

# MINNEAPOLIS COMMODORES

# CHORD-INATOR

**BARBERSHOP HARMONY  
SOCIETY**  
nee



Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, CHAPTER

10,000 LAKES DIVISION – LAND O’LAKES DISTRICT:

JULY 2008 – VOL. 64 – NO. 7

## *One Year Later*

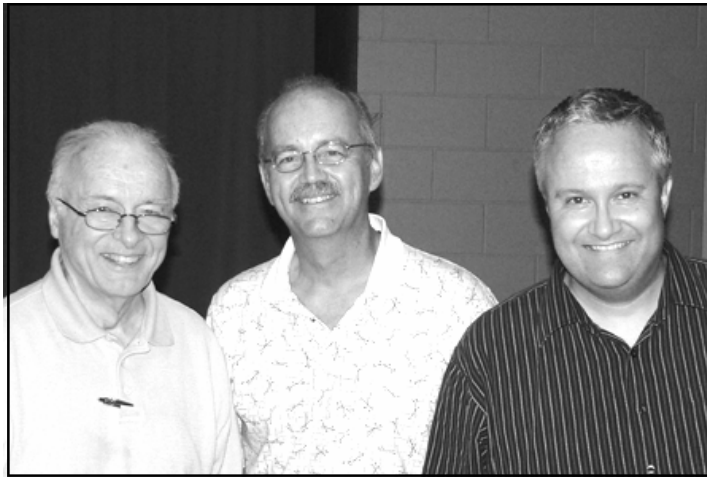
*Paul Wigley recalls the past and ponders the future.*

One year ago, we were frantically preparing for the International Chorus contest in Denver! What a fantastic memory, and what a moment of pride to think that we were the 18<sup>th</sup> best Barber-shop chorus in the entire world. (And it truly is becoming more and more of a worldwide musical genre.) So, what next? I say, “Let’s do it again!” After talking to David Harrington, and hearing him say that we are totally capable of getting to International without *extra* help (and we’ll always love the *Commodores South* guys!), I honestly think a worthy and realistic goal is to get ourselves to once again average an 80-81 score, and work for a shot at a wild card entry.

Guys, we scored less than one point at our divisional contest than we did at last fall’s contest (in which we sang the same set that placed us 18<sup>th</sup> at International!) For the division contest we did not prepare particularly hard, because we had just finished our show, and we were singing not one, but *two*, new contest songs. So, to think the recent divisional score was that close to last year’s district score gets me very excited about our possibilities as we look ahead to the district contest in Appleton.

We had a terrific evening with David Harrington, and I believe that the major point of his whole session was

simply that everyone needs to commit to working harder as a performer. Move constantly, always keep the motion *up*, supporting the sound with full breath, making your individual sound have *presence* and make it carry out to the audience. These are all suggestions that require individual effort—100% of the time!



David Harrington (right) pauses for a photo-op during his visit with Jim Richards (left) and author of this piece, Paul Wigley (center).

While I love the fact that the Commodores are among the most caring, friendly, supportive, and positive men in the Society, I also believe that what bonds us so strongly is **music**. I also believe that the stronger our music becomes, our bond with each of our Commodore brothers intensifies

The effort to get every one of you to sing your very best (through the individual voice lessons) is an attempt to get back to the basics of being a good chorus, and that is—Tah dah!!—to become better performers as individuals! The next step then, is to bring your improved knowledge and technique to your riser performance every single time you open your mouth to make music! I hear many, many moments of “A” level performance in our rehearsals. The next step is for all of us to work hard to commit to that *A* level for an entire song, or an entire set, or an entire show. It’s hard work, I know, but the results transcend anything else that you can

Please go to **Wigley**, Page 7, Column 1

**Minneapolis, Minn. Chapter  
Land O'Lakes District, SPEBSQSA  
Meetings every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
House of Prayer Lutheran Church  
7625 Chicago Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423**

**Chapter Officers**

President .....Curt Brekke 952-474-4380  
Immed. Past Pres...Terry McClellan 763-780-3484  
Marketing/PR V P...Peter Jarnberg 651/765-9580  
V P Music & Perform...Carl Pinard 612-927-9363  
V P Chapter Devel....Dan Slattery 763-755-2926  
Program V P .....Kevin Huyck 952-322-1241  
Secretary.....Bob Ostergaard 952-215-7714  
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Joe Houser .....612-308-4486  
Vern Johnson.....763-561-3343  
Dick Plaisted (06).....763-574-9319  
Loren Wuttke.....952-925-0886

