

Seneca Land District Spring House of Delegates Meeting

September 25, 2009

Marriott Airport Ridge Road, Greece, NY

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Rob Hopkins at 3:08 pm

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Invocation: The invocation was give by Alan Wile

Opening Song: Pete Carentz led us in singing "The Old Songs".

Roll Call -- Taken by District Secretary Tom Jones; X indicates present -- indicates absent

Board of Directors:

President	Rob Hopkins	<u> x </u>
Executive VP	Jim Barickman	<u> x </u>
Immediate Past President	Brian Moore	<u> </u> <u> </u>
Secretary	Tom Jones	<u> x </u>
Treasurer	John Howe	<u> x </u>
Board Member at Large	Bob Weekley	<u> x </u>
Board Member at Large	Chuck Harter	<u> x </u>
Society Board Member	Alan Wile	<u> </u> <u> x </u>

Operations Team:

VP Chapter Support	Wayne Bailey	<u> x </u>
VP Music & Perf.-Jerry Knickerbocker-		<u> </u>
VP Contest & Judging-Don Stothard-		<u> </u>
VP Director Development-Louis Petroni-		<u> </u>
VP Youth In Harmony-Bob Coant-		<u> </u> <u> x </u>
VP Membership Development-Jamie Bell-		<u> </u> <u> x </u>
VP Marketing & PR-Bill Rohlin-		<u> </u> <u> x </u>
VP Events	Brian Moore-	<u> </u>
VP Finance	Warren Capenos -	<u> </u> <u> x </u>

Chapter Delegates: 22 of 34 Chapters Represented

Allegheny Division:

Bradford	Harry Malone	<u> </u>
Dubois	Bruce Cornelius	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Coudersport	Brian Bradley	<u> </u>
Warren	John Hyde	<u> </u>
Salamanca	Paul Mahan	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Jamestown	Pernell Caster	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Crawford County	Milosh Mamula	<u> </u>
Erie	Pete Frank	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
St. Marys	Fred Burne	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Venango County	Joe Morrison	<u> </u>

Allegheny Division (cont.):

Olean	Marshall Allen	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Fredonia	Ben White	<u> </u>
Grove City	Warren Capenos	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
New Bethlehem	Wlm Young	<u> </u>

Appalachian Division:

Canton	Ben Budelmann	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Onondaga Co.	Pete Carentz	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Auburn	Don Harvey	<u> </u>
Watertown	Ken Schwartz	<u> </u>

Mohawk Valley	Peter Bleiberg	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Oswego Valley	Dave Hubalek	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Syracuse	Al Clark	<u> </u>

Catskill Division:

Painted Post	Wayne Bailey	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Binghamton	Tom Jones	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Oneonta	Garrick Hoadley	<u> </u>

Hornell	Scott Harting	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Ithaca	Jeremy Beutel	<u> </u>
Elmira	Bob King	<u> </u> <u> x </u>

Ontario Division:

East Aurora	Mark Karwan	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Monroe County	Dan Walker	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Warsaw	F. Lincoln Walkley	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Geneva	Todd Horton	<u> </u> <u> x </u>

Buffalo	Norm Guenther	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Rochester	William Wise	<u> </u> <u> x </u>
Batavia	Glenn Jewell	<u> </u> <u> x </u>

Past Presidents/Guests

-Guests Jim Chamberlain, Bill Ornt, Barney Johnson, Skip Berrenguer, Joel Brooks, Joel Gross

-Past Presidents-Andy Nazzaro, George Jarrell, Joe Bradbury, Bob Coant,

President Rob Hopkins made a brief statement welcoming attendees to the House of Delegates meeting.

Approval of the House of Delegates minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the House of Delegates meeting held on April 17, 2009 at the Woodcliff Hotel and Spa, Fairport NY. A correction to the minutes was made that showed F. Lincoln Walkley present as the delegate from Warsaw and Glenn Jewell the delegate from Batavia. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Howe presented his report to the House of Delegates. John's report showed total monies on hand as of 9-23-09 to be \$29922.00. This total did not include monies currently being held by the convention treasurer George Jarrell. A motion to receive the treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed. After discussion, the resulting vote passed without incident.

