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The Weekly Newsletter of the
Choo Choo Chorus

Monday, September 27, 2010

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Last Minute Reminder

On Thursday, September 23rd, we sing at Alexian Grove which is located at 100 Asbury Oak Lane,

Meeting Script

7:00 Chuck leads warm up with TOS, stretching, breathing, pitch matching, tuning, and work on a Polecat.

7:20 Work on Cruising Down the River

7:40 Work on Showboat

8:00 Business meeting and break

8:10 Sectionals on Showboat

8:30 Risers - work on both contest songs

9:25 Gandy Dancer Award – Keep The Whole World Singing

at Exit 174 behind the Tennessee Highway Patrol Post west of town. We meet at 6:15PM and sing at 7:00PM. Lets wear the casual outfit of white knit chorus shirt, khaki pants and brown shoes. *Dave Rack*

Summary of Last Monday's Meeting

Chuck opened the meeting with TOS and we sang a welcome to guest Grady Rhoden who accepted our Annual Show invitation to visit. Chuck worked on warm up exercises and the Tag I Love You So.

Paul worked on Cruising Down the River until break. He worked with a coach over the weekend that stressed the importance of basics; stance, chest position, carry arms, etc., all leading to being relaxed.

Wilbur lead announcements. We took a count of who is going to contest and it is 20. Dave Rack has us returning to a favorite sing out at the Monteagle Assembly on July 25, 2011. We also will sing at Creekside on December 14th.Costume for contest will be the same as for Act 1 of our Annual Show. Wally is contacting previous CCCCC members and inviting them to sing in this year's Christmas Chorus. You can save him time by telling him who you already know is joining us.

Get Ready for the CCCCC

The Monday after contest is our first rehearsal for the Christmas Chorus. I really need all hands on deck for that rehearsal to set the mood. If we are going to put 100 on stage on December 4, we need to be friendly and energetic. We need to focus on great singing and good riser etiquette. We have to do all of these things to make it easy for the first group to tell their friends, and their friends' friends. Please send me the names of anyone you have already contacted so I have fewer people to call. Thanks, Wally@epbfi.com

Message from our Prez

Recently I have been reminded how our Barbershop Chapter and probably others too are different from many other groups that bring people together. It seems that in this group we have only one thing in common, our love for singing together. Most groups, civic clubs, churches, etc., seem to attract members who have a lot in common, but I have observed little of this in Barbershoppers.

For one thing our membership is world-wide. It is true that some other groups are international, but how many of them actually congregate in one place every year as we do? Few if any, I think. Our membership crosses all social and political lines. The rich and the minimum wage earner stand side by side on our risers. Our political opinions might have us fighting if fully aired. I have never known of a group that has so many religious denominations represented. We come from many different states and many different cultural backgrounds within the same states.

It is amazing that this group can agree on anything and yet year after year we continue. It is true that some depart over differences but some find that the thing that brings us together, our music, is worth putting forth the effort to keep our differences in the background without giving up our differences. To borrow from a song, we choose to "Accentuate the Positive". Maybe after all, this diversity is the most enriching aspect of our group even if it is the source of many of our problems. Lebron Brock

Paul passed on the comments of Patrick Thomas who review our Annual Show. The SSB behind the curtain was a mistake. He liked our quartets. Banana Boat Song was our most entertaining and Shenandoah was great. We had good flow to the program.

We broke into sectionals to work on Showboat. We went to the risers and worked on both contest songs. Dave Rack awarded the Gandy to me. I led a very fast KTTWS. Steve Wixson

Latest from our Business Manager

Please note the following schedule changes:

We sing at Alexian Grove Thursday, September 23rd, warm up to begin at 6:15PM so we can sing promptly at 7PM. See Calendar for directions.

The Citizenship Naturalization Ceremony at The U.S District Court in Chattanooga for October 21st is no longer on the calendar.

Please add to our calendar Creekside Retirement Center for Tuesday, Dec 14th, Warm up to begin at 6:15PM. Dave Rack