



**President's Corner –
Ig Jakovac**

Hi Gang – the summer is almost over and the District Contest is upon us. We have already had one coaching session with **Gary Plaag** and will have another on September 7. I'm tickled with how well our package is coming together. I'm also happy that **Steve Montgomery** has become involved in helping with the staging and presentation – thanks Steve! Also, I'm sure that our audience will love watching **Jared Qahash** strut his stuff - welcome Jared – can't wait 'till the first weekend in October...

In addition to the District Contest, we are preparing for our Christmas show which will be at the BranchCreek Community Church on December 10, 11 (Friday night and Saturday afternoon). We already have learning tracks and music for most of the new songs that will be introduced this year – music and tracks were provided early to give each of you the time that you need to learn each of the songs well before the second weekend of December....

Finally, it will soon be time to elect a new board of directors for 2011– if you have interest in serving, please contact me. I would love to tell you how things work, what would be involved and how you might participate.



Our Director

Hi everyone,

It is thrilling to be part of a thriving chapter isn't it? This would not be possible without everyone's willingness to accept change and adapt.

Change for the North Pennsmen includes a constant stream of new members, developing new vocal skills and diving in to what is for us, new performance concepts.

For many, adaptation to change is scary and darn right impossible unless...unless there is a tremendous amount of trust.

So this article is dedicated to all of you who are willing to trust in what Ig and I bring to you each week, trust in what your section buddy or quartet member is willing to provide to you so that you can improve, trust in what Kathryn teaches during your vocal lesson, trust in coaches we bring in to work with us, trust in members who have begun sharing their talents (amongst others Steve Montgomery), and above all trust in **yourself** that you can take it all in, adapt and change!!!

From your truly all around performance happy,
Anne - AKA – Raggedy A (did I hear a hint of Canadian in that?)

PS - I am **SO** looking forward to bringing our show package to our District audience!

Anne





Ig's singing corner

Hi Gang – our singing continues to improve – almost all of us have taken

advantage of the voice lessons that we offer on Tuesday nights. There is nothing like getting one-on-one vocal instruction to pin point improvement opportunities for any given individual. I know that many of you are working on some specific things to improve the way that you sing. FANTASTIC! Keep up the good work...

Let's talk about ensemble singing in the Barbershop Style – you can be the best individual singer but if you don't know your responsibilities within the ensemble, you can detract vs. adding to the ensemble sound – each ensemble, be it a quartet or chorus, has a different sound and it is up to each individual to fully participate and add to vs. detract from the ensemble. This takes a lot of work and a lot of time.

Our chorus is constantly improving the ensemble sound and if you miss rehearsal time with the chorus for whatever reason, please be prepared to listen very carefully and make sure that your beautiful voice is blending and adding to the ensemble – don't be surprised if the sound around you a bit different – make the appropriate adjustments.... don't assume that you can just step in and add to sound – work to blend and then add to/reinforce the sound.

Please remember that ensemble singing is a team sport – there is no "I" in "TEAM".



One Button Could Save Barbershop

This morning I was working at the Main Line YMCA as a tennis court consultant, (unpaid volunteer) when one of the maintenance men saw my "Do You Like To Sing" button and was interested. He sings with a men's church choir in North Philadelphia and they are preparing for a big sing out in mid September. I will try to get him in touch with the Philadelphia chapter which is a reasonable driving distance from where he lives.

Yesterday a local vendor was in my office and upon seeing the button told me that he sings in the shower and might be interested in barbershop. He lives near Bryn Mawr.

Since I have been wearing my button, about six weeks cumulative duration, I have met five people who are interested in singing. One was in New Jersey near Cherry Hill, one was in Newtown Square near Delco, one was in Washington DC near the Harmonizers. Because I live quite a distance from Lansdale, these people are not potential North Pennsmen, but DING, DING, DING. Bells should be going off in the head of every Pennsmen who wants his chapter to continue to grow in the 21st century and beyond. Tuesday August 31 we all attended a great chapter meeting. It was the kind of meeting that leaves you happy inside and proud to be part of an organization that creates and spreads good will and joy in the world. If you leave a chapter meeting with that kind of feeling inside, wouldn't you be doing a great service to others to bring them into the fold.

Wear your button every day. Wear it proudly. Wear it with the confidence that your effort will be rewarded by introducing new people to our great organization.

