



BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

All the News that's Phit to Print from  
The Polk-Burnett County Chapter

## The Smoke Signal



Chapter sings Monday nights, 7:30 pm in the lower level of the Polk County Government Center at the NE corner of "I" and "46" — [www.indianheadchorus.com](http://www.indianheadchorus.com)

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Barbershop Harmony Society, 110 7th Avenue N., Nashville, TN 37203-3704 [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

Land-O-Lakes District - LOL home page: [www.loldistrict.org](http://www.loldistrict.org)

1,000 Lakes Division -Probe Member

<http://indianhead.groupanizer.com>

## August, 2012 - Vol. 55, Issue 8

**Events Calendar:** \*August 6<sup>th</sup>: *no practice* (see last page)

- \* August 7 –Music in the Park; Luck, WI -6:30 PM (summer uniform)\*
- \* August 11 –Threshing Days in Almelund, MN
- \* August 12 –Barbershoppers sing @ Twins vs. Rays game
- \* Aug 19 –Church Sing-out- Minnesota Churches
- \* Aug 19 –Chorus Social after church sing-out @ Archie Lessard's home.
- \* Oct 13 –54th Harvest of Harmony @ Amery High School- 2 PM & 7:30 PM
- \* Oct 26 & 27 –District Contest, Rochester, MN

### LOOKING AHEAD.....

Here we are in August and we've got lots of things happening! The Luck Music in the Park, singing at the Twins game, church sing-outs, picnic at Archie's ..... all in August. And if that weren't enough, we're working on the fall show in Amery and everything associated with it (selling ads AND TICKETS, posters, programs, house, script) and getting the songs "show ready", all the while with the Fall Convention and Contest in mind.

We're really getting into our busiest time of the year. It's the most work.... and the most FUN! We've got great opportunities to entertain our audiences and spread our hobby. Let's make the most of them.

Also, the team of Chuck Williamson and Mick Larson will be working as our nominating committee for 2013 officers. Please give them careful consideration if they should approach you with a request.

**Mark Nelson**, President

## **Membership - Challenges**

Welcome to Mark Weslander, our newest member, who joined us this last month. The chorus has added four members this spring and summer. This is great progress, but we have also lost a few members. All of us need to be vigilant, looking for potential members around us in our daily lives. Each of us is responsible to hand out our business cards, encourage men we know to visit us at any regular Monday rehearsal.

In fact, consider this a challenge! In order to maintain our chorus and to achieve a sound to be proud of, more voices need to be added. A new idea has been presented, challenging each of us to bring one guest to a regular Monday rehearsal between now and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Just tell someone about what we do, let your excitement convince that person to come.
- Give them a ride to the rehearsal to make sure they are exposed to our wonderful hobby.
- Let them see and hear what fun we are having. We won't be able to keep them away!

On this same challenge, an article in the latest Harmonizer called for us to be a "buddy" to new members. One member remembers how he felt when he first started singing with us and is stepping up to help the new member in his section. Dave Wallace made a CD of baritone dominant current show songs and repertoire music for our newest member and is going the extra mile to be a buddy to him. This is a great idea. When a singer first starts in any chorus, the newness of it can overwhelm a person. There are so many songs to learn, a feeling of insecurity in what the part should sound like, unsure of what is expected. Every new member needs a buddy to help him learn the "ropes". We have members who do this automatically- thank you!

We are all challenged to find someone by Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to bring to a rehearsal; and to be aware when a new member or guest appears to be confused and encourage him. When new people are encouraged and supported by a buddy, they will become contributing new chorus members.

Thanks,

***Harvey Sandahl***, Membership VP



### ***New Member Bryan Shobe***

I was born in the UP of Michigan in 1949, and grew up in Ohio and Wisconsin. I started singing at an early age and continued in church and high school choirs. College, law school and careers in law and then sales interrupted formal singing. I rejoined my church choir in the '90's and also sang frequently with ecumenical church choir group. After retirement, my wife of 42 years, Stephanie, and I built a house on Horse Lake near Osceola to be closer to our grandkids in Bloomington.

