

Subject: AHSOW Bulletin May 2009 FINAL

From: Casey Parker <caseypar@garlic.com>

Date: Fri, 01 May 2009 09:34:35 -0700

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The AHSOW BULLETIN

An occasional publication of AHSOW

Reporting progress on Preserving the art of improvised harmony

Volume 4, Issue 1

Editor Casey Parker

May 2009

Dedicated to preserving the art of improvising harmony

ABOUT AHSOW

The Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders is a subsidiary of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. There are about 1,200 members of 28,000 SPEBSQSA members who have qualified for membership in AHSOW by acceptably improvising 2 or 3 harmony parts. Annual dues of \$10 is billed through the SPEBSQSA/BHS dues invoice system. Website <http://ahsow.org> [transfers to <http://www.harmonize.com/ahsow/>]

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS: Meetings will be held during the International Convention week of June 28 - July 5, 2009 in Anaheim CA as follows -- AHSOW Board Meeting; DEC Meeting and Membership Meeting. This is a request for Agenda items for these meetings. Send these to the AHSOW President . NOTE - The President will obtain AHSOW room information from HQ

NOMINATIONS

AHSOW always needs a few good men! Nominations will open soon for the following positions, with expiration of July 2009:

President; Executive Vice President; Corporate Secretary; Treasurer; and Education Manager East. Self nominations are permitted. Nominees are expected to serve a two year term and must have sufficient time to perform the duties. See By Laws at the web site, ahsow.org for position descriptions. Address nominations to the Corporate Secretary, or Nominating Committee Chairman when announced.

Applicants for appointment as District Educator & Certifier are solicited for the following Districts: DIX; ILL: LOL; NED; PIO; SUN and SWD. Address applications to the AHSOW President.

AHSOW NEWS

Steve Shanon was appointed as Executive Vice President to fill the remaining term. The new Discovery Singing II CD is available from ExVP Shannon.

Casey Parker was reinstated as DEC of FWD, John Schulkins was appointed to fill remaining term as Education Manager East..

OFFICER REPORTS

President

Duties By-laws 3.02.

NO REPORT RECEIVED

Sam McFarland, Incumbent

Executive Vice-President

Duties By-laws 3.03.

"Everything Old IS New A-gain!"

Well, OK, maybe not everything,... but this year AHSOW is taking a giant step "back to the future". If you are an "old time ear-singer", you

ought to love this ride!

For the past several years, I've heard singers complain that "there just isn't time..." or, "there aren't any places"... for them to sing the Old Songs. "Conventions have become so dominated by contest schedules that no one stops a stranger to bust a chestnut in a hallway, or a restaurant, or a street corner. We USED to do that! And it was fun!!!"

I'm betting that those frustrated ear-singers wouldn't have said that if they had attended the 2008 Harmony University, or the many marvelous District AHSOW Rooms or the wonderful Woodshed Weekends (like Dundalk's) this past year. WE did have fun!!!

Times, they are a-changing. With the addition of two outstanding Education Managers, (John Schulkins - in the east and Kent Shepherd - in the west), AHSOW is solidly on track and heading in the right direction.

=> Imagine Old Fashioned, "Come-on-in-and-sing-with-us" A-Rooms at every Division, District and International event.

=> Imagine an AHSOW that has at least one Field Representative in every chapter. (Far Western District is already leading the charge with 14 [FOURTEEN] new Field Reps appointed!!! Nice going, Casey!)

=> Imagine, having at least one trained ear-singer in your chapter. (Could be you.)

=> Imagine your Director allocating some time each week for ear-training. (We have a 5 minute per week plan that will help your chorus tune better.)

=> Imagine you knowing the melody lines to several dozen great woodshedding songs. (Get our new learning CD... 43 great melodies!)

=> Imagine you becoming a major part of the solution... (Just ask us how.)

=> Imagine you responding to this article, contacting your AHSOW leader and asking how you can help put the joy back into your Barbershop experience. (Send me a note and I'll get you with your team leader.)

Help us bring back the good old days. Just do it... ! Steve Shannon Exec VP

Corporate Secretary

Duties By-laws 3.04.

Casey, Thanks for the follow-up. I doubt I have much to report. Sam and

Casey, It might be worth following up on the actions I sent out after

our last Board meeting. Thanks, **Noah Morrison**

Treasurer

Duties By-laws 3.05.

NO REPORT RECEIVED

Rod Sparks, Incumbent

Manager of Publicity & Promotion

Duties By-laws 3.06.

I have been exploring the barbershopHQ weblog, and it seems to me that the possibility exists to use it to attract more people to Woodshedding with a constructive discussion of what woodshedding is and how you can participate in it.

