The Weekly Newsletter of the

Choo Choo Chorus

You're receiving this e-mail because you are a member or friend of the Choo Choo Chorus

RC3 Plus @ Gann

May 13, 2013

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MLT Meeting, Monday, May 13, 5:30 PM, All Saints

Scout Flag Day, Saturday, May 25, National Cemetery, Arrive 7:15 AM for 8 AM program, Patriotic uniform

Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, National Cemetery, 10:15 AM, Patriotic uniform

Summer Cookout, June 29

Ruby Falls, Thursday, July 4

Lakeside Harmony Weekend, July 19-20, Huntsville, This is our chapter retreat for 2013.

Ruby Falls, Saturday, July 27

Annual Show, August 17, GPS, Lunch Break is guest quartet.

Fall Contest, October 4-5, Chattanooga, we are host.

Christmas Show, Thursday, December 19, Tivoli

Christmas Party, December 15 (tentative)

Gann Middle Elementary School Quarteting

Each spring, Gann Middle Elementary School dedicates a day to teaching their students different styles of music and art. For the past several years, twelve or so, the Choo Choo Chorus has been represented by a quartet demonstrating the barbershop style of singing. Scenic City Sound enjoyed the privilege of doing this for each of these sessions until this year. This year, as your can see, Rock City Three and me enjoyed this experience. We sang and taught the barbershop style to four different classes, all fourth graders. We truly enjoyed it and the students did also. *Wilbur*

Online Archive

Script for Monday Meeting

7:02 Chuck leads warm up plus Polecat
7:15 Chuck - Polecat - Down By The Old Mill Stream
7:30 Paul - Celebrate Harmony
7:50 Paul - Sweet Adeline
8:05 Paul - Focus Session on Vowels
8:20 Announcements & break
8:30 Four on the Floor - Brock/Br, Brock/L, Charlie/Bs, Chuck/T
8:40 Risers - Caroline
8:50 Risers - Lulus Back in Town
9:00 Risers - Darkness on the Delta
9:10 Risers - Simple Melody
9:20 Risers - Memorial Day Set
9:28 Gandy Dancer Award and KTWWS

Highlights of Last Meeting

The Vowel Focus Session was 'i' as in 'sit.' SteveG led announcements. Fred gave renewals to DaveF (9 Years) and Chuck (23). Rich present a sing out possibility for Creekside on June 8, and OK'd it. Also reminded us of Scout and Memorial Sing outs singing *Armed Forces Medley* and more. Jesse passed the Gandy to Chuck. We closed with KTWWS plus *Celebrate*.

Barbershop Term of the Week (BTOW)

Let's complete our major/minor set this week. What makes something minor? Like the major chord, a minor chord has the root and perfect fifth notes, but the third is a half-step lower. So it's the root, the note three half-steps up from the root, and the note seven half-steps up from the root (e.g., C,Eb,G). The sound of a minor chord isn't as consonant as a major chord because the minor 3rd overtone appears much later in the overtone series than the major third (4th overtone vs. 18th). Unlike the major scale, there are multiple versions of the minor scale and they differ if you are descending. This blows my mind and I don't currently understand it. Despite their increased dissonance, the minor chord is still pleasing in its own way. Unlike many cultures around the world, we have been conditioned to associate minor chords and scales with sadness, darkness, and mystery. I have read that early barbershoppers called any chord other than major triads "minor chords". I think that this must be why The Old Songs references minor chords when there isn't a minor chord in it. This makes sense to me because the barbershop seventh chord that we love so much has a minor seventh instead of the evil, evil major seventh. *Wally*

[Click HERE to read Wally's Words from previous newsletters. Note that this PDF was reorganized by category to make it easier to find articles.]

Video Game with A Mighty Wind

In case you missed it, The Atlanta quartet, *A Mighty Wind*, has been featured in a video game. *Bioshock Infinite* is a very well-reviewed game from a major publisher, similar to a Hollywood blockbuster but in the gaming world. It is expected to sell 4.5 million copies this year. The game is set in an alternate version of the US in the early 1900s. They are singing God Only Knows by The Beach Boys. Click HERE to view the video: *Wally*