



FootNotes



Jan. 13, 2009



editorken@yahoo.com

Director's Notes

"Wisdom..." This is where the work is!

Dizzy Gillespie, famed jazz trumpet virtuoso and gifted improviser, is quoted as saying it took him 3 years to learn ALL the notes to play... and 30 years to learn the ones NOT to play!!! Another wise man said that discretion is the better part of valor. This discussion will help to improve your ability to discern what is IMPORTANT!

Over the years- IN SOME OTHER CHORUSES- I have heard individuals comment, "if this is just a hobby...I shouldn't have to work so hard at it." The response is consistent. Anything worth having is worth working for. With any undertaking, you will receive proportionately what you choose to invest. You can strive for excellence, or hone mediocrity. The choice is yours. Did you know we only have EIGHT WEEKS until our Spring Show performances? Is EIGHT ENOUGH??? With this in mind, it is appropriate to review and discuss the wisdom in mastering performance skills. Here are five key areas to ponder as we prepare. Let's have at it.

PERFORMANCE SKILLS

> **Minimize Distractions**— performers encounter MANY distractions. The sound system is unfriendly. The temperature is too hot...too cold...whatever. My outfit doesn't fit. My business is booming. My business is tanking. My backside is hurting. The list is endless. Our job is to eliminate interference and allow our performance to equal our potential.

> **Know Your Audience**— There is a difference. When we perform in church as compared to a cabaret, or sing for a BARBERSHOP audience versus an assisted living crowd. We will soon be performing for a specific audience. Let's prepare now.

Continued in next column>

Calendar

2009

Jan. 17: Installation Diner, Location will once again be held at The Meadows C. C.

Mar. 8: Annual Show at Van Wezel: afterglow at SAHIB SHRINE, 600 N. Beneva Rd.

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> **Measure Progress**— Practice your performance level at weekly rehearsals. Test your limits and expand. Let's keep a "short list". We can evaluate improvement **WEEKLY** and allow chorus leaders to provide constructive feedback. Collectively we are only as strong as our individual strength. To get large we must celebrate the "small" victories frequently.

> **Handling Objections**— We will encounter legitimate challenges and some situations present obstacles that are very real. With our Positive Attitude and Positive **"Self Talk"** we will overcome challenges- **TOGETHER.**

> **Continuous Learning**— **question:** How do you eat an elephant?

Answer: ONE bite at a time!!!

Learn from your experiences and transfer the skills.

Be mindful of the importance of preparation. Come to our weekly rehearsals in performance mode. Have your music and presentation routines mastered. Come with a positive attitude. Be an asset to the chapter and to your fellow members. Most importantly, position yourself to be the best you can be.

Choose excellence!

Your directing team—

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member

1-14 George Gipp
1-14 Joe Rocklein

And Spouse

1-13 Betty Wolfe, Lowell
1-15 Andrea Zimmerman, Dave
1-16 Lynn Berry, Steve
1-19 Jan Sinclair, Del

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1-12 Bob & Janice Durgin
1-14 Bob & Ann Gannon
1-14 Milt & Radeene Rothweiler
1-15 Joe & Betty Chamberlin
1-19 Steve & Bernice Ditchfield
1-19 Dick & Jetty Zarfos

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!

INSTALLATION DINNER

Plans for our 2009 Installation Dinner are now established, with our usual great buffet menu and dessert table, to be held on the Second Floor of the Clubhouse, The Meadows Country Club, starting at 5:30, Sat., January 17th. The cost this year is \$30 each. (The Board has elected to not subsidize the dinner this year as previously, due to the state of our budget.) We'll be entertained by the collegiate runner-up quartet at JAX in October — Either Bob Kemp or Dick Bechtel will accept your reservation payments, up to and including Jan. 13th. Don & Mary Ann Scholten are again our official hosts, and Gordon Lenci will again act as MC. Dress is Semi-formal Let's have a great turnout.

Sunshine News

A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

There are seven senses...the usual five plus horse and common.

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. 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 has to maintain his uniforms, and provide his own transportation to sing-outs and rehearsals.

As an incentive to selling an AD to a new customer this year, the Chorus will pay a 10% commission to each salesman for each sale made. If you have any questions, see or call (or email) Dick Bechtel

OUR WEBSITE

All of the information for viewing, listening to, or downloading files, training CDs, 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.
For all other emails, please use—
<rohrskf@yahoo.com> Thank you, Ken