Yes, there is AWSOWnet, but it is for members only. How do we attract new members through it? I submit to you that we can't, but I am also certain that wasn't what that group was designed for, and I do not suggest we change that. But also use this new avenue that has been provided by the International staff

Maybe some with vastly more experience than I could start a woodshedding discussion. This discussion needs to be informative, and above most else, positive, with stories of good woodshedding experiences and other topics. At present, it is mindboggling for me to contemplate, but I am certain we can attract new members through this.

Respectfully submitted

Ross Lindgren

Manager/Publicity-& Promotion

Information Manager

Duties By-laws 3.07.

Membership report Spring 2009

The AHSOW Roster database shows us at exactly 1,296 members, almost exactly level from this time a year ago. That total, however, includes a number of members who have not renewed their dues since the Society cutover to the new 'Aptify' billing system. We are working diligently with Society staff to separate these members who might want to renew from those who have simply dropped their Society membership or have purposefully dropped their AHSOW membership while remaining in the Society. It's a difficult reconciling process and in the effort, we have discovered five deaths we didn't know about, and six men who had dropped out of the Society but later rejoined. The term, "a long hard slog" comes to mind...

To help me, if any of you receive your Society e-mailed renewal notices and the line for "AHSOW \$10" is *not* on it, please forward it back (with a cc to me,) and ask for a correction. That will be better than catching up two or three years all at once and they will be receiving feedback directly about the problem!

We have had six deaths since the last publication. Three were actually 2008 deaths but were reported too late for the Annual Directory issued at yearend; and we have had three deaths so far this year. They are:

Gene Crouse (Happauge NY), Aug 08
 Dick Cornett (Howard OH), Dec 08
 John Wenzel (Trenton MI), Dec 08
 Gerald Hubbell (Raleigh NC), Jan 09
 Marvon Spellman (Kearney NE), Feb 09
 Robert Angel (Sun City AZ), Mar 09

We have gained a pleasant 19 new members so far this year. I'll show them all here rather than in the reports of the various DEC's:

Dave Pearce Deer Valley SK Reinstated MidWinter, 1/09
 James Kulinski Cranford NJ T L Br New (youth) MidWinter, 1/09
 Alex McCoy Cranford NJ T L Br New (youth) MidWinter, 1/09
 Ryan Brown Cranford NJ All parts New (youth) MidWinter, 1/09
 Joel LaScala Tonawanda NY All parts New MidWinter, 1/09
 Bari Courts Batavia OH All parts New MidWinter, 1/09
 Rasmus Krigstrom Sweden All parts New (SNOBS) MidWinter, 1/09
 Jakob Stenberg Sweden All parts New (SNOBS) MidWinter, 1/09
 Emanuel Roll Sweden All parts New (SNOBS) MidWinter, 1/09
 Martin Wahlgren Sweden All parts New (SNOBS) MidWinter, 1/09
 Jim Potter Arcadia CA L Br Bs New MidWinter, 1/09
 Jay Breen San Jose CA All parts New MidWinter, 1/09
 Kent Smallcomb Kearney NE T L Bs New MidWinter, 1/09
 Eliot Liles Aurora CO T L Bs New MidWinter, 1/09
 Al Weiss Las Vegas NV T L Br New FWD, 3/09
 Larry Litchfield Las Vegas NV T L Br New FWD, 3/09
 Rick Ives Jr. Las Vegas NV T L Bs New FWD, 3/09
 Randy Preston N Las Vegas NV T L Br New FWD, 3/09
 Steve Wallace Maryville TN All parts New DIX, 3/09
 Paul Collom Jefferson SC All parts New DIX, 3/09
 Rusty Brewer Wilmington NC All parts New DIX, 3/09
 Fred Jesse Ringgold GA All parts New DIX, 3/09
 Sam Tweedy Austin TX T Br Bs New SWD, 3/09
 Steve Patrick Hurricane WV All New JAD, 4/09

Thanks, and sing on! //Glenn Schilberg, Information Systems

Director of Commerce

Duties By-laws **3.08.**

Vacant

Manager of Member Service

Duties By-laws 3.09.

NO REPORT RECEIVED

Erik Deland, Incumbent, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Bulletin Editor

Duties By-laws 3.10.

BULLETIN EDITOR REPORT

Issued reminder 3/1, Call For Reports for May Bulletin, April 1, 2009 to all Board Members. Past officers and DEC's invited to contribute. Draft issued April 10. Second draft issued 4/28 . Final 5/1 Casey Parker

Education Managers

Duties By-laws 3.11.

