

RMD Weekly

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SOCIETY PURCHASES NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN NASHVILLE

As Roger Lewis told us in his address at the Fall Convention in Layton, the Barbershop Harmony Society obtained an existing building in the heart of downtown Nashville for its new Headquarters.

The Society will breathe new life into the 36,000-square-foot building, located at 110 7th Avenue North, as extensive renovations begin in the next few months. Just off Broadway in the center of Nashville—with easy access off Interstate 65—the Society headquarters will enjoy a prime location, good neighbors, and great potential for return on investment. Centering the Society in Music City will help increase awareness of the organization and the barbershop harmony art form.

Located in the immediate area of the new Society headquarters are the Nashville Convention Center, the Gaylord Entertainment Center, an arts magnet high school, a Masonic temple and a planned residential building. Only minutes away are the brand new Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Ryman Auditorium and Tennessee State, Belmont and Vanderbilt universities. Nashville, itself, is a prime tourism location.

Purchase and renovation of the building will be funded by money from the 2003 sale of Society's properties in Kenosha and financing arranged through Sun Trust Bank. Purchase price was \$1,450,000. The anticipated move date is late summer 2007.

COTS AND HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING IN DENVER NOV. 11-12

A number of important discussions and votes will occur at the House of Delegates meeting in Denver November 11 at 9:00 AM, followed by COTS (which ALL Chapter Presidents should also attend).

Two openings for the District Board of Directors will be decided by the HOD, as we have two candidates for each position. Of course, all 4 are highly qualified to serve, however the future direction of the District will be placed in their hands and since the Board serves and operates under the authority of the Chapters, it is YOUR decision on Nov 11 that will determine the future decisions of the Board.

A revolutionary re-design of COTS (with the "fingerprints" of three Chapter Presidents in our District who served on the SubCommittee) will be proposed and explained. The future of training chapter leadership will be at a crossroads. Your input is sought, and we anticipate you will find this concept intriguing.

The 2007 budget will be presented for approval, and anticipate discussion about District revenue (including the possibility of adjusting dues).

COTS registration (and quartet coaching) information is on the District website www.RMDsing.org

VOLUNTEER NOW FOR 2007 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN DENVER

The RMD is host to the Barbershop Harmony Society TWICE in 2007...Albuquerque for MidWinter (see below) and Denver for the July International Convention. With 10,000 expected to visit Denver, MANY volunteers will be needed. Visit www.RMDsing.org and click on the "On-line Volunteer Form" at the bottom of the home page to register as a volunteer. It only takes a couple minutes to complete the form.

MID-WINTER CONVENTION...NOW HEAR THIS!

With 2007 being the 50th anniversary of Meredith Willson's "Music Man", the festivities will begin in Albuquerque with a "Buffalo Bill's – Era" quartet contest. It'll be held on Friday of the convention week with eliminations mid-morning and a ten quartet final contest Friday evening. The five-category Contest and Judging system will be used. This is the system that held sway for over twenty years from the 50's to the early 70's without alteration.

The winning quartet will walk away with \$3,000 and an appearance on the Saturday evening show which features the current champions Vocal Spectrum and other medalists. Second and third places will be for \$2,000 and \$1,000 respectively. The five medalist quartets will receive appropriate medals with ribbons depicting the event. (And I'd be willing to bet that some of the members of past champion quartets will be there to encourage you!) GO FOR IT!

To find out what it's all about get your quartet to sign up to compete. If you're not part of a quartet now, get three other guys and form one.

Here's a list of the five categories:

Balance & Blend / Voice Expression / Harmony Accuracy / Arrangements / Stage Presence.

There will be ten judges, two per category, each one listening to only one phase of your presentation.

For example: the singing time is four to six minutes - if your two songs are under or over the limits set you are penalized. You need to look sharp! The costumes are anything other than business suits or casual street wear, and if they're vintage costumes they should fit the theme of your presentation.

So sign up - its only \$20 per quartet and you will receive a CD with a group of songs as sung by Past Champions of that period - songs by the Confederates, Mid States Four, Suntones, etc. - Worth the price of admission right there - how can you not afford the entry fee?

Arrangements that portray that time period will be available from Society headquarters for a small fee.

The contest stage will be set up with an acoustical shell - no monitor speakers, and a stereo pair of microphones. Sound like fun? - You bet it is. Join us - and help the Barbershop Harmony Society and the Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association preserve the medium and - Bring back those good old days!

The 2006 international medal winning quartets raised the bar at the summer convention. You'll get to hear these masters of four-part harmony, plus other top-notch Barbershoppers, perform at their best before their peers. The AISQC Show and the Show of Champions feature an array of medal-winning Barbershoppers along with the newly-crowned Senior Quartet champion and the Buffalo Bills-Era

Quartet Contest winners. Here's the schedule:

Friday, 1:00 p.m. Seniors Quartet Contest

Friday, 7:30 p.m. AISQC Show Featuring:

- a.. AISQC Chorus performing a Music Man medley
- b.. Flipside, 2006 International Bronze Medalists
- c.. Antique Gold, 2006 AISQC Quartet Champion
- d.. 2007 AISQC Champion Quartet
- e.. Metropolis, 2006 International Bronze Medalists
- f.. "You Raise Me Up" performed by AISQC Chorus with Antique Gold, Vocal Spectrum and soloist Tim Waurwick.

Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Show of Champions featuring

- a.. Winners of the Buffalo Bills-Era Contest
- b.. The Medalist Chorus
- c.. OC Times, 2006 International Bronze Medalist Quartet
- d.. Duke City Chorus from Albuquerque
- e.. Max Q, 2006 International Silver Medalist Quartet
- f.. Vocal Spectrum and Max Q Octet
- g.. Vocal Spectrum, 2006 International Gold Medalist Quartet

All events will take place in KIVA Auditorium in the Albuquerque Convention Center, located right across the street from the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the headquarters hotel for this convention.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HARMONY COLLEGE FEB. 2-3 ESTES PARK

Mark your calendar and plan to attend Rocky Mountain Harmony College. Negotiations are in process for exciting faculty / performers that you won't want to miss. More details to follow.

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