Developing a Character

There are many theories of acting that try to get at the core skill of developing a character. Often, different strokes work for different folks and what works in one situation may not work in another. The trick is to figure out what will work for you in the time and place you need it. Here are some tips:

1) Think “action and movement”



While costuming, make-up, and the text enhance a character, ultimately, it is what the actor *does* that establishes who you *are* to the audience. This means finding and performing those external actions, movements, postures, expressions, and sounds that provide clues to your story. Start by finding or creating the actions or movements that are associated with your character. Now, of course, this is easy if you are a dog. We know these by heart because we’ve watched our pets, we pretended as children, and we saw TV shows and movies. There are many more actions and movements we can describe (and do) for a dog than for, say, an ice cream cone. But, try looking from the outside in. Instead of asking the somewhat meaningless question, “What does an ice cream cone do?” Let’s ask, “What actions are associated with ice cream cones?” And we can come up with, for example: put three scoops on it, lick it around the edge, offer a lick to a friend, or clean the ring of chocolate around a child’s mouth.

2) Keep it simple

Stick to one or two actions that are associated with your character and repeat them. Practice until it flows easily and you can perform them unconsciously.



3) Keep it in perspective

First, we are not doing Shakespeare, or *Le Miz*, or *Gone With the Wind*! Sustaining a believable character over several hours is extremely difficult. Fortunately, we are not faced with that challenge. There may, actually, only be a few very brief moments in which to “act” the part. And, keep in mind, only your friends and relatives are bound to look at you more than once or twice. *Second*, some “characters” are easier to realize than others. Recall the dog and the ice cream cone. If your role seems difficult to access, accept it, work with what you’ve got (or pick a different role!) and see tips 1 and 2.



What questions do you have? As you begin putting your character together, don’t hesitate to call me or grab me at rehearsal. I can help figure out what’s working and what isn’t and offer suggestions that will build your repertoire!

Steve Montgomery



Meet Dave Harvobe

By Jeery Heebner

Dave's first musical instruments were a saxophone and an accordion and he participated in a marching band, jazz band, polka bands, concert bands, and even in a "big band" with songs from the 40's like "In The Mood." But it wasn't until he had graduated from Lehigh University and moved to Baton Rouge, LA as an employee of Exxon Corp (at that time) that he was invited to hear barbershop music for the first time at a local show which featured "The Insiders" from the Houston chapter. He was hooked and began attending rehearsals from that time on.

He began his singing as a child in a Russian Orthodox Church choir, where as a 12 year old, he sang in Ukrainian!! Their style, Dave comments, is very different from traditional church music with many arrangements in minor chords that seem to have their own way of ringing.

Growing up he always enjoyed harmonizing with the Beach Boys on radio or LPs or maybe Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. It's easy to imagine him singing "Sherry," or "Big Girls Don't Cry" as Frankie. He has always enjoyed harmonizing parts and has a latent interest in being a baritone. Now, why would anyone *want* to be a baritone?

Since becoming a barbershopper, he has enjoyed quartetting. He joined first one in Baton Rouge and later another in Detroit, MI. Both shall remain anonymous, mainly because Dave can't remember their names. After then moving on to Houston, TX, he sang Tenor for the quartet "Chord of Appeals." All quartets competed at some level.

Writing show scripts is a recent challenge for him. He is presently setting out to produce his third Christmas show script and claims that being part of several choruses and having a wild imagination has helped him in this endeavor

Dave always thought he would meet his future wife at a church function or maybe at a bowling alley, but it happened at a *bar* where there was *drinking* and *smoking* and *loud conversation*.

On that fateful night in Houston, *both* he and Anne were stood up by their dates and they became acquainted...the rest is history! That was 20 years and four children ago.

Their oldest, Sherrie, will be starting at Kutztown University this fall with Chris and Megan in high school and their youngest, Ben is in middle school. Dave feels that their family has lived the lives of the Griswolds as portrayed in the movie *Family Vacation*.

When he was growing up, his family always spent a week at Wildwood which offers many a happy memory. His brother still lives in the Allentown area. Dave and Anne and the children are preparing to return to Destin, Florida for their vacation this August. Hopefully, it will not be spoiled by the effects of the oil spill and they can re-live the wonderful time they had there some years ago.

He has spent his 30 year career with the same company, Exxon Corp., although that has meant changing addresses from time to time. He has been in Baton Rouge, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Houston again (Clear Lake area) and finally back to his home area of SE Pennsylvania. His chemical engineer degree put him in chemical sales with a focus on additives for plastics.

