

DERBYTOWN GAZETTE



Volume I, Issue 1 January 2005



Chapter celebrates holidays, installs officers

By Robin Reid

Anthe's on the Lakes was again the scene of our Annual Business Meeting and Christmas Dinner, held Friday, December 10. Thirty- nine members, ranging in age from 9 to 84, and 26 guests attended. It was good to see so many of the wives and friends (and constant supporters) there.



Marianne and BOTY Jim Elliott

After we had quenched our thirsts and enjoyed a good meal, President Jim Elliott ably and efficiently handled the business part of the meeting. Bob Evans was recognized and presented with a gift certificate for his unfailing and cheerful efforts as Director of our daytime mini-chorus, the Matinee Singers. Similarly Jim & Phyllis Mally were acknowledged for their work with the Matinee Singers – Jim as the coordinator, booking agent & map-maker, and Phyllis for knitting lap robes that were given away at each performance. In the 2-1/2 years since its formation, the Matinee Singers have sung and enter-

tained over 90 times.

Soon-to-be Immediate Past President Elliott installed the 2005 chapter officers by introducing each with a cleverly chosen song title to fit his new post. Officers and board members are listed on the last page of this newsletter.

Past President Jim Mally presented Jim Elliott with an engraved clock/thermometer in appreciation for his hard work during the past two years as Chapter President under very challenging conditions. (Continued on last page)

First Night Feelings

By Guyles Clifford

It is both year end and year beginning, both performance and gift. For seven years we have enjoyed being part of First Night in Akron. It is a festive time of year that catches most of us in a great mood, since we have just celebrated Christmas and are continuing to share great feelings for our fellow

man. Although it is a paid performance, in my mind First Night is more of a gift to the people of Akron and the surrounding area. I would say most of us don't even mind dressing in the Class A uniform. While we may wish to be at someone's party in a warm place, we are happy to venture out in the cold or wet evening to start the new year-- (Continued on Page 2)

By the numbers

- 2,454—Dollars to charities last year
- 57—Prior Annual Shows
- 40—Gigs for Matinee Singers
- 40—Dollars for a Singing Valentine
- 11—Members attended COTS
- 10—Increase in chapter roster
- 7—First Nights for Derbytown Chorus
- 1—Priority given to membership

Read all about it!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS for JANUARY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3 Board of Directors meeting, 7:00pm</p> <p>3 Bulletin deadline</p> <p>6 Harmony for Lunch Bunch, 11:00am</p> <p>11 Matinee Singers, Cardinal Retirement Village, 1:30pm</p> <p>12 Matinee Singers, Lakeview United Methodist, 12:15pm</p> <p>13 Matinee Singers rehearsal, 1:00pm</p> <p>15 Music Team planning meeting, Ayers Library, 10:00am to 2:00pm</p> | <p>16 Matinee Singers, Village of St. Edwards, Smith Rd., 2:00pm</p> <p>18 Show Committee, 7:00pm</p> <p>22 Tuscarawas County Chapter Annual Show</p> <p>23-30 Midwinter Convention, Jacksonville, FL</p> <p>24 Matinee Singers, Western Reserve Masonic Community, 2:00pm</p> <p>27 Matinee Singers rehearsal, 1:00pm</p> <p>28 Matinee Singers, Elms Assisted Living, Hudson, 2:30pm</p> |
|--|---|

First Night (continued from Page 1)

“As hard as it is to believe, there are still some among us who have never heard a Barbershop song.”

even though it is still the old year when we do it. It gives us a chance to showcase our talent and our enjoyment. As hard as it is to believe, there are still some among us who have never heard a Barbershop song.

Even if you only come to sing, and then leave to be with those who could not make the trip, you cannot really say it was not a good time. Remember that most of the people we sing for on First Night are there because they know we are going to be there. By now we are seeing people

year after year whom we may only see at First Night. I know for a fact that we are selling a few Annual Show tickets and probably getting a member or two. I remember extreme cold and I remember wet, but I am oblivious to these discomforts because it is so enjoyable to be part of it. Personally, I missed the first year, but I would not miss again. I hope you had as good a time as I did.

Don't you agree that First Night is a great way to start a new year and, at the same time, finish an old one?