**Appointed Staff**

Chorus Director .....Paul Wigley  
Assistant Chorus Director.....Gary Jacobson  
Assistant Chorus Director.....Doug Miller  
Assistant Chorus Director.....Dave Speidel  
Tenor Section Leader .....Rollie Neve  
Lead Section Leaders .....Gary Jacobson  
Assistant-Tom Griffiths  
Bari Section Leaders .....Dave Speidel  
Assistant-Pete Villwock  
Bass Section Leaders.....Jim Richards  
Assistant-Dave Casperson  
2008 Show Chairman .....Gary Jacobson  
2009 Show Chairman .....Dr. Hardin Olson  
A-Commodore President .....Diana Pinard  
Assistant Haberdasher.....Dan Williams  
BOTY Party Chairman.....Dan Krekelberg  
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Service Chairman .....Jack Beaver  
Sergeant at Arms .....Loren Berthilson  
Sunshine .....Bill Ashley  
*Swipe* Editor .....Bill TeVogt  
Uniforms (Dress).....Brooks Bergerson  
Uniforms (Casual) .....Joe Houser

**Bulletin Editor**

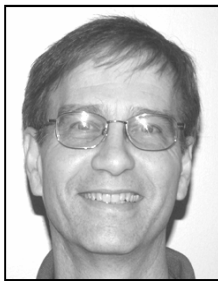
Dr. Hardin Olson  
306 13th . Ave. N.  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
E – mail: <olson118@umn.edu>  
(952) 930-9443

**mark's musings**

*A Cabbage a Day Might Keep  
Doc Away*

By Mark Ortenburger, Exec. VP

“Well, son of a cabbage, whither



**Mark Ortenburger**

*art thou progressing?”* If you had been around during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century you might have heard this as a fairly common greeting of the day. Apparently this archaic *how do you do* became the rage shortly after Charles Darwin published his revolutionary ideas on the origin of species. Some ne'er-dowells of the day (most likely proto-Barbershoppers) assumed that Darwin’s concept of evolution would logically lead one back in time to the ancestral vegetable, hence the intentionally humorous *slaw-vian* greeting related above. Had Darwin, being of tin ear, only known what would eventually evolve into *Homo Baritonus* he might have chosen the more dire option between “publish or perish” as a means for protecting humanity (the other three voice parts) from itself for just awhile longer.

You might be wondering, quite reasonably, if there is any point to the above story (all true except I’m guessing about the tin ear part). For those of you who have stayed with me for this long, having been somewhat shamelessly pulled into the verbal-maelstrom by a title that at least hinted at something that was worthy of your time, I’ll see if I can meet your expectations.

Over time everything changes, or evolves if you choose. This would be true in our small part of the world whether you’re looking at the Barbershop Society (nee SPEBSQSA), a chorus, or a quartet. Things that don’t change tend to

Go to **Musings**, Page 7, Column 3

**Results from Nashville**

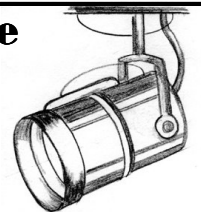
In a tight chorus contest, the *Masters of Harmony* edged the *Ambassadors of Harmony* for first place by only seven points (95.0 to 94.7 percent). *Midwest Vocal Express* representing LOL, finished in twelfth place with 84.4 percent. Rounding out the top five were *Voices In Harmony*, *Sound of the Rockies* and *New Tradition*.

The quartet contest was not quite as close with *OC Times* winning with a score of 89.7 percent. *Crossroads* (Jim Henry *et al*) followed with 89.1, *State Line Grocery* with 88.6, and *Redline* with 88.2 percent.

Our guest quartet for the 2009 Annual Show, *Old School* (Joe Connolly singing lead), finished in fifth place with a score of 87.7 percent.

*Vocality* from LOL sang in the semi-finals and finished in 20th place. The other LOL quartets, *After Midnight* and *Main Street Station* finished 34th and 43rd.

**Commodore  
Spotlight**

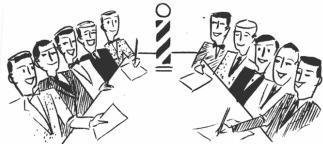


**Rudy  
Stenson...**

is the quiet, unassuming, jovial tenor and quartet man who faithfully served the Commodores since joining the chapter in 1977 until his retirement two years ago. Broken wrists, syncopal episodes, and bruised knees were never enough to keep him from our performance venues. Of course, his wife, Grace has always been his #1 fan.

