

# River Ramblings

Editor - Jeffrey Grimmer

## Pete Benson - Doing His Magic!



Pete explaining some of the finer points - everyone is listening except Sahli!

Once again we would like to thank our coach Pete Benson for heading us in the right direction. Some of the same old problems kept arising but he did not let them go by. We will be trying very hard to remember and perform everything that he taught us.

Our current director, Doug Peterson, not only directed us during



The Dynamic Duo - Doug & Pete

the coaching session but took copious amount of notes to review at a later date.

We want to thank Doug, the chorus, and guests for working hard and helping each other out.

We look forward to the contest and the ability to try out all that we have learned. - Editor

## The Engine that Said I can

Well we are definitely in our busy season, with the Contest and Annual Shows right around the corner. In the midst of this, our Director's spot is still open and we have to start the selection process all over again. But do not fear, we are on top of it! As soon as we clear the next few weeks, your music committee will be hard at work seeking a new Director, planning our Summer music, and deciding on the Fall Contest numbers. In the meantime let's continue to work hard on our music and presentation and have a really fantastic show. We are blessed with a great abundance of talent in this Chapter. Let's be determined to use those talents to showcase our hobby at every opportunity. And remember....It's GREAT to be a BARBERSHOPPER!!!!

Music Vice President: Chuck Brooks



## 2012 "Disney" Show

The show is right around the corner and everyone on the Show committee has been working their tails off and it all seems to be coming together.

The chorus has sold a bunch of ads (thanks a million) and now they have to use the remaining time to sell tickets.

The Advertising crew of Bailey Blethen and Carl Schoenstedt have been using Newspapers, Posters, E-mail advertising, ticket TV and Radio spots to get the word out. But, we have to remember that, the

best way to sell the movie is through the Riverblenders membership.

The Show Committee has tried many new things this year in the hope to increase exposure, advertising, and tickets sales. The music came out earlier, the ad sales started a month earlier, the postcards and posters came out earlier, all in an effort to make it easier for the membership to get involved and make this one of the best shows ever!

Sell those tickets!!



## 75th Anniversary Logo Contest Winner

Congratulations to Greg Backwell, winner of the 75th Anniversary Logo Contest! Greg is a member of the Nighthawks Quartet (ONT), 1963 Quartet Silver Medalists, and was a member of Gentlemen's Agreement, the Gold Medal winner in 1971. Greg was founder of the Association of Ontario Champions, and was the winner of the [Joe Barbershopper Cartoon Contest](#) in 1956

Here's the new  
logo for  
Toronto and 75th  
anniversary pins



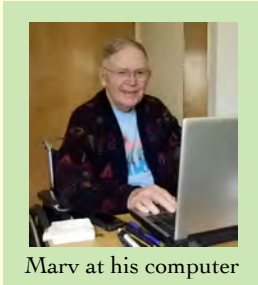
"I SING" buttons were recently purchased by the chorus, and they are now available for only \$1.50. See Jeff Grimmer for your button.

## Poem By "Marv"

### The Chorus

Marv Ostrom

'Tis Saturday again and the day is fleeting.  
Singers soon gathering, exchanging greeting.  
Their blended voices will shortly be heard.  
Attune with a chick-a-dee, my favorite bird.  
They'll be well received by the judiciary crew,  
Who'll acknowledge the worth of the work we do.  
Even stoic judges will stand and clap.  
They judge a-many from across the map.  
We'll wait and see what the score will be,  
Singing well, looking alive, will be the key.  
But if perchance we don't score high,  
Life goes on and we'll not cry.  
'Twas fun preparing and fun on stage.  
We should share with new members,  
Regardless their age.



Marv at his computer



RFE singing with former member Herman Schutter

Rural Free Delivery (with Wayne Hughes singing Tenor and Tim Schubbe singing Bass) recently sang for a birthday party at Laurels Edge. While we were entertaining the group we noticed that a former member, Herman Schutter, was sitting in the crowd.

We tactfully asked Herman if he wanted to sing a song with us and he innocently asked if we knew "My Wild Rose" and we chuckled while he came up to perform. He did a great job at Base and received a huge round of applause from the party attendees. - Editor

## Calendar

### \*April 3, 2012 - Tuesday

Loyola High School

Regular Practice - 7 PM

### April 8, 2012 - Sunday

Easter Sunday

### \*April 10, 2012 - Tuesday

Loyola High School

Board Meeting - 6 PM

Regular Practice - 7 PM

### \*April 13, 2012 - Friday

KEYC-TV - News - Noon

Show interview - Lisa Cownie

Dress Rehearsal - 6 PM

Crossview Covenant Church

### \*April 14, 2012 - Saturday

Annual Shows -

Crossview Covenant Church

2 & 7 PM

### \*April 17, 2012 - Tuesday

Post - Contest & Show Party

(Guest Night also)

Loose Moose- 6 PM

### \*April 24, 2012 - Tuesday

Loyola High School

Show Wrap Up Meeting - 6 PM

Regular Practice - 7 PM

### Summer Churches

Start thinking about them

### Items of Interest

Stan Bruss has purchased an enclosed trailer that he is letting the "Riverblenders" use to transport risers.  
- Thanks Stan

Willy Derner's email address:

[williemuggs@me.com](mailto:williemuggs@me.com)

## Sell Show Tickets!!



## Press.....

Have you noticed all the press that we have been getting lately?

KEYC just hosted Arv Zenk and Jeff Grimmer on Noontime with Lisa Cownie. They talked about the upcoming contest and even got a few comments in about the show. We are also set up for Friday, March 13th, with Lisa to talk about the show. Hopefully we will have some singing on that one!

The large picture in the Home Magazine, compliments of Carl Schoenstedt's hard work. Keep looking in the "Home magazine" next couple of issues for other "Riverblenders" stuff.

