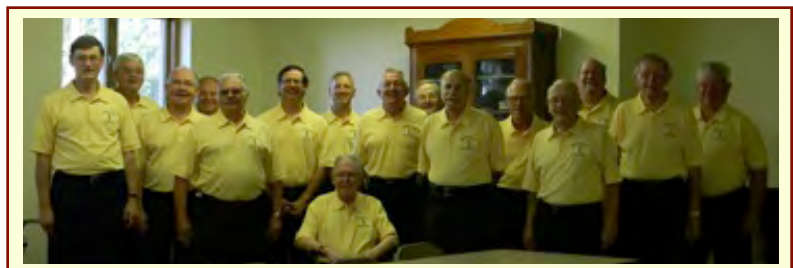
Medo Lutheran - Pemberton
United Church of Mapleton - Mapleton
St. Johns Lutheran - Mapleton
St. Teresa's Catholic - Mapleton
Mapleton Community Home - Mapleton



Chorus members at August 21, 2011 Mapleton Community Home

August 28th:

St. Casimir - Wells
The Shepherds Inn - Wells
Good Shepherd Lutheran - Wells
Wells United Methodist - Wells
Mt. Carmel Catholic - Easton
Peace United Church of Christ - Minnesota Lake



Chorus members at August 28, 2011 Church Performances

A big THANK YOU to all of the Riverblenders that helped make this years church performances a big success!!

2012 "Disney" Show

Open Positions:

Publicity Chairman - Need a Chairman - Carl Schoenstedt will help

Ad Sales - Need a Chairman - Doug Peterson will help

Current Positions Filled:

Show Chairman - Jeff Grimmer

Assistant Show Chairman - Arvid Zenk

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 Schwichtenberg - Ticket Sales

Ryan Kuisle - Work to support show as PVP

A big thank you to the fellas that have already volunteered!!

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

September 20th

October 18th

November 15th

December 20th

January 17th

February 15th

March 15th

April 14th - SHOW

We really need someone to step up to the plate and take over the Ad Chair position from Mr. Kunkel and work with Doug Peterson. This person should know how to work with Excel Spreadsheet as he will need to communicate information with Ron Larson. This position has everything laid out as what has to be done. It's just a matter of doing it. If you get started NOW very little stress will be created and a small amount of time will be used. The secret is to start now!

The aforementioned information is also true with the Publicity Chair position. This chair will work with Carl Schoenstedt and again the secret work is to start NOW. Please let Jeff Grimmer know which position you wish to fill.

The "Humdingers" Quartet from Florida have been hired. They are a Disney Land Quartet that sings Barbershop Songs at Disney Land in Orlando, Florida. They will be a great feature for our "Disney" themed show.

Tim and Thom Schubbe have the basic theme of the show as a "Disney" Convention and the chorus members will be the attendees. It will be a lot of fun!

Keep looking at the website, that Ron Larson so diligently keeps current, for future updates. More information will also be published in the newsletters and reports will be given out at the regular rehearsal.

Questions? Just ask!

2012 Show Chairman

Jeffrey Grimmer



Just can't keep his mouth shut!!



Sound System School



Jane Zenk, Kathy Bruss, and Sue Gray discussing auction strategies

Quartet News

RFD

It has been a very busy month for RFD. We sang for six different events.

August 4th was a real treat. We sang to a group of about 75 people from 3 different churches who gathered at Zion Lutheran Church in Hanska, Minnesota. It was a wonderful group of people to sing for.

During the week of August 19-21, the Quartet sang at the Wells Federal Bank Town Banquet in Wells.

We passed out over 100 cards to the guests, promoting the Wells Show. Butterfield, Minnesota was the next site. This event was the 45th Annual Steam & Gas Engine Show. We started off Saturday morning's entertainment at 9:30 AM and then had a repeat performance at 4 PM.

The weekend finished with our final performance at Hanska at the Nora church - 130th anniversary.

Jeff Grimmer



Photo - unknown

Photo - unknown



Photo - a. schubbe

Photo - unknown

MAGIC

We took a month off while I was away. Now back to Tuesday rehearsals.

We have sing outs in September and October and we booked our first December date today.
Bruce Gray



Photo - j. grimmer

RIVERBEND

We have just gotten back together following a very busy summer. Charles is back with us and we are glad he has returned. Jim has returned from a summer of West Coast and East Coast vacations with his family. Ryan is the newest member and trying to give us a good Baritone sound. Ron has been busy also. Now it's on to the Wells Show on September 17th. Riverbend is looking forward to building up a solid Repertoire of music, so they can go out and entertain the folks in the area.

Ron Meyer



Photo - unknown



Photo - j. grimmer

Soul Purpose



Photo - LOL

Grand Design

2011 Show Chairman:

Preliminary 2011 show DVDs have been produced and should be available in final form soon. Chuck Brooks as well as Tim and Thom Schubbe are working on the show details for the Wells Show, September 17th. Due the absence of Valee de Croix, there will be a minor reformatting of show contents. Those details are being worked on. In the meantime, with the return of Charles Youngblom and addition of Ryan Kuisle, “Riverbend” will be adding more songs to the show

content. Stan Bruss arranged with numerous Wells area churches and the “Riverblenders” sang for those churches August 28th. The plan is that more promoting will increase attendance at the September 17th show. The following month, October, we will again be repeating the same show in Gaylord.

Jeff also is getting a running start on the 2012 “Disney” show.

Ron Meyer

2011 Show Chairman



Moving Reminder: We will be moving back to Loyola for rehearsal starting Sept. 6th. My plan is to load risers and railings at CTK after the rehearsal on August 30th and deliver them to Loyola on Wednesday, August 31st. Any help would be appreciated!

Also the Sunday Sing-out on August 28th in Wells will be a great time to promote the Wells Show and our organization. I hope we can have the biggest turnout ever. Our last church is in Minn. Lake at

10:30 AM so we should be back in Mankato by 11:30.

Sound System 101 will be at Jeff Grimmer’s on Saturday, August 27th at 1:00 PM - those interested in learning how to set-up and take down our system should be there at 1:00 PM (Picnic starts at 2:00 PM).

Stan Bruss

House Manager



A quote attributed to:
Mohandas Gandhi.

ROOTS OF VIOLENCE

"Wealth without work,
Pleasure without conscience,
Knowledge without character,
Commerce without morality,
Science without humanity,
Worship without sacrifice,
Politics without principles."

Spend quality time with your loved one