SENECA LAND DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Contest & Judging-Don Stothard's report indicates the number of contestants for the Fall Convention is 21 quartets and 12 choruses. As a result, the contest start times will change from 7:30pm to 6:30pm on Friday. The change in start time and the move to Sunday morning for Performance Evaluations should make the contest more FUN for all.

Chorus Director Development(CDD)-VP Louis Petroni's report states that he will be contacting Seneca Land District directors once the changes in the criteria for CDD are established.

One CDWI was held in Seneca Land in June 2009. Louis will be attempting to set up at least one, possibly two CDWI's for 2010. His report also discussed the camera purchased by the District for use at the CDWI.

Executive VP-Jim Barickman's report focuses on his visits to various chapters within the district, as well as attending various events as District Executive Vice President.

Student Activities-Bob Coant discusses the chapters he has helped with their youth activities, and also discussed the possibility of a second youth chorus in the district, this time near Jamestown! Later in the report he speaks of the SLAM chorus and their amazing job in Anaheim. He also discusses the Harmony Explosion Camp, which was held in July 09.

CSLT/Leadership-Wayne Bailey's report discusses the present state of Leadership Academy 2009 and the fact that it will be held at Harmony House in Rochester on November 14,2009.

Endowment Fund- Chaz Zelows reports that several chapters , two quartets, and the Seneca Land District Youth Chorus (SLAM) all applied for money from the fund. Chaz recommends that: (1) the application form will be worded to state that all MUST be received by April 1st of any given year. (2) that all applicants will be notified of receipt of their application BEFORE April 1ST (3) the committee chair will not solely rely on e-mail correspondence in the deliberation process of deciding how the monies will be disbursed to the applicants.

Standing Ovation Program(SOP)-Barney Johnson's report indicates that only 30% of the chapters in the Seneca Land District make use of the service on a regular basis. He indicated that he will be sending an article to the Smoke Signals describing the services the SOP provides.

Chautauqua Serenade-George Jarrell's report discussed the groups which performed on the show; SLAM, Universal Quartet, Chorus of the Genesee, Vocal Agenda(Batavia), En Route quartet, and Leftover Parts. The tentative date for the 2010 show is August 22, 2010 at 2:30.

Membership-Jamie Bell's report focuses on a possible help for the very serious problem of declining membership. Jamie says to concentrate on the music. If we can upgrade the quality of the music we are making, combined with the other things we can do at our rehearsals, it may just be enough to turn the decline around.

Marketing & P.R.-Bill Rohlin reports that there are currently two major marketing efforts being promoted by the BHS. The American Harmony Documentary as well as the Sing for Life program both represents positive opportunities to extol the virtues of your chapters and promote the Barbershop hobby in our communities. Bill also recommends the Society as a source for local media contact information.

Music & Performance-Jerry Knickbocker reports that even though we held a very successful TOP-GUN quartet coaching school in the fall of 2008(4 quartets and 3 coaches), POW-WOW 2009 was a different matter entirely. Unfortunately registrations were down to a point that we couldn't justify actually holding the school. Instead a very successful quartet coaching school was held. Planning for POW-WOW 2010 is in full swing. The tentative location will be at RIT in Rochester, and the 2010 school will be open to members of SAI and Harmony, Inc.

Events-Brian Moore reports that the Fall Convention is being held at Churchville-Chili H.S., with the Airport Marriott as the HQ hotel. The Seneca Land District Leadership Academy will be held November 14, 2009 at Harmony House in Webster. Cost per man will be only \$40 for this 1 day school. The Spring Convention will be held on April 9-11, 2010 at an as-yet-to-be-decided location.

Catskill Division Report-Tom Jones reports that the Catskill Division has been relatively quiet. The Binghamton Chapter had its 8th annual interdistrict/interchapter night on 6-2-2009. Representing Seneca Land were Binghamton, Elmira, And Oneonta. From the Mid-Atlantic district were Wilkes-Barre, Tunkannock, Scranton, and Wyalusing. All together about 120 men participated!