**Newly elected
Chapter President
Ray Stone**

President's Message

By Ray Stone, Chapter President

Membership, membership, membership! That, in short, is going to be one of the main focuses of the coming year for me as president. This means serving our current members and making the Akron Chapter the most enjoyable and useful way they can choose to spend their valuable free time each week. Our current members are the lifeblood of this chapter, and they are the most important people that we have to satisfy.

I believe that coming to the weekly meeting is a choice that each man makes each week. There are many other choices, and it would be very easy to stay home on Tuesday night. If a member does not get a good return on his investment, which is his valuable "free" time, he is not going to continue to invest it. Our meetings need to be the best that they can be—fun, interesting, reliable, challenging, with the right mix of music and fraternity that makes everyone want to come back.

(Continued on Page 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for FEBRUARY

2 Matinee Singers, Fed. of Women, First United Methodist, 12:45pm

3 Harmony for Lunch Bunch, 11:00am

7 Board of Directors meeting, 7:00pm

7 Bulletin deadline

10 Matinee Singers rehearsal, 1:00pm

10 Extra show rehearsal, 7:30pm

12-14 Singing Valentines

15 Music team meeting, St. Bernard's, 6:30pm

17 Extra show rehearsal

24 Matinee Singers rehearsal, 1:00pm

24 Show dress rehearsal, Civic Theatre, 7:30pm

25-26 Annual Show, Civic Theatre

27 Cider Press deadline, March/April issue



**The Unknown Quartet
"auditions" for the chapter**

President's Message (continued from Page 2)

Moreover, membership also means the next generation of singers who are going to be able to take our place someday. We need to make singing with the Akron Chapter such a great experience that, not only will a guest come back, but he will also want to tell his friends about it and bring them down personally. The best way we can perpetuate the music that we love is to instill that love in some new Barbershop fan. This needs to become second nature to everyone in the chapter.

There are a number of important challenges that will be facing the Akron chapter in the coming year. We need men to help with our annual show; we need men to help with Young Men in Harmony; we need men to work on obtaining grants for the chapter; we need more opportunities to perform. We need more men to work on our various committees; we need to sell more tickets to our

annual show. Very few of our problems, however, would not be helped by having another thirty men on the risers.

I have many ideas for the chapter that you will be hearing about as we move into the coming year. Of course, the catch is that all I have is ideas. It is going to take your help and your input to bring any of these ideas to a successful result. I cannot do anything by myself. You may remember the statement I made when I was elected president, and I quote, "When you raise your hand to vote for me, you are, in fact, volunteering for some job to be named later; if you do not want to help, do not vote."

Your greatest contribution is going to be investing your time and energy by attending the meeting next Tuesday and the Tuesday after that and the Tuesday after that and...

"The best way we can perpetuate the music we love is to instill that love in a new Barbershop fan. This needs to become second nature to everyone in the chapter."



Akron Derbytown Chorus at Children's Hospital

Musically Speaking



Clear Choice quartet fronts the Akron Derbytown Chorus at Medina Retirement Village

By Tom Duplaga, Music & Performance VP

The Music Team 2005 yearly planning meeting will convene from 10:00am until 2:00pm on Saturday, January 15, at the Ayers Library on Shatto Avenue. Box lunches will be provided. Please let me know whether you will be attending so I can order a box lunch for you.

All other music team meetings for the year will be at 6:30pm on Tuesdays at St. Bernard's Church on the

following dates: February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, and December 13, 2005. Music Team members are: Tom Duplaga, Kirk Roose, Scott Giles, Jerry Mason, Terry Arman, Dan Nichols, Roger Grecni, Kurt Spensoso, Jim Elliott, Jim Mally, Mike Sitter and Ed Crosley, consultant and advisor.

"WE NEED TO SELL ADS FOR THE SHOW PROGRAM ALSO. IF WE EACH JUST SOLD ONE, WE WOULD HELP THE CAUSE GREATLY."

FANTOM OF THE BARBERSHOP

A#--Well, First Night is over; it must be January. Doesn't quite look like it outside. Don't worry, snow will be here soon enough. I was just figuring I'd had enough, actually. First Night was great though, thanks to everyone who took the time out of a holiday to put in a good effort. We have gotten new members out of the last few times we've done this, I wonder who we will have convinced that this is a fun and worthy hobby, eh ?