Rudy will be celebrating his 93rd birthday on August 3. Let’s show our appreciation with a shower of cards and congratulations for his dedication to the Minneapolis Chapter.

## Board Highlights



From the meeting of June 26  
By Bob Ostergaard, Secretary

- At the Como performance on July 15 we will be singing *Bare Necessities*, *When You Wish* and *Can You Feel The Love Tonight*. Mass chorus numbers are: *Battle Hymn*, *God Bless America* and *Minnesota Rouser*. The uniform will be khaki trousers and Disney shirt.
- Paul Wigley reports that voice lessons are going very well and may require a second day in order to accommodate everybody.
- The Christmas Show will be December 6. Bloomington-Jefferson

High School is the desired site. Joe Houser will be assisting Chairman Jay Rasmussen.

- District Contest – October 24-25 at Appleton, Wisconsin. Over 65 members have signed up to sing. There is a good possibility of a bus being available at approximately \$40 per person. More details later.
- Plans are being made for a sing-out at House of Peace.
- The coaching session at Mason City, Iowa, will be on Saturday, August 23. There is also a good possibility of a bus being available for approximately \$20 per person.
- A desire was expressed for more performances with a goal of one performance per month. Paul is most supportive of this effort.
- All Commodores are asked to sug-

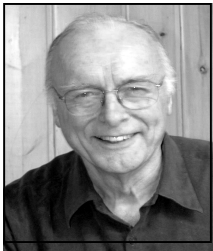
gest possible performance venues – paid or gratis (i.e. Nursing homes, athletic contests, etc.) Make your suggestions to Carl Pinard.

- Also a strong desire was expressed to revive the Barberpole Cat program. One possibility would be arriving early at chapter meetings to practice Barberpole Cat songs. A volunteer is needed to run this program. Suggestions are welcome.
- The Marketing committee is continuing to work on seeking grant funds, re-doing our website and increasing sponsorships.
- As a way to get our name out to a larger number of potential members, \$500 was allocated for an advertising/information invitation to be placed for the next three months

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## Chord Candy #54

By Dr. Jim Richards, *Der Tagmeister*



Jim Richards

Barbershop singing is all about ringing chords. It is even more fun when the melody line suggests a rich harmonic variety. This month's Chord Candy was selected from the first four measures of an old chestnut, *I Love You The Best of All*. Every single melody note suggests a different chord and each chord leads quite naturally to the next chord. This is harmonic elegance. The only problem is that we started out on a tonic chord, i.e. *home base* and after the first four measures we are left hanging out in left field with no way to get home. To complete our musical trip I have added four additional bars with a whimsical lyric that completes the trip while continuing to provide a new chord on each melody note. Enjoy!

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "I love the silver in your hair, while my pate has lit-tle up, lit-tle up there!". The score is numbered 1 through 8. The melody line is highly chromatic, with each note suggesting a different chord. The bass line provides a harmonic foundation with block chords.

## Quartet Quaffs

By Rollie Neve, Tenor, *Four Seasons*



Rollie Neve

Ah, summertime, and the living is easy – that is if you have enough savings to pay for your gas so you can enjoy your free days at the cabin at Lake Wobegon. But there is the good side to that – you can stay home and rediscover the many places to visit and the many things to do close to home. The *Four Seasons* does a little of both and sprinkles in some time to hone our Barbershopping skills preparing for upcoming performances and the District competition in Appleton in October. We've selected our competition music and are getting it ready for prime-time. So while we may not take as many trips in traffic-clogged highways to Wobegon, and while we fill in the gaps enjoying the local attractions, we still reserve time to improve our breath control, vowel matching and chord ringing, not to mention the music-making that goes with it.

There is another dimension to those warm summer days and soft summer evenings. You can relax at times and let your mind drift into a dreaming mode. Such is the case with your winsome writer. Think of it – before you know it you're off to *Baritania*. This is, of course, initiated by the high compliment given me by the self-proclaimed creator of the *Year of the Baritone*, when passage to this never-never land is granted to an alien lead.

