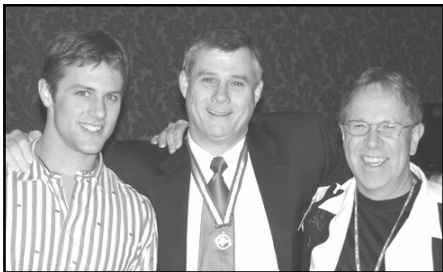


Judy Olson (center) with the Wigleys.



Need we say more?

2006



Joe Barbershopper Bruce O'Dell (center) with Travis Wuttke (left) and Dave Speidel.

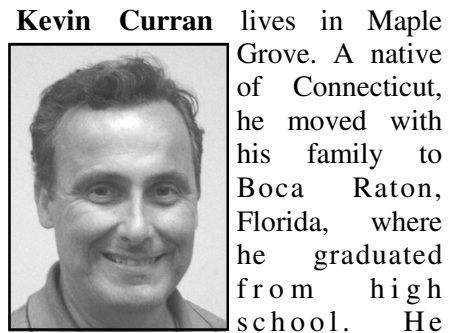
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Welcome Aboard !



Kevin Curran

Kevin Curran lives in Maple Grove. A native of Connecticut, he moved with his family to Boca Raton, Florida, where he graduated from high school. He graduated from Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia and spent a year at Western State University College of Law in Fullerton, California.

He has sung in school productions and church choirs and has performed in community theater.

Kevin spent eight years in the Marine Corps.

He currently works as a life insurance agent for Prudential Financial.

Painting, scuba diving and a love of singing (particularly up-tunes) are his main leisure interests.

Kevin is a lead singer and a neophyte barbershopper, anxious to learn and grateful for all helpful tips



Commodore Southeast Jim Windey (left) and Commodore Southwest Bill Shaw light up the Afterglow with their smiles.



Elaine Neve Passes

Elaine Neve, beloved wife of Commodore **Rollie Neve** passed away on Sunday, October 29th, after a desperate battle with cancer.

Knowing that Elaine was failing rapidly, Rollie was by her side the whole weekend until the end came.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Rollie and his family.

Memorials are preferred to Grace Church, 9301 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55347



Commodores North and South strut their stuff *At the Ball. How about those front row faces?*

Presentation Scores Big!

By Dave Speidel, Ass't Director

Needless to say – I was just as shocked as anyone to see that our highest scoring category was in Presentation. What does that tell us?



Dave Speidel

First, the *choice of music* was really good for most everyone in the chorus. The music selection is important because if you like it – it makes it easier to sell.

Second, we had a darn *good plan* in place for both songs. In *Time After Time*, the majority of people had their own personal story in place – mentally – and told it through the faces. The judges agreed that there were places where not every face was sending the right message. The more *'intensely sad'* expressions came through instead of the *'warm joyous love'* expressions that we were striving for. What more can you do to *'buy into'* and internalize the music?

Third, the up-tune was *crisp!* I know that some people just didn't want to do this song, but I believe that the modified *choreo* (thanks, Gary!) and the joining of forces with Mason City created some extra juices within everyone to make it really fun again. When you hear comments from well-respected people in the audience that the energy, excitement and precision was at a very high level, it confirms the scores the judges gave us! Good work, guys! Judges cited a few places where we could have been better *'facially'*. Example – when we turned our attention to the band, we didn't let it show on our faces that this band was the coolest band we'd ever seen and heard! Hmmm - this was an opportunity missed. *Ya gotta believe in the music.* The

lyrics told us what to do – but again it didn't get internalized enough to show on our faces.

Fourth - *emotion, emotion, emotion.* Do you all remember when **Kevin Keller** told us that the difference between going from a "B" to an "A" chorus is related primarily to the level of emotion? The presentation judges even said in our A & R that working toward a higher level of emotion in our music will bring all of our scores in the other categories up with it; echoing what Kevin told us.