Bb--This also means that it's time to buckle down and get serious about the up-coming show. That means learning words and music, choreo, and more. What more? Well, if we don't all put forth our best efforts to promote this show, it still won't be a success. We've got to get out and push this entertainment opportunity to everyone we can. Remember that there is a group discount available on

Friday and a special student ticket priced section as well. We need to sell ads for the show program also. If we each just sold one, we would help our cause greatly.

C#--Summer will be here before you know it, and that is a busy time. First up it Apple Corps. If you haven't gone before, you are in for a real treat. Apple Corps is a real highlight of the barbershop year. There are classes for everything barber-shop and a wonderful atmosphere of fellowship with other Barbershoppers. Make plans to be there at Kenyon College on June 9-12, 2005.

D---We will also be singing again at Copley Circle and Fairlawn Bicentennial Park. Dates are to be determined. Our Family Picnic will be a great time for us also. So leave room for those activities as well.



120 years of Barbershopping

**George Cheetham,
Frank Rennie and
Dennis Siwik**

Congratulations

Congratulations to young basses Scott Foltz and Mike Hoover. Last month each announced his wedding engagement. More details and photos to follow.

Happy Birthdays—January

Jim, Elliott	11
Robert Horning	18
William Kuntz	22
Dennis Setele	26

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENTS

By Mike Sitter, Membership VP

2004 was a banner year for the Akron Chapter. For starters, there are now 10 more names in our chapter roster booklet than there were a year ago. Two of our new members have already earned a Man of Note award.

Our chorus and quartets represented the chapter admirably at the recent JAD contests. The Akron Derbytwn Chorus enjoyed its best finish in recent memory. Good 2 Go finished third in the District, and they hope to qualify in the spring to compete at Internationals. The quartet also won the prestigious Buckeye Invitational in August.

Perhaps a better barometer of success would be attendance at weekly rehearsals. We have no hard data and attendance fluctuates quite a bit; however, I would estimate we average 35 men on the risers. Thirty-five is a considerable number, but imagine singing with 50 or more men every Tuesday. It starts with guests. We were all guests before we were members. The chapter will continue to grow only if you invite guests and bring them to rehearsals.

Last year began on an upbeat with a wonderful annual show. It featured Gotcha! and Metropolis, two of the best quartets in the world, and a burgeoning chorus under the skillful direction of Assistant Chorus Director Scott Giles and soon-to-be full-time director Kirk Roose. This 57th Annual Show figured significantly in the recruitment of three new members.

The upswing continued as the chorus and some chapter quartets received excellent coaching at JAD Apple Corps in June. That coaching served as a launch pad for our summer performances at Copley and Fairlawn. Both shows were well attended and well received.

Then came the Eastern Divisional contests at Charleston, W.Va., in September and the JAD contests in October at Canton, Ohio. The momentum from the contests carried over to our recent sing-outs at Medina and Quaker Square, and to a

splendid First Night show.

Meanwhile, the Matinee Singers, the chapter's daytime mini-chorus, was busier than ever. Under the management of Jim Mally and the musical direction of Bob Evans, the Matinee Singers have become Akron's ambassadors of harmony among the senior citizens in the community.

Our chapter is on course to have a glorious Annual Show, and a year of extraordinary growth in membership and in performance quality, not to mention enjoyment and brotherhood. There are exciting plans and great expectations for the coming year. We are determined to increase public awareness of our chapter and our hobby.

Timing is everything. We are growing, having more fun and singing better. The planets are aligned for 2005 to be a watershed for this chapter. It is imperative we seize the opportunity to rise to new heights of fun, fellowship and excellence. With every member's contribution we will keep getting bigger, bolder and better.



Mike Sitter

"IMAGINE SINGING WITH 50 OR MORE MEN EVERY TUESDAY. IT STARTS WITH GUESTS. WE WERE ALL GUESTS BEFORE WE WERE MEMBERS."