What would it be like? I walk down to the hall closet, open the door, go in, close the door and *voila!* Another door opens and I pass through to the land of *Baritania*. Now it's not like the howling of the wolf to the blue corn moon, but some would liken it to a baritone overtone. This *quiet place*

presents a cacophony of sound that would grow hair on **Paul Wigley** – and then he would proceed to pull it back out. But to a baritone in *Baritania*, well, it's got to be his paradise, 'cause he's getting back at all those badly-bumbled barbs, bundled and blown his way by the boisterous baboons (a secret term of endearment baritones bestow on the boys belting out the other parts) that are bamboozled by the beauty baritones bring to the barbeque.

Well if you can digest that, then you can identify the colors of the wind. So what do I, battered by bigger, bellowing, belligerent and hardly benevolent baritones do to escape? Sometimes one has to humor (as opposed to harmonize) baritones. So a crafty alien would pull a phony *Jim Richards* on them saying, "You beautiful buzzing baritones are on the brink of barber-shop greatness. Get together and develop an overtone mentality. Remember the first and third overtone series need baritone-bleeding to bust the seventh series."

Some put in an emergency cell-phone call to Jim, while others gather 'round in an afterglow huddle and actually get into an overtone feeding frenzy. Can you imagine it? While they are so engrossed in beating their baritone breasts and bellowing banalities by the billions, your little alien intruder whisks his way back to the hall closet door and returns to *Barbershopania*.

Ah, now I feel better, and somewhat more understanding of the world of baritones. Aren't we thankful that baritones have a way to blow off a little steam? Let's say a silent prayer for *Baritania*, and be thankful for those lazy, crazy days of summer.

Rollie Neve for Dan, Rich and Tom.

*Editor's Note: What hath Jim Erickson wrought? A collection of cunning, conniving, columnists collaborating in calumny.*

## Singing for your health

From a commentary by Judy Foreman, *Health Sense* columnist of the *Boston Globe* from the May 19, 2008 edition.

A growing body of research suggests that singing in professional, community, church, and school choruses may have health benefits, the *Boston Globe* reports, adding that the findings are "great news" for the approximately 29 million adults and children who participate in such activities.

The *Globe* highlights a 2006 study led by a psychiatrist from the George Washington University's Center on Aging, Health, and Humanities in which researchers tracked 300 people between the ages of 65 and 103 in three cities.

For the study, one half of participants took part in an arts program involving chorale singing while the other half did not. After one year, the researchers found that the singers reported better health than at the outset of the study. Additionally, the singers had fewer falls and exhibited greater improvement in measures of depression, loneliness, and morale compared with the group that did not sing.

Moreover, a paper published in 2004 by a musicologist and research fellow at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester found that along with an improvement in mood, a one-hour singing rehearsal appeared to result in the increased production of an immune marker in the saliva of 31 choral singers. While noting that "it's not clear how much of the health benefit is due to hanging out with other people and how much tithe artistic challenge," the *Globe* concludes that "for whatever mix of reasons, choral singing is good for your health."

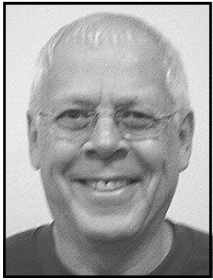
### **Dome Day**

**Twins vs. Texas Rangers**  
**Sunday, July 20, 2008**  
**Game time 1:10 p.m.**  
**Contact Ken Slinde**  
**[g nubass@comcast.net](mailto:g nubass@comcast.net)**

# Georgia Grind...

## *Magic of the International Stage*

By Jim Erickson, Boy Baritone



**Jim Erickson**

Back in the good old days, I worked in my father's hardware store, *Erickson's Hardware*. My first job was to sweep the back stairway that led down into the cavernous basement. I was probably seven or eight at the time and relished the newly-crowned job of sweep-broom operator with all of the accompanying responsibilities. Eventually I grew into other areas of responsibility in the store doing everything from washing the front display windows with a squeegee and brush (using ammonia for the cleanser—the smell of which I can detect at this very moment in my mind), to delivering tanks of bottled propane gas, washing machines, stoves, refrigerators and the like. And, of course, learning at some point to wait on customers. "Can I help you?" That was the line my father taught me following his eighteen years experience on the road in Iowa as a sales rep selling hardware for Janney, Semple, Hill & Co., a hardware wholesaler out of Minneapolis—and a few years actually running a hardware store of his own.