I visited the Indianhead Chorus at the invitation of my neighbor, Bill Stevenson, and have thoroughly enjoyed participating ever since. I am a bass and apparently sing well enough, even without any formal music training, to be invited to join.

I look forward to years of learning, singing, performing and especially the camaraderie.

### ***Bryan***

*"A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water."*

### ***This is how recycling is done right!***

My friend's father is a locksmith in a resort town. Once he saw a group of beach goers park near his shop and dump trash from their car on his property. As soon as they were out of sight and walking toward the beach, the locksmith picked the lock on their car door, put the garbage back inside and relocked the car.

## **Ya' Gotta' Have Heart!**

Getting a big job done calls for "Heart." Having a high IQ is not essential, neither is being a certain age, or possessing a particular temperament. You don't even need the backing of the majority. History books are full of incredible stories of men and women who accomplished remarkable feats in the face of unbelievable odds.

In an early copy of Webster's dictionary (1828), the author points out that courage comes from *coeur*, the French word for heart: "Courage is the quality that enables one to face difficulty and danger with firmness, without fear or depression." And then, as Webster (a Christian) often did in those days, he concluded his definition with a Scripture reference: Deuteronomy 31. That chapter includes Moses' final speech to the children of Israel shortly before his death and Joshua's taking up the torch of leadership. At 120 years of age, Moses tells 'em, "Ya gotta have heart!"

I have observed over the years that some of the greatest demonstrations of courage occur in private places. Sometimes just staying with something over the long haul---maintaining the vision year after year---is magnificent proof of a courageous heart.

You may or may not be a leader. But chances are good that you are influencing others in some measure. Don't just watch things happen. Get in there with both feet; risk, for a change. Make some waves. Cut a new swath. Quit waiting for the other guy. You get the job done!

One reminder: Ya gotta have heart. Great deeds usually happen after taking great risks.

## **The Truth about Tools**

HAMMER: Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate expensive parts not far from the object we are trying to hit.

MECHANIC'S KNIFE: Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on boxes containing seats and motorcycle jackets.

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning steel Pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age, but it also works great for drilling mounting holes in fenders just above the brake line that goes to the rear wheel.

PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads.

HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools that transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal it becomes.

WISE-GRIPS: Used to round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your garage on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside a brake drum

you're trying to get the bearing race out of.

**WHITWORTH SOCKETS:** Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16 or 1/2 socket you've been searching for the last 15 minutes.

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall, upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your coffee across the room, splattering it against that freshly painted part you were drying.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans rust off old bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar calluses in about the time it takes you to say, "Ouch...."

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering a motorcycle to the ground after you have installed your new front disk brake setup, trapping the jack handle firmly under the front fender.

**EIGHT-FOOT LONG DOUGLAS FIR 2X4:** Used for levering a motorcycle upward off a hydraulic jack.

**TWEEZERS:** A tool for removing wood splinters.

**PHONE:** Tool for calling your neighbor to see if he has another hydraulic floor jack.

**SNAP-ON GASKET SCRAPER:** Theoretically useful as a sandwich tool for spreading mayonnaise; used mainly for getting dog-doo off your boot.

**E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR:** A tool that snaps off in bolt holes and is ten times harder than any known drill bit.

**TIMING LIGHT:** A stroboscopic instrument for illuminating grease buildup.

**TWO-TON HYDRAULIC ENGINE HOIST:** A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of ground straps and brake lines you may have forgotten to disconnect.

**CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 16-INCH SCREWDRIVER:** A large motor-mount prying tool that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end without the handle.

**BATTERY ELECTROLYTE TESTER:** A handy tool for transferring sulfuric acid from a car battery to the inside of your toolbox after determining that your battery is as dead as a doornail, just as you thought.

**AVIATION METAL SNIPS:** See hacksaw.

**TROUBLE LIGHT:** The mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin," which is not otherwise found under motorcycles at night. Health benefits aside, it's main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105-mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the lids of old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splash oil on your shirt; can also be used, as the name implies, to round off Phillips screw heads.

**AIR COMPRESSOR:** A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a Chicago Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 40 years ago by someone in Sindelfingen, and rounds them off.