Bob Horning, Bill Weddington, Annabell Horning, Carole Reid, and Ruby Horning socialize at the Annual Business Meeting and Christmas Party

Crosley continues to contribute

An editorial by **Mike Sitter**



Ed and Billie Crosley

The front page of the November edition of the *Derbytown Gazette* announced Ed Crosley's retirement as editor of this newsletter. The item enumerated some of Ed's achievements as a Barbershopper and bulletin editor, as well as in his professional and military careers. The November article, however, only hinted at the totality of Ed's contributions to the Akron Chapter, the Johnny Appleseed District, and our glorious hobby.

Ed was a seminal figure in the Middle Bass Woodshed and in JAD Apple Corps. He has earned four Man of Note Awards. In 1969 he served as chapter president. He was named Barbershopper of the Year in 1969, 1972 and 1978, and is the chapter's only three time recipient of this prestigious award. In 1978, Ed was inducted into the JAD Hall of Fame, and he became one of only four Akron Chapter members to be so honored. He was the District BOTY in 1990, one of only four

Akron members to be recognized in this manner.

As a regular attendee at chapter board meetings, Ed is a walking, talking encyclopedia of chapter history, protocol, and rules and regulations. He stays on top of every issue that impacts his Barbershop brothers. At 85 years of age and with 38 years of service, he is senior to virtually every man who currently sings every Tuesday evening with the Akron Derbytown chorus.

Yes, Ed has stepped aside after 30 years of editing your chapter bulletin, but he remains a vibrant and vital part of what makes this chapter special. In fact, he is so consistent and reliable that we may sometimes take him for granted.

Your new editor is privileged to have been chosen to succeed Ed Crosley in this capacity, and even more privileged to have become his friend.

THE NOVEMBER ARTICLE ONLY HINTED AT THE TOTALITY OF ED'S CONTRIBUTIONS

A Special Note

By **Jim Elliott, Past President**



**BOTY
Jim Elliott**

Nearly everything I've done in my life has resulted from volunteering for something—just to help out as many of you do. When I get to the rehearsal hall to set up the chairs, I'm not the only one there. Other chorus members such as Dan Richards, Jerry Mason, Dick Hudson, Robin Reid, Luke Frohnafel, Mike Sitter and D'Artanyon Stanard are there to assist. Thanks guys. There are quite a few of you volunteers in our organization, and without your help many things would not

get accomplished. Thank you.

I've always been a "worker bee," never a king, until this year. I was surprised at the annual business meeting at Anthe's on the Lakes. I never thought that doing what I love to do would garner me an award. Tears welled in my eyes as I shook hands with the previous winners of the Larry Neal Memorial Award. Thanks for naming me Barbershopper of the Year in the best chapter in the Johnny Appleseed District.

Chapter launches Singing Valentines campaign

By **Mike Sitter, Campaign Chairman**

Your 2005 Singing Valentines committee consists of Dennis Conrad, Stan Haught, Robin Reid and Mike Sitter. We are booking for deliveries from 9:00am to 9:00pm, on Saturday, February 12, through Monday, Valentine's Day. For a very reasonable price, an au-

thentic Barbershop quartet will surprise our customer's loved one with two classic love songs, a box of chocolates, a rose, and a card to commemorate the occasion. Rates begin at \$40 for an all day target time, and rise in \$5 increments as the delivery window shrinks to four hours, two hour, or twenty minutes. (Continued on next page)

VALENTINES (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

We will service Medina, Portage and Summit Counties.

The committee is still accepting volunteers to sing in ad hoc quartets, although we will not know how many singers will actually be needed until bookings pick up. We also need drivers to help get the quartets in and out of performance locations with minimal hassle and to scout prospective new members.

Pink promotional sheets are available at

the Greeter table on Tuesday evenings, or from committee members. Please distribute these while selling show ads and at other times. Providing Singing Valentines is a wonderful way to make our recipients' day, while raising a few dollars and increasing public awareness of our chapter and of our annual show. So please talk up the promotion and get your friends to place an order. Members are, of course, allowed to place orders also.



Keyed Up delivers Singing Valentine to Mary Stone

Matinee Singers finish strong in 2004

By Jim Mally, Chorus Manager

December was another enjoyable month for the Matinee Singers. We sang for the Beechwood Christian Church Senior Group in Alliance; the Goodyear Blue & Gold women's group and AARP # 2249, both at Guys Party Center; and Tower 80 Apartments. The audiences ranged from 15 to 90 people.