On weekday nights after school, along with other duties at the store, I worked at the checkout counter and listened to an old radio propped up on the counter. *Bob & Ray*, the radio comedians, were on then and I listened faithfully. If you don't know who Bob and Ray were, tough. This is my romp through memories and you'll just have to keep up. (They appeared from time to time later on the *Johnny Carson Show* if that helps at all.) I still chuckle at their jokes and stories when I think about them. Those were some good times!

*I will be back in a few minutes. I need a stiff cup of coffee to see this through and to try to remember why I started this article with that little story. Probably just because Doc doesn't have enough to publish his rag this month if I don't get something in and it is the first day of his deadline this month and I had to start somewhere with something. Anything!*



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**THE 1st ANNUAL  
BARBERSHOP  
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**FOR THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY  
FOUNDATION & MAKE-A-WISH OF  
MINNESOTA**

**AUGUST 11th, 2008 12:00 AT  
ELK RIVER COUNTRY CLUB**

[www.bhsopen.com](http://www.bhsopen.com)

All right, I'm back. I mixed some of that dried, browned, cow-relief into my microwaved cup of tap water with all the chemicals and then burned my mouth as I thought about how anxious Doc Hardin would be if I didn't get this to him soon. And then it came to me. I was remembering earlier times! "Great, Jim. But what about earlier times?"

Well, it is coming clearer as I swab my scorched tongue with Unguentine. (Does that even exist anymore?) Has it gone the way of 6-12 the first, and not-very-effective, mosquito repellent that left you with a lingering fragrance. It was kind of like kissing a girl with garlic breath. So long as you both ate garlic, the kiss was pretty exciting—less so, if only one of you had so eaten. So long as everyone was fighting mosquitoes with the same ammunition, it was tolerable. The loner who abstained from using 6-12 not only had to put up with the bugs, but the smelly others, too. *(Editorial Note: This publication takes no responsibility for the writings from the unique perspective of Mr. Erickson. Opinions, comments, stories, and whatever you call the drivel he writes are his alone and do not reflect the intellectual pursuits of this medium. We apologize to everyone who reads this stuff and especially his own parents, wife and children, who must wonder what they did wrong to send him on his maddening path.)*

Earlier times, earlier times, I got it! I hearken back to the end of June last year. After months of practice, choreography workouts, singing in combination with the great *River City Chorus*, and going through all the preparation for the Barbershop International Contest in Denver, we were just about to embark on our great journey to the mountains to show our mettle. We had high hopes and confidence that we would make a good showing, but what was to happen? We could only guess. (Here, insert all your memories leading up the moment when we warmed up for the last time, I believe it was. Our esteemed directors were cheering us on and then **Paul Wigley** said something that will stick with me forever. It went something like this. "OK boys, this is it. You have earned this privilege and have every right to be on this International stage. Do not for a *Go to Georgia, Page 7, Column 2*"

## Quartets Needed!

By David Speidel, LOL Director of Music and Performance



David Speidel

I was quite disappointed at the number of quartets that we had registered as we finished up our Quartet School last February. The school was enjoyed by the five quartets that participated, but it

may be a telling sign of a trend that is occurring in our district. Two other LOL quartet schools had to be cancelled because of a lack of interest. Indeed, this is very distressing. The goal is that each LOL division would sponsor one school a year to encourage our newer quartets on to better singing and performances. A quick look at our registered quartets within the district shows that there are comparatively few. Being the great chapter that Minneapolis is, I would expect that it could have at least five or six active quartets at this time. Why don't we have more?

At some point, the chapter has to get back to doing some basic quartet activities to encourage and spawn new quartets. Anyone that has been in a quartet knows that it is the absolute pinnacle of our barbershop experience. Being in a quartet will undoubtedly make each individual a better singer and better performer. That is good news for the chorus, because out of quartets will come new music leadership and examples for others to follow. So the next time you have a moment at rehearsal, have some fun and pick up three other fellows and sing a tag!

Let's get some more quartets going among the Commodores.