Education Manager West

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU WANT TO THROW A PARTY BUT YOU HAVE NO PLACE TO THROW IT???

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT AN AHSOW ROOM IS A SORT OF A PARTY AND AT THE DIVISION LEVEL SOMETIMES THERE JUST ISN'T ANY ROOM FOR AN AHSOW ROOM PARTY, SO WHAT DO YOU DO? WELL I AM NOT GOING TO LET IT STOP ME, INSTEAD I'M SETTING UP AN AHSOW BOOTH FOR THE DIVISION CONTEST BEING HOSTED IN MAY BY MY OWN CHAPTER HERE IN FRESNO, W/FLYERS,THE BANNER, AND ANY INFO THAT I PERSONALLY GIVE OUT. (WHO KNOWS WE MAY EVEN GET A FEW GUYS SINGING RIGHT THERE NEXT TO THE REGISTRATION DESK). I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT AND TO SEEING HOW WE DO W/ THIS SET UP ON THE DIVISION LEVEL.

KENT SHEPHERD, EMW/ADEC/FIELD REP.

Education Manager East

NO REPORT RECEIVED

Incumbent John Schulkins

DEC REPORTS

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

> Hi Casey,

You will be glad to know that Earle Holt and I with the help of Charlie Bauder were not only able to sign up four new AHSOW members , but we also sold three Discovery In Singing 1 CD's w/ the books and three Discovery In Singing 2 CD's.

Since Jerry Hooper is the Co-DEC of RMD and has found it hard to run the AHSOW room as he needs to, I was able to run across a FOUR PART AHSOW since 1995 by the name of Oz Wehlander who eventually wants to take over as DEC in the RMD. He already has two men in mind to fill spots as ADEC's.

133947<>Oz WehlanderAlbuquerque NM, 505 298-5205 <ozmar@q.com td>

Below are the names, chapters and districts of the four new men who just happen to all four be FWD men from Las Vegas.

- 1. ALBERT WEISS, LAS VEGAS CHPTR., FWD 247581**
- 2. LARRY LITCHFIELD, LAS VEGAS GAMBOLAIRS, FWD 503341**
- 3. FREDRICK IVES JR., LAS VEGAS CHPTR., FWD 141552**
- 4. RANDY PRESTON, LAS VEGAS CHPTR., FWD 317142**

Kent Shepherd, EMW

DIXIE DISTRICT

Ahsow President and Board of Directors:

I assisted Don Dobson in the Ahsow Room, of the Dixie District Convention ;in Winston Salem,NC on Friday March 20th and 21st. The Dixie Events chairman Jack Donaldson provided us with a large room right on the main hallway;with plenty of chairs;two tables;and plenty of water,and glasses.The MC for each performance,announced at each session,that the Ahsow Room would be open;immediately after each contest---with refreshments---these

were provided by Don, as he always does at these occasions. Don placed Ahsow signs in every elevator of both hotels. Don is a dedicated woodshedder, and attempts to have quality help with each session. We were fortunate to have Don Lang, Bob Clark, and Dave Collins to assist with the auditions.

Traffic was heavy on Friday night, 30 to 40 guys; as you know, it is difficult to get them to sign in. We auditioned ten to fifteen guys, and qualified four--

Listed below, are the new members of AHSOW:

Steve Wallace #505900 Four part guy

Paul Collom #179891 Four Part Guy

Rusty Brewer # Four Part Guy

J. Fred Jesse #223633 Four Part Guy

Glenn--I had four books laid out for them---I also had "Audition Stickers"---only one picked up their book---and I don't know which one---Sorry 'bout that!

I was treated very kindly by the District---I was afforded front row seating, for the second year.

Sam, it would be nice, if you would thank District President Thom Hine; and Events chairman Jack Donaldson, for being so kind to us.

Respectfully submitted,

John Fisher

JOHNNY APPLESEED DISTRICT by Ken Wheeler

Hi Casey, Report for AHSOW bulletin. Although I was unable to attend Mid-Winter, JAD was well represented by ever faithful Glenn Schilberg. Bari Courts, son of past JAD President Gene Courts, became our latest 4 part member. Congratulations! We will have our Tommy's Woodshed at the Spring Prelims on April 17 and 18. I have been again asked to teach the woodshedding class at our HEP school, Apple Corps, June 11-13 again to be held at Kenyon College. I will be unable to attend the convention in Anaheim, and am still deciding about Harmony University, due to family concerns. Thanks for your yoeman efforts with the Bulletin. Hummmmmmmmbly, Ken

AHSOW Room at JAD Spring Convention (April 17-18, 2009)

Glenn Schilberg reporting for DEC Ken Wheeler who had a last-minute change of plans and could not attend the JAD Spring event due to family illness.

