



BARBERSHOP
HARMONY
SOCIETY

FootNotes

Nov. 18, 2008



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Director's Notes

THEME-Melodic

"Friends do not live in harmony merely, as some say, but in melody."

Henry David Thoreau

Melody can be defined as the succession of single tones in musical compositions and is the principal part in the harmonic composition.

Melodic Theme as a Tool for the Performer

The Melodic Theme, as it relates to our art form, has come to mean that the performer chooses to use the melody of a song, as the primary focus of the artistic delivery. When the performer selects this element to feature as the primary musical theme, they should explore the depth and beauty of the "tune", and consider allowing all other elements to serve what is commonly referred to by songwriters as the melody structure blocks. Melody structure is everywhere. It's obvious but how many songwriters or listeners really notice or understand it? Music must be memorable to the listener and the main guideline to accomplish this goal is repetition or "patterns". Think of the great songwriters and their songs... Brahms, Gershwin and Cole Porter offer great examples. Yet even simple tunes like "Don't Worry, Be Happy" can turn your workday into a symphony. Whether it be great melodies from Mozart to Rachmaninoff, from Bach to the Beatles, one thing is certain. It is repetition or "The Hook" causing us to hum that tune over and over and over again. It's the one you can't get out of your head. Great melodies stand the test of time.

Consider the following example: "**Beethoven's 5th Symphony**". Beethoven began work on this piece in 1804 and struggled over the *Fifth* for nearly a decade. He started out conventionally, with lengthy repetitions and standard harmonic progressions.

Continued next column-->

Calendar

Nov. 20: Lunch Bunch at Capt. Brian's, just north of the Airport, US 41, east side.

Dec. 6: 'Lighting the Fleet' Concert, Bird Key Yacht Club

Dec. 12 & 13: Christmas Concert with the Ditchfield Family, Sarasota Opera House

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He constantly simplified, tightened and developed it to full potential. Unlike great movies and novels in which minor changes would be inconsequential, not a single note of the *Fifth* could be improved. **Beethoven's** hearing gradually deteriorated, yet he continued to compose, conduct and perform, even after he was completely deaf. He was able to do this because he was a master of "musical patterns".

"**A Fifth of Beethoven**" is a disco instrumental recorded by Walter Murphy and the Big Apple Band, adapted by Murphy from the first movement of **Beethoven's classic**. The song was featured in the 1970's film, *Saturday Night Fever* and became a "hit" 150 years after Ludwig created it. The catchy melody remains alive today, again popularized by *Judge Judy* - Judith Shelndlin - who uses Murphy's version as her TV theme song.

As we progress in our presentation skills and continue to expand our fun and enjoyable repertoire we will always feature *classic and regal* performance pieces such as *Tribute to World Peace* and *The Sound of Music Medley*. With consideration and respect for the importance of the **melodic theme**, appropriate presentation gestures will be designed to enhance the message. In most cases, your face will serve as the primary presentation delivery tool. Let's take a giant step forward as we embrace the melodic theme.

Your SCOK Directing Team

Coacher & GGG

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member

11-18 Nick Nicholson
11-21 Ed Moran

And Spouse

11-20 Mary King, Bob

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

11-20 John & Dee Glass
11-20 Tim & Chrstine Wolf
11-23 Steve & Lynn Berry

MEETING NIGHT AFTERGLOW

Everyone is Welcome..... to attend our weekly "Afterglow" immediately following the meeting. 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 about 3 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 9:15 pm until.....?

See you there!

THE DITCHFIELD'S CHRISTMAS SHOW

Gentlemen, the Christmas Show is a good opportunity to sing for a large audience with the exact demographics we're trying to reach, to interest them in our annual show in March. Every year we pick up new patrons at the Christmas Show that have never had prior exposure to our wonderful hobby, so let's give it our best effort and do ourselves proud. Invite your friends to a wonderful Christmas celebration where they can get a glimpse of the joy of barbershop harmony—perhaps even enough to make them want to join us on the risers.

This is a reminder to get your show tickets **ASAP**. The Orchestra Main seating for the Saturday matinee is almost sold out already. There are only 2 rows open at the back of the theater in the Orchestra Prime, which Bernice is hoping the COTK will order before they're all sold out, too. Both evening shows have plenty of good seats available at this point.

Do not wait. Reserve your tickets NOW!!!

Sunshine News

A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

Your work is a commentary on your character

Lloyd 'Robble' Robinson: went into Sarasota Memorial 11-17 for heart repair.

Dave Sants: is home recovering after surgery

Jack Webber: is home and will be ready to join us when the doctor & Gloria lets him

Hopefully, no news is good news,
BUT, it is sometimes NOT!!!

Cards, calls & prayers are always welcome.
Sunshine Chair— Ed Manville **941-346-8219** or
<hiedm3@comcast.net>

AD CAMPAIGN — 2009 SHOW PROGRAM

We kicked off the new AD campaign last week with issue of old RENEWAL Envelopes for those 100+ customers from previous years. Envelopes for new "prospects" (unassigned) are also in the AD BOX on the back table tonight. **Please** help yourself to the kit assigned to you last year. If you did not assist with this AD SALE campaign in previous years, give it a try. It's easy, just contact a business or professional office with whom you've done business. Inform the "contact" that this is one way of producing income for the chorus, and explain that our budget is at a six digit level annually, even though each member buys his own uniforms, keeps them presentable, provides his own transportation to sing-outs and rehearsals.

OUR WEBSITE

All of the information for viewing, listening to, or downloading files, 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**.

News & Views for the FootNotes

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