## Happy Birthday

- 07/10 Brooks Bergersen
- 07/12 John Hansen
- 07/12 Dan Kerrigan
- 07/14 Charleen Bauer
- 07/14 Beverly Koch
- 07/14 Paul Wigley
- 07/16 Dianne Ongna
- 07/17 Lou DeMars
- 07/17 Fritz Herring (80 yrs.)
- 07/17 Jim Lee
- 07/19 Bill Ashley
- 07/24 Jay Rasmussen
- 07/27 Ken Glover
- 07/27 Larry Nelson (65 yrs.)
- 07/28 Marsha Shaw, Jr.
- 07/29 Don Rudnik
- 07/30 Brenda Duncan
- 08/01 Karen True
- 08/02 Rudy Stenson (93 yrs.)
- 08/04 Paul Dahlen
- 08/06 Hazel Herring
- 08/06 Luther Romo
- 08/07 Connie Miller
- 08/09 Jean Warp

## Happy Anniversary

- 07/10 John & Arlene Bergseth
- 07/13 Bill & Marsha Shaw, (40th)
- 07/15 Ray & Verlene Ensrud
- 07/20 Brooks & Sandy Bergersen (45th)
- 07/20 Dave & Janye Casperson
- 07/20 Vince & Judy Formosa
- 07/22 Jim & Mary Erickson
- 07/23 Tom & Bonnie Dahlen
- 07/29 Bill & Connie Ashley
- 07/30 Jim & Patty Scheller
- 08/05 Carl & Ardelle Bloedel
- 08/05 Larry & Kathy Nelson
- 08/05 Dan & Carol Smith
- 08/06 James & Romana Jorgensen
- 08/08 Joe & Nora Houser
- 08/08 Fred & Ardis Von Fischer
- 08/09 Bill & Janet Kinkel (50th)

## Sunshine Report

**Clem Gronfor** has been afflicted with *Burkitt's Lymphoma*, a particularly aggressive form of lymphatic cancer. He had started his chemotherapy but two weeks ago had to have emergency bowel surgery at Mercy Hospital in Anoka. His post-operative course has been compli-

## Board from Page 3

in "TIDBITS" (a freely distributed ad newspaper) and to focus on the northern suburbs.

- The sample membership survey was presented by Mark Ortenburger and discussed. It will be revised and then reviewed at the next board meeting with the goal of presenting it to the membership within the next month or two..

- All Commodores are requested to keep Bill Ashley, Sunshine Chairman, informed about the status of all of the Commodore family who are ill and /or hospitalized.

- Glenn Aronson has offered to host a *corn-feed* at Grandpa's Garage in Cannon Falls in late summer.

- \$250 was allocated to sponsor a hole at The Barbershop Harmony Open.

The next meeting will be on July 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Wooddale Lutheran.

cated by some pneumonia and fluid on the lung.

Clem is able to have visitors and is in Room 280 at Mercy Hospital.

**Joe Houser** will have his fourth round (of six) of chemotherapy tomorrow (July 7). He has been able to eat small amounts of soft foods but in the last two days has had more trouble swallowing. Joe has been much more active lately and was treated royally at a Twins game last week. He and Nora also managed a trip to *Mystic Lake* where they were well treated by Lady Luck.

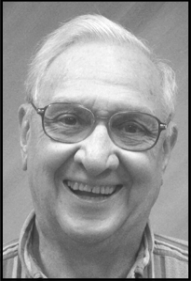
**Loren Wuttke** is still fighting his *multiple myeloma*. At his visit last week at the Mayo Clinic some of his laboratory tests showed a worrisome rise necessitating an adjustment of his medication schedule. His red and white blood cell counts are holding but he tires easily.

Please keep these Commodore brothers in your thoughts and prayers.

**What some section leaders would like to say** (*Baritones please note.*)

Submitted by Jim Jorgensen, Chapter Humorist

- Musically, this guy has reached rock bottom and has started to dig.



Jim Jorgensen

- I would not allow this "singer" to breed.

- This guy has delusions of adequacy.

- He is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.

- My section sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.

- You know he has a *full six-pack'* but lacks the plastic thing to hold it all together.

- He makes model planes as a hobby, maybe he has been working with glue too much.

- If his IQ ever reaches 50, he should sell.

- The gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.

**Wigley from Page 1**

experience as a maker of music.

In these next months, you can believe that I will do my very best to ensure that all of us are making the best collective music that we are capable of making. *It will be work, but it will also be fun*, and the reward of stronger musical performances creating stronger bonds with our fellow Commodores will be something to look forward to every single week! Thanks for your great attendance at the David Harrington session. *Keep it up and bring new singers* with you to share this terrific musical bond we call Barbershop singing! I would love nothing better than for all of us to be singing in Anaheim together next summer. We can do it.