Dave has many other interests besides barbershop singing. He likes to work with wood and is contemplating trying cabinetry to go with the other remodeling jobs that he has done around his house. Another area that has provided relaxation is fishing, especially fly fishing. As a kid he used to tie his own fishing flies and he likes to think he could still do that after 30 years, but hasn't tried it lately. Instead he enjoys sewing and has even done Ukrainian embroidery. Add to that cooking, gardening and camping and you find that Dave is always active at some hobby. Playing tennis was an activity of the past that doesn't seem to fit into today's schedule.

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Meet Dave continues.....

He favors any dining facility that has an Italian cuisine with no particular special one in mind. Unfortunately, he may not be welcome at restaurants, as three of his favorites, Abrizzio's in Coopersburg, Kennedy-Suplee in Valley Forge, and Cappie's at Lake Nockamixon have all closed.

Dave says that his main goal in life is to enjoy it and have fun as in "Are we having fun yet?" As he wants to see his children succeed by doing their best, he reminds them that being a good person to others is very important too .

How to Simulate Being in the Navy/Coast Guard

Bill Gleason

1. Buy a dumpster, paint it gray inside and out, and live in it for six months.
 - 1a. Submarines -- Black outside, Pea Green inside.
2. Run all the pipes and wires in your house exposed on the walls.
3. Repaint your entire house every month.
4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of the bathtub and move the shower head to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while you soap down.
5. Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it on high.
6. Once a week, blow air up your chimney, with a leaf blower and let the wind carry the soot onto your neighbor's house. Ignore his complaints.
7. Once a month, take all major appliances apart and assemble them.
8. Raise the thresholds and lower the headers of your front and back doors so that you either trip or bang your head every time you pass through them.
9. Disassemble and inspect your lawnmower every week.
10. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, turn your water heater temperature up to 200 degrees. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, turn the water heater off. On Saturdays and Sundays tell your family they use too much water, so no bathing will be allowed.
11. Raise your bed to within 6 inches of the ceiling, so you can't turn over without getting out and then getting back in

12. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Have your spouse whip open the curtain about 3 hours after you go to sleep, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and say "Sorry, w r o n g r a c k . "

13. Make your family qualify to operate each appliance in your house - dishwasher operator, blender technician, etc. Re-qualify every 6 months.

14. Have your neighbor come over each day at 0500, blow a whistle so loud Helen Keller could hear it, and shout "Reveille, reveille, all hands heave out and t r i c e u p . "

15. Have your mother-in-law write down everything she's going to do the following day, then have her make you stand in your back yard at 0600 while she r e a d s i t t o y o u .

16. Submit a request chit to your father-in-law requesting permission to leave your house before 1500

17. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep the driveway three times a day, whether it needs it or not. "Now sweepers, sweepers, man your brooms, give the ship a clean sweep down fore an aft, empty all shit cans and butt kits!"

18. Have your neighbor collect all your mail for a month, read your magazines, and randomly lose every 5th item before delivering the rest.

19. Watch no TV except for movies played in the middle of the night. Have your family vote on which movie to watch, then show a different one--the same one every night.

20. When your children are in bed, run into their room with a megaphone shouting "Now general quarters, general quarters! All hands man your battle s t a t i o n s !

21. Make your family's menu a week ahead of time without consulting the pantry or refrigerator

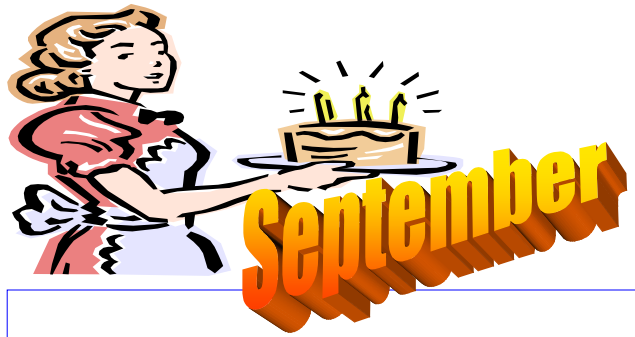
22. Post a menu on the kitchen door informing your family that they are having steak for dinner. Then make them wait in line for an hour. When they finally get to the kitchen, tell them you are out of steak, but they can have dried ham or hot dogs. Repeat daily until they ignore the menu and just ask for hot dogs.

