



FootNotes



Sep. 4, 2007

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Directors Notes

I hope you had a wonderful Labor Day Holiday weekend, and that you're now good and ready for the challenges ahead. We've got a fantastic resource this year that we've never had before...and that's the opportunity to review every Tuesday night rehearsal on our website. Webmaster **Richard Romley** has been working incessantly to improve our website (Thank you, Richard) and make it possible for everyone to have access to our weekly rehearsals, wherever they may be. The great news is that in addition to hearing our rehearsal verbatim, everyone also has access to the learning CD's for our current AND new repertoire. Check it out — this week you'll find **Sittin' On Top of the World**, and **If I Ruled the World**.

There's only one thing that will prevent you from benefiting from all the resources now available to you on the website, and that's if you never take the time to sit at your computer, learn how to access the rehearsal and your part-predominant version of the learning CD's and review them as often as it takes to be confident with our repertoire. If you're having any difficulty figuring out the technology, ask a friend to help you or give Richard a call. There's no point in having a gift-wrapped tool if you never open it and make use of it. Learn how to take full advantage of our website, you'll be glad you did.

We now have sheet music and learning tapes for the following: **New York, New York; The Way You Look Tonight; Irish Lullaby; With a Song in My Heart; The Lord's Prayer; Sittin' On Top of the World** and **If I Ruled the World**. **Dear Hearts** and **Gingham Gown** will be coming this week. They are both very familiar songs, written in a typical barbershop style, so they should be very easy to learn.

For the Christmas music, there may be one change, but I'll let you know by the end of this week. But for now, you can continue to work on **The Hallelujah Chorus** with the accompaniment track, which is now also on the website. We'll be doing **The Secret of Christmas**, hopefully with a new introduction, that I plan to get to you by next week.

Continued next column—>

Calendar

Oct. 5: Fall Convention.

Dec. 11: Ditchfield Family Christmas Show at Van Wezel, 2:30 & 7:30 shows.
We will be participating.

Jan. ??: Art's Day.

Continued—>

I want to encourage all of you to use the "put it to bed" technique in learning your music. In order to achieve a clean, championship sound as a chorus, we have to know all the notes and words. The constant temptation, especially with the Christmas music, is to get to about 65-70%, and then move on to learning the next song. When we do that, we wind up not learning any of the songs completely.

Our audience has come to expect at least 12 songs from the chorus on our annual show, performed at a very high level. In one sense, that creates a bit of a problem/challenge, but it's a great problem to have. So when you've learned about 70-80% of a song, do what it takes to "put it to bed". Be a leader, not a leaner.

It is remarkable what we have accomplished, and the strides we continue to make as a chorus. It's amazing what we can do when we work together as a team, especially when we're working from the same play book and everyone is doing their best. To borrow a phrase, "Be all that you can be — the few, the proud--

the Sarasota chorus of the Keys.

Onward & Upward!
Stephan

QUARTETS NEEDED

Requests for quartets from October through December are rolling in. I currently am in need of three quartets and do not have the advantage of having My Three Sons. If you would like to earn a little Christmas money or a contribution to the Legacy Fund, form a quartet, give it a name and let me know if you are available and when.

See last weeks issue for the rest of this article.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member

9-6 Chuck Webster
9-6 Tim Wolf
9-7 Hank Vomacka
9-10 Dick Allen
9-10 Lorne Ostema

And Spouse

None to report

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

9-5 Frank & Rose Astorino
9-6 Robert & Barbara Quinn

MEETING NIGHT AFTERGLOW

Everyone is Welcome..... to attend our weekly "Afterglow" immediately following the meeting on Tuesday nights. You're invited to wet your whistle, sing songs with the guys, chat with our Director and get a bite to eat in the mall alcove at Applebee's Restaurant on Main Street just a few blocks east of our meeting hall on the corner of the movie theater parking garage. Park along Main Street or pull into the parking garage (it's free at that time of night) and come and ring some chords from 9:45 pm until.....? **See you there!**

TURN-IN OF UNIFORMS

You are reminded to turn in your **OLD** tux pants and black pants as soon as possible. The only time I will not be here to receive is Tuesday July 31. If you have not picked up turn-in procedures, they are available on the table. Please put a tag with your name and sizes on it with your uniform items. Thanks for your cooperation.
Jack Webber

Now that we're not competing at the District Fall Convention, we can focus on our 2008 **ANNUAL SHOW**, including the selling of **ADS** for our show program. Dick Bechtel has given all the folders for renewals to our team captains for issue. For those who sold ads last year, we want to get an early start on renewals, so let's get it rolling. If you have not previously sold an **AD**, please see one of the team captains for a 'list of contacts'. Alexander, Loos, Lathwood, Scholten or Webber can assist you.

Help the chapter by contacting any business or professional you normally do business with, and at least push for a \$60 business card ad. Remember, this is our second largest fund-raiser that keeps the chapter moving ahead. Please read instructions carefully, and call Dick Bechtel (927-7722) if you have any questions.

Sunshine News

Russ Springstubb: has been transferred to—
Kensington Garden
3250 12th St. Rm. 110
Ph. 953-8610

His comment is— "Patience is a virtue, but, I'm not very virtuous."
Needs visitors.

Charlie Becker: is still still in there kicking.

It was good to see Charlie & Nancy Lenny and Frank & Rose Astorino here last week

Cards, calls & prayers to our friends are always welcome.

SunShine Chair—Ed Manville **941-346-8219** or
<hiedm3@comcast.net>

Don Crabb has become a playwright.

The world premier of his musical comedy, "**BEST SELLER**", will be presented at the Manatee Players February 28 to March 16, 2008. It is an affectionate celebration of New York City. Tickets are available at Manatee Players, 102 Old Main St., Bradenton, FL 34205 Ph. 941-748-5875

FALL CRUISE

Pick up your cruise information at sign-in table. Join us aboard the "Sovereign of the Seas" for a 3 night cruise. Oct. 26—29, 2007

DON'T MISS THE BOAT

Make your cruise reservations on-line today. Pick up your cruise flyer & additional info at rear table. Bob Hagen, 923-3843

OUR WEBSITE

All of the information for viewing, listening to, or downloading files, including sheet music, training tapes, and recent rehearsal recordings is available on our web site at — www.chorusofthekeys.org Go to the **Members** page by clicking on **Members** in the main menu. You will need a password to access this page. If you don't know it, ask any member; but for security reasons, please **DO NOT EVER** email the password (or ask someone else to). On the **Members** page, click on **Current Rehearsals**.

Chorus Webmaster,
Richard Romley

News & Views for the **FootNotes** should be sent to the editor
<editorken@yahoo.com> by **Noon Monday**.
This address is for **FootNotes** articles only.