**Georgia from Page 5**

moment doubt it. One more thing. On the last song, you know for the last refrain we all turn to the audience to complete the set. At that point take in everything before you. Hold yourself as proud as you ever have in your life. Sing the best you have ever sung. Look out into that audience and smile the broadest smile you have ever smiled and live in that special, special moment. Realize that thousands and thousands out there are cheering you on. It doesn't get any better than that so really open the gates and soak it all in. This is your time."

And that's just what I did. In the blink of an eye that that mountain-top-moment was, I might have missed the pinnacle-feeling if I hadn't been ready for it. Being forewarned, though, a matter of seconds was forever etched in my memories. What an outright thrill. And, we earned an 18<sup>th</sup> in the world ratings. Stupendous!



About a year has passed since that mountain-high visit to Denver. I think we appreciate more and more what an accomplishment that was, and for those of us who had never attended the International competition before, and, unless the chorus qualifies again soon, will not attend a future one, we can bask in the experience we had and know firsthand a bit of the ongoing excitement of the event.

As mentioned before, I am spending the summer at an undisclosed location (Flowery Branch, Georgia), where I have escalated my research into the origin of the Georgia Grind. And, I want you to know that my five assistants, Michelle, Brandy, Tanya, Tiffany and Paris, have dedicated themselves to achieving my milestones with over-

**Musings from Page 2**

have a difficult time surviving (notable exceptions being sharks and *Spam*). Change doesn't mean that everything goes away. The best parts stick around because those things helped make that entity successful in the first place. Without change even championship quartets from the early years would have a difficult time surviving in today's competition because the sound and the Society have moved on, most would argue for the better.

The Commodores' leadership group has the responsibility to make sure that when change does occur it's moving the chapter in the right direction. Ultimately, the membership, every one of you, has a role in determining where we're going and what you want this organization to be about. The leadership is only here to help you get where you want to be. To that end the Board is working on pulling together a survey of the members that, when completed and compiled, should be a great vehicle for finding out what's important to everyone. It should serve as a road map for the chorus for the next few years.

Once again we turn to our wisest sage, Yogi Berra, who had this to say about change: *"If you don't know where you're going, you might wind up someplace else"*. Let's collectively choose to manage our future. It's up to all of us.



whelming enthusiasm. Moreover, they have helped with the research, too. One more mint julep and then I'll start on my next article in which I will reveal what I have learned so far about Georgia and the Grind.

It's great to be a baritone Commodore with assistants.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**CHORD-INATOR**  
MINNEAPOLIS COMMODORES  
Minneapolis Chapter of SPEBSQSA

Dr.Hardin Olson, Bulletin Editor  
306 13th. Ave. N.  
Hopkins, MN 55343

MEETING EVERY TUES -7:30 PM  
House of Prayer Lutheran Church  
7625 Chicago Ave. S.  
Richfield, MN 55423



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**Chapter Quartets**

EASY LISTENIN'.....	10/01/03
Dan Slattery.....	763/755-2926
FOUR SEASONS	
Rollie Neve.....	952/470-2129
FRIENDS.....	(mixed group)
Doug Miller.....	952/447-8265
GOOD NEWS!.....	04/30/03
Rod Johnson.....	507/645-5750
HAPPINESS EMPORIUM.....	1975 IQC
Rod Johnson.....	507/645-5750
MASTER BLEND.....	03/31/07
Doug Miller.....	952/447-8265
7TH HEAVEN.....	(mixed quartet)
Jim Foy.....	763/571-0829

**LOOKING AHEAD**  
Chapter Level

- July 15, **Como Park Sing-out**
- July 17, **Board meeting**, Wooddale Lutheran
- August 23, **All-day Retreat**, Site to be determined
- December 6, **Christmas Show**, Site to be announced
- March 19, 2009, **2009 Show tech rehearsal**, Bethel Great Hall
- March 21, 2009, **2009 Annual Show**, Bethel Great Hall

District Level

- July 20, **Minnesota Twins Sing-out**
- August 11, **Barbershop Harmony Open**, Elk River Country Club
- Oct. 24-26, **LOL District Convention**, Appleton, Wisconsin

International Level

- Jan. 25-Feb. 1, 2009 **Midwinter Convention**, Pasadena, California

**Barbershopper Of The Year**  
*Peter Jarnberg*

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

- Jim Erickson
- Jim Jorgensen
- Rollie Neve
- Hardin Olson
- Bob Ostergaard
- Mark Ortenburger
- Jim Richards
- Dave Speidel
- Paul Wigley



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