



FootNotes



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Director's Notes

UNITY vs UNIFORMITY

"In an army, you need unity of purpose"...
Emmeline Pankhurst

Houses are built to live in, and not to look on: therefore, let us be preferred before uniformity... Francis Bacon

Do you remember the Wrigley chewing gum commercials for *Double Mint Gum*? "Two...Two... Two Mints In One" the Double Mint Twins would say. With that phrase in mind, we ask you to consider the following. Which is better, Unity or Uniformity? Maybe we shouldn't say "better". Instead we could ask—"Which is more relevant to our delivery and message? Or, which would allow for a more *Believable* performance? As we prepare for our upcoming weekend in Jacksonville, it is appropriate to explore this concept. Would it surprise you to know that **BOTH** play a significant role and in fact are intertwined?

UNITY— Unity is the state or quality of being one or being in accord. It is singleness and defines harmony. When the combination or arrangement of parts into a whole occurs, unification is the result. A union is thus formed. This relates to our hobby and chorus in a most profound manner.

UNIFORMITY— Uniformity conforms to a pattern or rule while possessing resemblance, consonance and agreement. It maintains the freedom from variation or difference, while retaining the sameness of action and effect under like conditions. This yields continued and unvaried likeness.

At the initial first blush, we may say Unity should be the goal. Who can deny the importance of a state of **oneness**? This indivisible nature provides integrity to a performer and the performance.

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Calendar

Apr. 3-4: Spring Convention, Jacksonville

Apr: 16: Lunch Bunch TBA

May 16: Singing for life Blood Drive (plus all the convention stuff, etc...)

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But there is also an undeniable sense of creativity which lies within the uniform. In fact, a clear framework serves as the conduit for the artistic. *Beauty is said to consist in uniformity with variety.* Consider the following examples...

Coacher suggested we all wear the same color shirt to rehearsal, and it created uniformity. We responded with a positive attitude and the group showed up looking smart. Although we had different shoes and belts— some in shorts and others in long pants of various colors— we were uniform. The group took on a cohesive approach and believe it or not— we started singing as more of a unit. Intonation and synchronization improved. **This also created an environment for unity.**

When we gather at a restaurant after rehearsal, a "free style" format of singing and camaraderie exists. No one structures or choreographs the activities of the weekly afterglow... it just happens And yet somehow a "flow" develops. Impromptu quartets organize for woodshedding. Someone leads the group in a classic. Another teaches a tag. We sing for the patrons. Order emerges from casual unscripted chaos. Gentlemen— **uniformity becomes a derivative of the unity.**

As we progress on this enjoyable journey, we will incrementally embrace the fact that uniformity and unity are inseparable. Structure and solid framework will **ALWAYS** provide the opportunity for freedom and unity. "Two...Two...Two Concepts Yield... **ONE UNIFIED RESULT**".

Coacher and GGG

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member

4-03 Ray Stoll
4-05 Andy Guerriero

And Spouse

4-04 Kelly Perry, Jr., T. Kent
4-06 Susan Nicholson, Dick

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

4-02 Scott & Susan Duink

Sunshine News

A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

"When your conscience hurts,
be glad, God's warning system is working"

Hopefully, no news is good news, but, it sure would be nice to hear from someone about our members who may be ailing in some manner.

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

GENTLEMEN, THE BROADWAY BAR IS RE-OPENED

In the old days, the Old Broadway Bar was the place where the guys went for afterglow after Tuesday meetings. The bar closed about five years ago to make room for a new building which contains a Publix among other places. I, for one, will be at the New Broadway Bar tonight. I have had to listen to the Karaoke for the last time at Applebee's.

The address is at the corner of 10th St. & Coconut. Just around the corner from their old location. Go North up the trail from Fruitville, at the traffic light on the corner of 10th St., turn right onto 10th, turn left at the first traffic light, Coconut, turn left into their parking lot. SEE YOU THERE, editorken.

JACKSONVILLE Hospitality Room

We would appreciate everyone going to the Convention to bring either a hot or cold covered dish for our hospitality room at the OMNI (Ballroom "C") and a six-pack of their favorite beverage. This is because we have no chapter funds to expend for this. We are asking our committee, headed by Dick Bechtel, to bring a few desserts and left-over sodas from our Guest Night, along with paper plate/napkins/cups. Thanks, and good performing in JAX.

SONGS WE MAY NEVER HEAR SUNG

"The Staphs And Streps Forever"
"Old Man's Liver"

SINGING FOR LIFE

Saturday, May 16; A three Countywide Blood Drive you've been waiting for, with participation by our area Barbershop Chapters (Sarasota, Bradenton, and Lemon Bay) with lots of quartets already committed. Let's start getting ready, with three locations for our Blood Banks. Schedules will be promulgated when we get back from JAX. Dick Bechtel is our Commander-in-Charge.

"When the performance and the work (literary or musical) are perfectly integrated in meaning, style and intention, the result is a magnificent esthetic achievement and an unforgettable experience for the audience".

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me! I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

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—
<rohorskf@yahoo.com> Thank you, Ken