Radio stations around the area have been giving us some free air time. Please keep your radios on and listen for these special announcements - compliments of Bailey Blethen.

The article next to this column was just in this Sunday's March 25th "Free Press" - Section E - Currents. We really want to thank them for supporting us in our hobby as we try to keep our community in song.

Look for more ads in the Free Press as we get closer to the show.

Look on your computer for "Event Crazy" blurbs about the up and coming contest and show.

The press has also been invited to do interviews during the contest - maybe we will get some "Press" there. In fact, look all around for our posters and anything else, then let the editor know what you saw.

Thanks to all involved it has been fun to watch as it all unfolds! Many hands - little work make! - Editor

**Only 17 weeks DAYS to go!!! Thank you for your time and effort!!**

Jeff Grimmer - 2012 Show & Ad Chairman

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We have been a busy Chorus! Meetings and plans, more meetings and more plans. Arv has been really busy with Nicollet activities and his lists. Arv, Jeff, Stan, Chuck Brooks and I made a final walk through at Nicollet on March 26th. Stan has his drivers ready and double checking schedules. Chuck Brooks is updating his list of sign requests. Jeff is getting his camera ready. Me, I'm just trying to do my part as best I can.

Easter is right around the corner, then comes the Disney Show on April 14th. Our rehearsals are getting more intense and focused on show song sequence and fine details. All the uniforms are

## Don't miss this ...

### Riverblenders hosting barbershop competition

The Mankato Riverblenders will be hosting the Southwest Division & 10,000 Lakes Barbershop Chorus and Quartet Contest on Saturday.

Groups that perform well will compete in the Land O'Lakes fall convention in October.

The event lasts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Nicollet High School.

Admission is \$15 and includes all events.

For more information, contact Arvid Zenk at 507-388-7509.



getting cleaned and pressed. I just know that Magic is really looking forward to wearing their beautiful Red Choir Robes. The "Humdingers" will be the highlight of April 14th and the Disney Show.

In the meantime, take advantage of the beautiful Spring weather and get your yard work done, if you can find the time. Thanks for being a good supporter of The Riverblenders. Sing well, have fun.

President:  
Ron Meyer



## Riverbend's story is like this

We were off to a good start - then we lost baritone Matt Strum to a double career move, when both his and his wife's occupations took them to the metro area. Ryan Kuisle, took Matt's place at Baritone, and things we're starting to gel, when, he decided he needed to focus more time on his future teaching career, and then began student teaching. Looking for a replacement, Tenor (mostly falsetto), yours truly, remembered that I'd been impressed by the accuracy of another tenor, and long time member (& natural tenor) Dwain Frazee. For, as I was to find out, although his job had for years, prevented him from attending practice as often and he would have liked, I had noticed that when he did come, he knew his music very well. When I approached Dwain about it, he was "honored" to be asked to join us. Then he told us of his music background, i.e. a music major in college, and a long time choir director, pianist, organist, and soloist, at his church. Without even consulting Lead Ron Meyer or Bass Charles Youngblom, I told Dwain that, we three would be the HONORED ones, if he would consider joining the quartet. I doubt if I have to tell any of you what it means to have a quartet member with that background. Of course this meant that I would have to switch back to Baritone.

Thus we began, in the fall of 2011. Dwain, a diabetic, informed us that he was scheduled for an important surgery in early November, which his Dr. assured him, would allow him to be free of diabetes. Then before that could happen, his doctor moved away, and the process of finding a new doctor, once again getting approval from his insurance, and rescheduling, put the surgery off till Feb. 28th 2012.

The greatest news is that the surgery worked, and he is no longer taking medicine for diabetes. In fact this type of surgery was the subject of a segment on the NBC evening news, tonight, Mar. 26, 2012. Dwain is on the mend, and since he lives close by, we have decided to start taking morning walks together. The exercise will do us both good, and get him back up to speed sooner. Believe me I know that when you are recovering from surgery, finding the incentive move, even though it may be painful, is not easy to do. So, say a prayer for us.

We have been practicing, and are liking what we hear. Please be patient with us. Keep in mind, I have to re-learn all the music that the chorus and Riverbend, have been working on, since I returned in 2009, in Baritone. And I only learn it by ear, & I can barely read music. I am eternally thankful for learning CDs.

Yours Truly, Jim Mongeau



## Fields of Grace Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 9 Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran April 2012

### Riverblenders to present concert:

The Mankato Riverblenders will present *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*, A Disney convention in 4-part harmony Saturday, April 14 at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. at Crossview Covenant Church, 2000 Howard Drive, North Mankato. The concert will feature, from DisneyWorld, The Humdingers quartet. Charles Youngblom of First Lutheran is a member of the Riverblenders.

Tickets are available in advance at Cub and HyVee Food Stores or at [www.singmankato.com](http://www.singmankato.com); they will also be available at the door.

This is an excerpt from the First & Swan Lake Lutheran's April, 2012 Newsletter - Thanks go out to them for putting this announcement into their newsletter! - Editor



Winter in Minnesota "2011"

## Hope This Holds Water

(health tip - Dave Balke)

Gravity holds water in the lower part of your body when you are upright. When you lie down, the lower body (legs and other things) become level with the kidneys. It is then that the kidneys remove the water because it is easier.

You need your minimum water to help flush the toxins out of your body, but there is a-

### **Correct time to drink water?**

From A Cardiac Specialist!

\*Drinking water at a certain time maximizes its effectiveness on the body:

2 glasses of water after waking up helps activates your internal organs.

1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal aids in digestion.

1 glass of water before taking a bath helps to lower your blood pressure.

1 glass of water before going to bed helps you avoid stroke or heart attack.

Water at bed time will also help prevent night time leg cramps.