Regardless of what the scores said – I (and others) would agree that our music and singing scores were not on the mark. I really believe we deserved scores in the low 80's – especially when we have had a track record of posting scores in the 76 range for the past 2-3 years. In my estimation we definitely sang better than the 78's we received in Music and Singing!

OK guys – now what do we do going forward? The first thing is this, "You don't look back!" The Commodores have reached a higher level of performance – and we want to take it to the next level. Personally – I have a *whole lotta fun* performing at this level. How about you?

Circumlocution from Page 3

I'm not going to talk down to you and try to make you feel good by saying something like the characters did in the above tales. But, as I have listened to what the response of the crowd was when the curtain opened on the combined Commodores and River City choruses (and opened... and opened... to a final gasp of the crowd!); how everybody in the chorus I have heard say they felt prepared, excited, proud, relaxed and into the performance; how well the performance went in all respects; how the crowd erupted in screams, whistles and standing adulation and appreciation; how

Gary held Paul up in his arms so that he didn't collapse on the floor in ecstasy as he did at the last warm-up before the performance; and how everyone felt thoroughly satisfied with our whole performance from beginning to end, I, too, can say, as did many in the audience, that it all took my breath away. It was a superb performance by any standards and moved us to new chorus levels. Maybe we didn't get the elk, and maybe we didn't get the *fish* (pun-like reference to another chorus's presentation at the contest fully intended), but we got everything that could possibly be wrung out of the experience. And with any good fortune, we'll be in Denver next year.

Moral of the Story: Did you jump ahead to get to this moral or did you read from the beginning so that the moral would appear in the correct sequence? Well, moral, *schmoral*. If you can't figure out what I was getting at, then talk to any of your local baritones. They'll be glad to explain it to you.

And, except for those two big, tall Iowa studs who stood right in front of me blocking my window for the whole performance and wouldn't get out of the way when I returned from the front in starting, "At the Ball," I want to say what a great contribution everyone else from the River City Chorus made and what fun it was to see how much they added to the experience. If we didn't astound ourselves in being able to combine two large choruses with just two joint-rehearsals before the performance, we surely astounded everyone else, including, I think, our directors! Thanks River City. You're Level "A" all the way.

I will now return from writing political TV ads for both sides and re-commence my research into the *Georgia Grind*. I did discover some new information about the grind from some guy (?) in a fish costume at the contest although he was
See *Circumlocution*, Pg.10, Col.2

A Two-way Street

By Paul Krull, Bari, *Journeyman*

Word of this great experiment-thing has gotten around the Society. I can attest to this because a good chunk of the judges at the Central States Contest knew why our quartet was

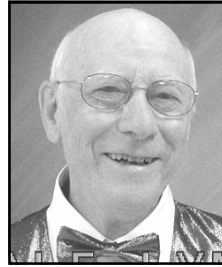
where to meet our host. After warming up and getting dressed, we performed “Linda” (a Jay Ryner chart) and “Old St. Louie” to earn our spot on Saturday night’s show.

Saturday we sang “Nice Work if You Can Get It” and “Once Upon a

Buzzing the Venues with ... the Gadfly

By Dale Lynch, *the Gadfly*

Judy Olson’s Twin City Show



The Gadfly

Twin City Show Chorus delivered a stunning performance at the memorial service on October 24 for my long-time friend and TC member, Jane Olson. Jane died

on October 13 after a cardiac arrest. She was 69 years old. Jane will be greatly missed.

The Chorus showed why they are going to Calgary, Alberta, next fall to represent their region at the Sweet Adelines International competition. There was not a sound in the Sanctuary at Transfiguration Lutheran Church as the Chorus sang, with only a pitch pipe between each: “Thank You Dear Lord For Music,” “How We Sang Today,” and the gospel tune “Prepare Ye.” TC member and Jane’s close friend, Nancy Ellis, led attendees in remembrance.

The service was a model of solemnity and joy, marking the passing of a dedicated barbershopper.