During 2004 the Matinee Singers gave 40 performances at various venues, namely 15 nursing homes, 12 senior citizens' groups, six AARP chapters, three church services, two mayor's luncheons, one church festival and the Akron Blind Center.

Our audiences for these presentations ranged from 15 in a nursing unit to 450 at each of two Akron Senior Appreciation Luncheons at the Carousel Dinner Theater. We have performed with as few as nine and as many as 29 singers. Clear Choice quartet joins us for most of our performances.

We tailor the content of our performances to fit the audiences--straight singing with little talking for the nursing homes, to song introductions and terrible jokes for the senior citizens and AARP groups. We try to get as many men as possible involved in the extra-curricular portions of our presentations.

It is a wonderful experience to sing for all of these different types of audiences. Even though there are

times at the nursing homes when there seems to be minimal reaction, we can still tell that we are getting through to them and adding a little pleasure to their lives. When we perform love songs for senior citizens and AARP groups, John Lilley and George Cheetham even go out into the audience and sing to individual women.

Booking performances this year was aided by word-of-mouth referrals from groups we have sung for in years past. In 2005 we hope to sing for more new groups. There are a whole host of venues available for the Matinee Singers and quartets, particularly during the day.

Our thanks to Bob Evans for the time and effort he has dedicated to directing this bunch of maverick singers. We received a note from his wife:

To: matinee Singers

Thanks for getting Bob out of the house.

Jean Evans



Bob Evans directs The Matinee Singers

FROM THE BOARDROOM



Dan Nichols

By Dan Nichols, Chapter Secretary

The executive board of the chapter met on January 3 and they hit the ground running. President Ray Stone set the theme for the year in his keynote letter to the board members. He stated that this year's number one priority would be MEMBERSHIP. We must increase our membership and try to gain back the participation of the inactive and former members. We must make sure that we are doing all we can to attract new members and serve our present and former members. We must make Tuesday nights a refuge from the cares of the world where men can enjoy our mutual love for Barbershop harmony. This will take effort from every board and chapter member. We will have a "Guest Night" in March, but we must also remember that each Tuesday night is a guest night. Activities are planned for each night through mid-February so far, and a mystery trip and ladies night are in the works. We also need to increase our mailing list and keep our patrons informed of our up-coming events.

The music team will be meeting soon to plan the music and major events calendar. There are songs to pick, performances to plan, etc. Any member who needs a part of his uniform should talk to Ray Stone or Dick Hudson as soon as possible. We don't want to be stuck at

the last minute getting uniforms set for the show.

The Pat Daly Fund is still being collected, and any member who still wishes to contribute to this worthy fund should see Robin Reid. This is for some very real needs of a fellow Barbershopper who was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

There is a need of someone who can take the responsibility of the Young Men In Harmony chair. This is an important position for the future of Barbershopping in this area. We need someone who can talk to school educators and administrators and promote Barbershop singing to our young people.

We also need people to step forward to participate in the Singing Valentine program. We need singers and people to talk it up to the friends and associates. We need people to "sell" tickets to the show. Talk it up among friends and neighbors, people from your church, AARP or other retirees' groups, business associates, family. Take fliers and pass them around. We each need to sell program ads to help the show be a financial success. Remember, we get 98 or 99% of our operating funds from the show. If it Does not succeed, we will have to cut our activities and we don't want that. We also need volunteers to help plan for the 2006 show. See Ray or Jim Elliott.

"THIS YEAR'S NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IS MEMBERSHIP," SAYS CHAPTER PRESIDENT RAY STONE



Kirk Roose and Shawn Thomas mug for the camera

Members recall best Barbershop moments of 2004

What was your personal best Barbershop moment of the year? We posed that question to our members. Here are some of their responses.