**PRY BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to cut hoses 1/2 inch too short.

# Maturity Checkpoints

To be mature is to be fully developed, complete, and "grown up." Becoming mature is a process of consistently moving toward emotional and personal adulthood. In that process we leave childish and adolescent habits and adopt a lifestyle where we are fully responsible for our own decisions, motives, actions, and consequences.

I heard someone say recently that maturity is developing and discerning competence as to how to live appropriately and to change rightly. In a word, it is stability.

We never "arrive." We are always in the process of moving toward that objective. I have also observed that when maturity is taking place, balance replaces extremes and a seasoned confidence replaces uneasy feelings of insecurity. Good choices replace wrong ones.

Do you have the following marks of maturity?

- Concern for others that outweighs personal concerns
- Detection of the presence of problems before they are too obvious
- Self discipline
- Compassion and involvement
- Tempered emotions
- Consistently growing in relationships & personal disciplines

*How do your "marks" stand up? Will you work on improving them before the next time you are tested?*

## **The Heart of a Leader** -by Ken Blanchard

You may start people on a journey to the land of empowerment, but don't forget that they need boundaries. If you cut them loose without any direction, they will get lost and revert back to their old unempowered habits. Like the banks of a river, boundaries have the ability to channel energy in the right direction. If you take away the boundaries, your people will lose their momentum and direction. Boundaries that create autonomy include:

Purpose—what does your company do?

Values—what are your company's operational guidelines?

Goals—where is your company headed?

Roles—who does what?

Structure—how is your company organized?

Don't send inexperienced people off alone and then punish them when they make mistakes. Establish clear boundaries that will free them to make decisions, take initiative, act like owners, and stay on track.

**A river without banks is a large puddle ~ Ken Blanchard**

## **Gentle Thoughts for Today**

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

He who hesitates is probably right.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

## **Our Officers for 2012**

President: Mark Nelson .....715-483-3152

Sec/Treas: Larry Fisk .....715-327-8091

VP Marketing & PR & Bulletin editor: Ken Mettler.....715-483-9202

VP Music: Gary Noren .....715-483-9566

VP Membership: Harvey Sandahl .....651-226-9687

Asst. Music Dir. & Webmaster: Karl Wicklund.....715-268-2685

Music Director: Steve Swenson.....715-483-9797

Members at Lg.: Alan Salmela.....715-472-4018

Archie Lessard.....651-462-4664

Dan Valentine.....715-472-2080

Other functions

Young Men in Harmony: Jon Buss.....715-410-7324

Birthday/Anniversary cards: Clint Gjerde

2012 Show Chair: Archie Lessard.....651-462-4664

Librarian:

Performance Coordinator: Dan Valentine.....715-472-2080

## **Tips from Cowboys**

~ Never squat with your spurs on!

~ Never kick a fresh cow chip on a hot day.

~ There's two theories to arguin' with a woman.... Neither one works.

~ Don't worry about bitin' off more than you can chew. Your mouth is probably a whole lot bigger than you think.

~ If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

~ After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.

~ If you find yourself in a hole the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

- ~ Never smack a man who's chewin' tobacco.
  - ~ It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.
  - ~ Never ask a barber if he thinks you need a haircut.
  - ~ Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
  - ~ Always drink upstream from the herd.
  - ~ Never drop your gun to hug a grizzly.
  - ~ If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
  - ~ When you give a lesson in meanness to a critter or a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.
  - ~ When you're throwin' your weight around, be ready to have it thrown around by somebody else.
  - ~ Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back.
  - ~ Always take a good look at what you're about to eat.
- It's not so important to know what it is, but it's critical to know what it was.
- ~ The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back in your pocket.
  - ~ Never miss a good chance to shut up.

### ***Last but not least:***

**Just a reminder**, no practice Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Performance** in Luck, WI --Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Location** is Central Park in Luck, WI.

(The park is across the street from Luck Lutheran Church at 510 E Foster Ave Luck, WI.)

**Rain location** is Luck Lutheran Church.

**\*Dress-** summer uniform of red short sleeve shirt, tan pants, brown belt, brown shoes.

**Performance time** is 6:30 pm.

Riser/sound crew report at 5 pm; all others 5:45 pm.

We will have a short practice after the performance so bring your music with you.