23. Bake a cake. Prop up one side of the pan so the cake bakes unevenly. Spread icing real thick to level it off.

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- 24. Get up every night around midnight and have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on stale bread.
- 25. Set your alarm clock to go off at random during the night. At the alarm, jump up and dress as fast as you can, making sure to button your top shirt button and tuck your pants into your socks. Run out into the back yard and uncoil the garden hose and put out a simulated fire.
- 26. Every week or so, throw your cat or dog into the pool and shout "Man overboard, port side!" Rate your family members on how fast they respond.
- 27. Put the headphones from your stereo on your head, but don't plug them in. Hang a paper cup around your neck on a string. Stand in front of the stove, and speak into the paper cup, "Stove manned and ready." After an hour or so, speak into the cup again "Stove secured." Roll up the headphones and paper cup and stow them in a shoe box.
- 28. Make your family turn out all the lights and go to bed at 10 p.m. "Now taps, taps! Lights out! Maintain silence throughout the ship!" Then immediately have an 18-wheeler crash into your house. (For aircraft carrier sailors.)
- 29. Build a fire in a trash can in your garage. Loudly announce to your family, "This is a drill, this is a drill! Fire in hangar bay one!"
- 30. Place a podium at the end of your driveway. Have your family stand in front of the podium for 4-hour intervals. Best done when the weather is worst. January is a good time.
- 31. Next time there's a bad thunderstorm in your area, find the biggest horse you can, put a two-inch mattress on his back, strap yourself to it and turn him loose in a barn for six hours. Then get up and go to work.
- 32. For former engineers: bring your lawn mower into the living room, and run it all day long.
- 33. Make coffee using eighteen scoops of budget priced coffee grounds per pot, and let the pot simmer for 5 hours before drinking.



- 6 Bob Schuetrumpf
- 6 Dick Stuart
- 12 Pat Carey
- 13 Rich Mauer
- 15 Jean Moyer
- 16 John Thiessen
- 19 Bob Detwiler
- 19 Barbara Gingrich
- 25 Anita Vogel
- 26 Patricia Alderfer
- 27 Ray Landes
- 30 Janet Aldinger

Do to new members and lost files I'm sure have miss some birthdays. If so please let me know so that I can put you in or make any corrections.

The editor



Oct. 2 District contest Lancaster, Pa.
Toy Soldier package


Sept 11 Souderton 9/11 memorial concert
Star Sp Ban and Patr. Mdly

Oct. 21 Normandy Farms 45 minutes

Oct. 24 St-Johns UCC Lansdale combined
concert with LBS 30 minutes+ Lida Rose

Nov. 14 Springhouse estates combined con-
cert with LBS

Thanks to this month's contributors:



**Anne Bureau, Ig Jakovac, Jerry Heebner,
Steve Montgomery, David Baraff and**

Penn Notes

A lot of exciting things are happening at the North Pennsmen Chapter. Bring your friends on any Tuesday night. They will have an enjoyable evening because..

**“It’s great to be a Barbershopper!
Especially at Lansdale!”**



Contributors to this News Letter are wanted. So if you have anything of interest to Barbershoppers send it to me. The **deadline** is the **15th** of the month.



North Pennsmen Officers

President..... Ig Jakovac
Past President..... Rich Maurer
VP Music & Perf..... Al Anderton
VP Chapter Dev..... Vince Czepukaitis
VP Programs..... Ig Jakovac
Treasurer..... Ken Gingrich
Secretary..... Pat Shelly
Board Members..... David Baraff, Al Pasquale, Tom Telford

Musical Director..... Anne Bureau
Golden Pennsmen Director... Don Detweiler

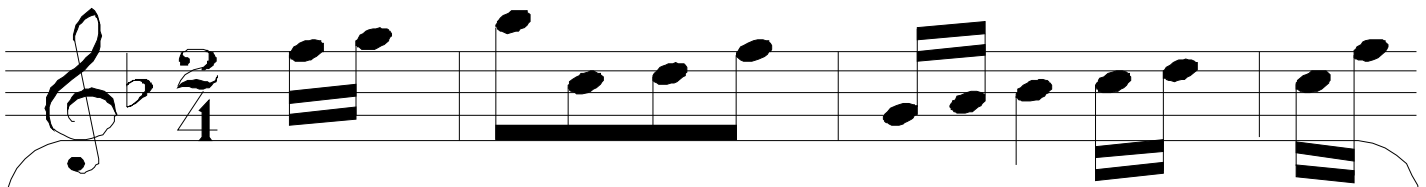
Meetings

Tuesday Nights, 7:00 p.m.
Central Schwenkfelder Church
Valley Forge Road, Worcester, Pa.

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