"Wow, how to choose from all the highlights? Where else but the Akron Chapter can you be directing a polka and a lovely tall young teacher comes out of our audience and dances with you." Kirk Roose

"Singing & Directing the Alexandria Harmonizers while I was doing my Santa thing in Gaithersburg MD. Also seeing their Holiday Show." Herb Shreffler

"October 5, 9:23 pm, when I pinned my grandson, D'Artanyon, at his Barbershop induction ceremony." Mike Sitter

(Continued on next page)

Eleven attend COTS

By Jim Elliott and Tom Duplaga



Tuesday evening chorus rehearsal

The Akron Chapter was well represented on December 4 and 5 at the Chapter Operations Training Seminar in Columbus, Ohio. Eleven of our members were there to learn as much as they could about how to help make this chapter bigger and better than ever. Two of them agreed to share their reactions to COTS with *Gazette* readers.

Tom Duplaga reports: My first COTS was an eye opening experience. I learned there is much more to being the music vice president of a chapter than I had ever thought possible. I picked up many great ideas and suggestions that will be useful for improving our music performance. Most importantly, I learned that I cannot do it all by myself. I

will need plenty of help from many people over the course of the coming year. I know that when I ask for help I will be able to depend on each and every one of you. I am looking forward to a musically rewarding 2005, as I hope you also are.

Jim Elliott reports: Last month I attended COTS for the third time. When I signed up I intended to participate in a variety of classes just to round out my education. The very first class I attended, however, was Chapter Development, and I got hooked by the instructor, Bob Cox, from the Far Western District. He was very informative, and entertaining.

I ended up staying for the whole Chapter Development curriculum, and I learned a lot. Declining membership is a problem throughout the District.

How do we attract and retain new members is the big question. Aggressive recruitment efforts, such as Ray Stone's incentive program for members who invite guests, are a very good start.

Our group shared a session with the Public Relations class, and that was also very interesting. The instructor was Rick Collins from the Seneca Land District. Coincidentally, he lives in the small town of Warren, Pa., where I was born.

Representing the chapter at COTS was a good experience again this year. The food was fine, and the company was excellent. Since all four members of my quartet, Clear Choice, were there, we got in some extra practice. I even got in on a few pick-up quartets.

"HOW DO WE ATTRACT AND RETAIN NEW MEMBERS IS THE BIG QUESTION."

Mike Neff resigns at-large post

By Mike Neff

Regrettably, due to a change in my work schedule and personal commitments, I had to resign as a Board Member at Large after serving two years in that position.

During those two years I was impressed with the professionalism and hard work that our board consistently exhibited.

Before joining the board I had no idea the amount of decisions and work that go into running the chapter.

It involves not only the day to day operations, but also the long term planning.

It requires much work, but the other board members make it fun and it was a very rewarding experience for me.

I would suggest everyone could gain from the experience of giving back to the chapter and working with the fine group of men we have assembled as our board.

Volunteering is the key to the success of the chapter, and I highly recommend the experience.

Please keep a song in your heart,



Diana and Mike Neff celebrate the season

BE HELPFUL – ENJOY IT!

**By Charlie Horning,
PR & Marketing VP**

It's time to get excited about the Akron Chapter Annual Show, and to do whatever we can to make this special event successful. Why? Because this hobby is fun and this show is our highlight of the year.

So, for starters, we need to be using our singing voices more than once a week as we review our music and listen to our learning tapes or CDs that we probably put on the 'back burner' several weeks ago.

We also need to have a few extra show flyers and keep one in our pocket at all times to hand out to friends, fellow workers,

family members, etc. Flyers are available at rehearsal. A little extra effort by every member will help to sell more tickets, and we really need that. Show income represents about 95% of our annual income. It pays the rent, our director, our administrative costs, music and music education, uniforms, contributions to charities, etc., etc., etc... So please make an effort to talk it up every time you see someone you know. It works!

One of my chapter responsibilities is publicity & PR. We need all the help we can get for the annual show publicity. If anyone reading this has knowledge of a publication (organization newsletter, etc.) or any media that

would be willing to print or provide information to the public, please let me know and I will provide the copy.

We do hope to get some information in most of the local newspapers. Advertising is very expensive and hard to justify. We need to find other sources.

Jim Elliott is looking for members willing to be a host to our guest quartets. It's a fun experience! Meet them at the airport; get them to the THEATRE, etc. Let Jim know if you are interested. Or if you can help in any other way, let him know.

Enjoy the preparation. Attending all rehearsals and being punctual helps the entire chorus. See you Tuesdays!