Allegheny Division Report-Jim Barickman reported that the annual Allegheny Division show was held in Erie, Pa on May 9th, 2009. Jim reports that 9 of the 13 chapters in the division were in attendance, and that 5 quartets performed! Jim also reported on the August 18th "2nd Annual Southerntier Inter-Chapter Bash". The chapters attending were Olean, Bradford, St. Marys, Hornell, Painted Post, Jamestown, Salamanca, Warren, Coudersport and Erie. A great time was had by all!

Society Presidents Letter-President Bill Biffle discussed a number of topics in his address to the delegates. Membership and the creation of a membership task force, the Harmony Foundation, American Harmony the movie, the Convention in Anaheim, and the upcoming convention in Tampa this winter were all subjects discussed in his thoughtful and informative letter to the delegates.

Society Board Member/Executive Director-CEO Report-Alan Wile discussed the Ed Watson report and explained the new staff structure in Nashville. Other topics touched on by Alan were the Anaheim convention (poor attendance), the induction of the Buffalo Bills into the Western NY Hall of Fame on Oct. 8, 2009, and American Harmony the movie. He also discussed Nashville new hires Paul Wietlisbach and Heather Verble in their roles as Society Education And Training Director(Paul) and CFO(Heather).

District President's Report-Rob praised the sizeable donation made by the Painted Post chapter for Harmony Explosion Camp (\$2000) for the third year in a row, as well as the overall contributions of over \$8000. This was followed by an appeal for the chapters and individuals in Seneca Land to "get involved" at a chapter level. Rob also acknowledged the Hall of Fame inductees Phil Embury and the Empire Express Quartet(5 men). Rob also presented a District President award for "outstanding service" to Bob Weekley for his extensive work on updating and maintaining the district website.

A motion was made and seconded to accept all Leadership and Operations team reports. After some discussion, the motion passed without incident.

OLD BUSINESS

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Rob and Alan discussed the upcoming change in the structure of the International Board of Directors of the BHS. The changes are being made to streamline the Board based on upcoming changes in the governance of the Society. Rob discussed the need to revitalize the Chapter Counselor program and how the Board is working to have the program better meet the needs of the individual chapter.

NEW BUSINESS

2010 Budget-John Howe presented the 2010 budget to the House of Delegates. After some initial discussion a motion was made and seconded to accept the budget. The motion passed.

Table discussion-What do we want from our Leadership Academy?-A 15 minute discussion period was allotted for the purpose of discussing the different options available to the Leadership Academy (LA). Suggestions included:

- A. Make the LA an East /West affair, with a one day program held in the western section of the district, and possibly the following weekend another one day program held in the eastern part of the district. This could be used by those unable to be at one, could go the other.
- B. Make the LA an optional 1 day-vs-2 day structure. Men could sign up for the 2 day class, while others could sign up for an abbreviated (one day) version of the same class at a reduced rate.
- C. Mandatory chapter charges-each chapter gets charged for at least three officers positions (President, Treasurer, and Secretary). This should in fact reduce the dollar amount we would need to charge overall and may increase attendance.

After discussion it was decided that chapter delegates should survey their chapter membership and see what each member wants out of their Leadership Academy.

District Elections-A motion was made and seconded to increase from two to four the number of Seneca Land District Board Members-at Large. After discussion, the motion failed to pass. In addition to the current District Board Members-at-Large Bob Weekley and Chuck Harter, separate nominations from the floor were made for Brian Moore and Ward Votava as candidates for the at-large positions. A secret ballot vote was taken and the new Board Members at-Large were announced as Brian Moore and Bob Weekley.

In addition to current District Executive Vice President Jim Barickman, Todd Horton was nominated from the floor for the position of EVP. The resulting secret ballot vote went to Jim Barickman. Pete Carentz was elected District President, John Howe District Treasurer, and Tom Jones District Secretary. Rob Hopkins will be immediate past president.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 5:12pm. The resulting vote was unanimous.

Respectively submitted, Tom Jones Seneca Land District Secretary