It was fun to return to Minneapolis’ Orchestra Hall the other day to hear a collaboration of local comedy and choral talents, Garrison Keillor and Philip Brunelle, in a benefit for Brunelle’s **Vocal Essence** projects.

Essence got things going with a dramatically dark entrance, chanting something spooky, punctuated by shrieks and devilish bad guy belly laughs. Really effective.

With the assistance of ‘CCO’s Tim Russell and others, Keillor continued the Halloween theme – repartee and story-telling.

Go to *Gadfly*, Page 10, Col. 2



The 2006 Central States District’s 5th place quartet from the Mason City and Minneapolis Chapters, “Journeyman”: (Clockwise from the top): Baritone Paul Krull, Bass Jerry Hammes, Lead Mike Hanson, and Tenor Harry Ariens.

introduced as “From the Mason City Iowa and Minneapolis Minnesota chapters, please welcome *Journeyman!*”

You may not have realized it, but the Commodores now have claim to a top-ten Central States District quartet. Journeyman is bass, Jerry Hammes; bari, Paul Krull; (both are singing in the joined chorus) and lead, Mike Hanson; tenor, Harry Ariens. Mike and Harry weren’t able to commit to the joined chorus. The quartet made the decision to carry the flag to Wichita, Kansas for the Central States convention on October 7& 8.

After a fun-filled 8 1/2 hour drive, we arrived in Wichita, battled through the downtown road construction and got our registration packages. We were able to scope out the stage and figure out

Time.” We were happy to come in with 72.8 points per song per judge, a five point gain from our Spring Contest performance of the same set. We earned 5th place.

Sunday morning we saddled up and headed north for the day. Thank heavens for interstate highways and a comfy vehicle. We were happy to be cheered on by Mike’s wife **Beth** and brother **Cory** (who sings with Hilltop) and by **Stu Martin** and **Patsy** from the Mason City chapter. Hopefully we can sing for all you new Commodore brothers in the future (Spring show?). We won’t know if there’s any chance of Mike and Harry making it up to Rochester until we know what the weather’s doing on contest weekend.

It’s great to be a Commodore!



Cole from Page 2

subscribe to wholeheartedly and they work for many situations. At Rochester we were at our best! We were brilliant! We were big! We were beautiful! We were beaming! And finally, we were not “B” level!

Now let me comment about the scores. We got the “A” level score we deserved and we should be buying our tickets to Denver. Except for one judge who thought we should have sung an arrangement that he wanted to hear (that’s kind of close to bias), instead of the one we performed, we might have gotten a little higher score. Enough said—*Let it be*. And if there weren’t some judges down in the Southwest district, who felt a little more generous with their scores, we would have for sure been buying our tickets for Denver. Enough said—*Let it be*.

But I’m strutting my stuff and no one can deny the fact that we have arrived and we can perform at the “A” level anytime we feel like it. The Minneapolis Commodores and, I have to include our Southern contingency, have the right to be darn proud of our feat. Our tradition in the Commodores has always been, “No barbershopper left behind.” We have stood true and right and tall through the years and though we haven’t always gotten what we wanted— this time, we tried real hard, and we got, we got, we got what we needed—Applause, an ovation and respect. Who could ask for more?

And finally, did we have a great Afterglow or what! I think the Mason City gang showed us a new level of how to party and it is “A” level all the way. Thanks, guys, and I hope that the friendship we have developed will continue in the future and we can enjoy the stage together again. To everyone who helped make this happen—thanks from all of us.

IGTBAC

Gadfly from Page 9

After intermission, Vocal Essence performed some (for me) *avant garde* pieces. I wish I was educated musically. I can’t tell you what I heard. “You had to be there.”

The Rochester competition: What a wonderful experience that was. I sincerely thank every Commodore – the NoComms and the SoComms – for the performance we gave to that crowd. We reached out and grabbed those folks, guys. Man, I’d like to do that every day. Or realistically, once a week. Let’s book into Branson, Missouri or some place.

I feel so lucky to have **Paul Wigley** and **all of our A.D.’s** and **Jayson Ryner** in my life. Don’t you?