Charlie Horning

*"IT'S TIME TO
GET EXCITED
ABOUT THE
AKRON
CHAPTER
ANNUAL
SHOW."*

SHOW TALK

**By Jim Elliott,
Show Chairman**

The Show Committee was formed and had its first meeting on August 16. My fellow committee members are Jim Mally, Ray Stone, Ed Crosley, Robin Reid, Mike Sitter, Denny Siwik, and Dan Nichols.

We've had several meetings so far and all is going well. The guest quartets on the show will be Power Play, Vocal Spectrum and Jurassic Larks. Our master of ceremonies will again be Jaybird Drennen. "...Till the Theatre Rang..."

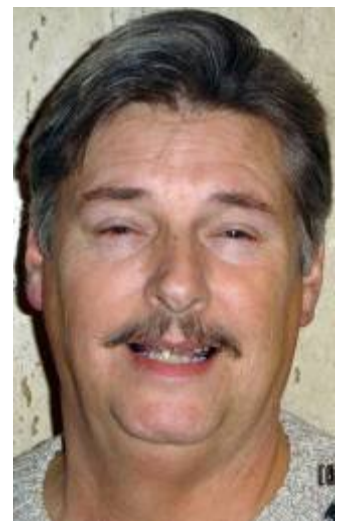
is the title of the show. It will be based loosely on Ed Crosley's life, beginning when he played in vaudeville at 9 years of age.

Dick Frank has volunteered to handle the tickets to the show and the afterglow, with assistance from Gary Young. Greg Batchelor, of Ohio State Graphics, has printed the afterglow tickets. Both the cast party and the afterglow will be held at St. Joseph's Party Center on West Exchange Street.

Most of the chorus music

has been selected for the show. With only about seven weeks until the show, we need to get busy learning words, notes, choreography and stage presence.

The next Show Committee meeting will be immediately prior to rehearsal at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, January 18. Please arrive early; we need your input and ideas.



**Show Chairman
Jim Elliott**



**AKRON CHAPTER,
BARBERSHOP HARMONY
SOCIETY**

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**SMILES MANDATORY
HAIR OPTIONAL**

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CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TEAM

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PR/Marketing VP	Charles Horning	330-666-5676
Program VP	George Cheetham	330-467-7519
Chorus Director	Kirk Roose	440-775-2368
Assist. Chorus Director	Scott Giles	330-722-0070

Chapter celebrates (continued from page 1)

Thirteen previous recipients of the chapter's Larry Neal Memorial Award for the Barbershopper of the Year lined up to welcome the latest addition to their ranks.

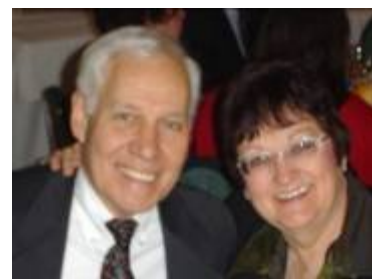
As soon as last year's BOTY, Robin Reid, started to list the accomplishments of this year's honoree, it was obvious who it was to be: 2 years as President; 2 -1/2 years as Show Chairman; Librarian; opening, closing, & set-up man; bass for Clear Choice quartet, and many other functions tirelessly executed.....Jim Elliott. Well done, Jim. His wife, Maryanne, was presented with a bouquet of roses for her support and understanding. Strangely enough, it was she who, that afternoon, had picked out the bouquet to be given to the wife of the 2004 BOTY.

The Weddingtons were recognized for their contributions to the chapter over many years. A collage of photographs

and memorabilia relating to Bill and Louise was on display throughout the evening. The chapter presented them with a donation to the church mission in Vienna, Austria, where they will be serving for the next two years.

Clear Choice and the Chorus sang some songs, rather "heavily" after a very satisfying meal. The Chorus serenaded Carole Reid with "When I'm 64," as it was her birthday. Our singing could not have been too bad, as we were asked to go to an adjacent banquet room to sing to a party of school teachers (could it have been our wives who asked?).

The reception there was great, especially as our Director, Kirk Roose, danced a brief polka with one of the teachers prior to directing our debut of the "Beer Barrel Polka," a song the teachers requested.



Weddingtons embark on church mission