JAD Prez Dave Calland made sure we had a room reserved for AHSOW that was in a good location. JAD Exec VP Bari Courts, a new AHSOW member (from Pasadena MidWinter) also stopped in the AHSOW Room. We do have great District support for the cause of good woodshedding!

The headquarters hotel (Marriott) threw the JAD events staff a last-minute curve, forbidding the various hospitality rooms from carrying in food and drink! That certainly lessened the "walkabout" crowds thereby reducing traffic to the AHSOW Room. Most people simply seemed to stay in the bar, which is what the Marriott really wanted.

The other factor depressing AHSOW Room attendance was a push for a more quality-oriented pickup quartet activity. Sheet music was provided, the room was pre-staffed with guys who knew the songs, and men who knew the arrangements were encouraged to come sing. These weren't just Polecats or the overworn common repertoire, but full-length precise arrangements. (Mam'selle, Birth Of The Blues, One For My Baby, and so on.) So that generated a LOT of interest and siphoned off some potential woodshedding activity. I don't know how big the crowd was for that because I couldn't leave the AHSOW Room.

This type of activity may propagate to other Districts so this is simply a heads-up for other DEC's that we must be good neighbors and all share the same guys who like to cruise around and sing – while continuing to affirm the joy and benefits of creating harmony rather than merely reproducing someone else's ideas!

We did qualify one new member: Steve Patrick (see Info Mgr report above for details). Steve is a member of two WV chapters (Charleston and Huntington), directing the Huntington one. He's also a JAD Board Member-at-large. His wife (a former Sweet Adeline) can lay in a nice accurate tenor line also!

A few merchandise sales completed the evening, and various woodshedders told each other they'd see and sing with them again at Apple Corps (the JAD Harmony Weekend in June).

CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT AHSOW ROOM APRIL 24-25

Thanks to the CSD leadership (especially Don Fuson) for providing the AHSOW room for the CSD Spring Convention & Contest April 24-25. Friday afternoon was a fun time with 8 people visiting but no new members out of it. A fun time seemed to be the outcome as all stuck around for over an hour of the 2 hours allotted.

I was tied up with judges' evaluations for the allotted time from 11:00-12:00 that night and the door was locked (presumably by the hotel staff

when I checked at about 12:05. Saturday was a bust when no one showed up for the 1st hour of our 2 hours from 4-6. It was pretty much the only time to catch a meal before the announced 6:30 start of the quartet finals that evening. The 11:00-12:00 timeframe for that night didn't happen since the afterglow was still going on.

So the summary would be a good start for woodshedding to the weekend but little action thereafter. Bryce Hopkins, ADEC

JOIN AHSOWnet: IT IS A FORUM FOR AHSOW MEMBERS ONLY

Yahoo offers free list service to organizations for exchanging 2emails among members. Many of our members subscribe to the Yahoo "bbshop" group.

We have now established "AHSOWnet" a Yahoo Group for AHSOW members only. We invite all members to subscribe, and exchange ideas about our organization. To subscribe send <mailto:AHSOWnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com> For full access you will want to have a Yahoo sign in. If you have not already done so, visit Yahoo.com to establish a sign-in and password. AHSOWnet will not only facilitate discussions between members, but will permit announcements of AHSOW events and news from the Board on a shorter time frame. We solicit your support. CP

DEC TIP: Have MC announce new AHSOW member names.

**The AHSOW Bulletin
C. Parker, Editor
305 Vineyard Town Ctr #113
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

MUSIC AVAILABLE FOR A SONG

NEW -Harmony Song Index -8,560 Song Titles with, Composer & Year,
My Harmony Archive has 6,000 arrangements and 10,000 harmony type piano-vocals.
The Harmony Archive has available arrangement songbooks and Harmony Guides.
Did you know that pre-1923 songs are Public Domain, hence have no royalties or fees?
Sheet Music prior to 1923 often included four part arrangements. I have 200.

From the Society Code of Ethics:

The Society aspires to preserve for its members and for all future generations of prospective members the sacred right of men to seek haven from the burden of their daily cares through indulgence in old fashioned vocal quartet harmony, and to that end we do hereby pledge ourselves to abide by the precepts of this Code of Ethics

**HELP WANTED: Opening ASSOCIATE EDITOR <mailto:caseypar@garlic.com>
Support Woodshedding, write Editorials, become Famous & . isn't famous enough?
Email an article to Casey Parker at <caseypar@garlic.com>**