Slattery from Page 5

on our annual show, or to compete in the spring contest.

Last Saturday it was so great to see everyone walking with smiling faces, and having the posture of being someone special because we were so great. Let’s share this with others.

Gee, it’s great to be a Commodore!

Circumlocution from Page 8

“tanked” at the time and I’m not sure it’s reliable. (Do I have to point out the pun?)

Great job, guys!

The bipartisan baritone

Board from Page 4

- A building committee consisting of **Terry McClellan**, **Pete Jarnberg**, and Curt Brekke will explore alternate sites for chapter meetings so as to have a contingency plan ready if the need arises.

- President Terry McClellan, in view of the possibility of our needing a new Commodores truck, raised the issue of special funding for it and the board discussed various ways of doing this.

Happy Birthday

11/10 Bob Ostergaard
 11/14 Mary Ann Maple
 11/14 Helga Egertson
 11/15 Bob Ahlbrecht
 11/15 Ardelle Bloedel
 11/19 Susan Krekelberg
 11/20 Dave Klousia*
 11/22 Vince Formosa
 11/22 Wesley Tremmel*
 11/23 Bonnie Dahlen
 11/23 Barbara Aumann
 11/26 Jim Johannsen
 11/26 Diana Pinard
 11/27 Kelly McKown
 11/28 Pete Villwock
 11/29 Jayson Ryner*
 11/29 Darrell Egertson
 11/29 Jim Foy
 11/30 Joe Tremmel*
 12/01 Griff Griffiths
 12/02 Sheila Cole
 12/05 Judy Knutsen
 12/07 Bill Sams

Happy Anniversary

11/14 Marc & Karin Courteau
 11/15 Dan & Beverly Slattery
 11/17 Bill & Mary Sams
 12/01 Edward & Helen Peterka

A Limerick

By Jim Jorgensen, Versatile bari

A baritone from Minneapolis grand

Decided to sing with a band.

But the bandleader canned him,

In fact couldn’t stand him

'Cause he sang melody rather bland.

McClellan from Page 2

"A" level, that's just icing on the cake for me.

So I for one will be proud to call myself a Minneapolis Commodore no matter what the score. My fellow Commodores make me proud everyday, regardless of the task.

Until next time.....have fun, sing well, and be safe.

Caroling, Caroling

SAT - DEC 2, 2006

2:00 PM & 6:00 PM



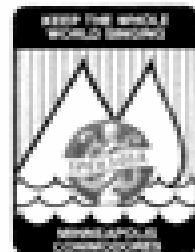
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FRIENDS.....(mixed group)	
Doug Miller.....	952-8265
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Rod Johnson.....	507/645-5750
HAPPINESS EMPORIUM.....	1975 IQC
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METROCHORDS.....	03/01/06
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SALTY DOGS.....	08/31/03
Bob Dykstra.....	651/633-6951
7TH HEAVEN.....(mixed quartet)	
Jim Foy.....	763/571-0829
SPECIAL ALLIANCE.....	03/31/03
Doug Miller.....	952/447-8265

LOOKING AHEAD
Chapter Level

- Nov. 11, **Veterans Day**, Fridley
- Dec. 2, **Christmas Show**, Bloomington Jefferson High School
- Jan 2, **Ed Bearse Retirement Party**
- April 8, 2007, **Annual Show**

District Level

International Level

- Jan. 21-28, 2007, **Midwinter Convention**, Albuquerque, NM

Barbershopper Of The Year
Dan Cole

**Commodores and others *
 contributing to this issue:**

- Dan Cole
- Steve Daniel
- Jim Erickson
- Paul Krull
- Jim Jorgensen
- Dale Lynch
- Terry McClellan
- Hardin Olson
- Jim Richards
- Dan Slattery
- Dave Speidel

Support Your Chapter Bulletin!

*Christmas is coming . Get your gifts
 in to me early. by November 23.
 Remember, it is better to give
 (articles) than it is to receive.*

