

THE NORTHBROOK CHAPTER

# HARMONY GAZETTE

THE LEADING ILLUSTRATED HARMONY JOURNAL IN THE WORLD.



Published for and about members of the New Tradition Chorus • Northbrook Chapter, Illinois District • Int'l Medalists 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 2004  
A member of the Barbershop Harmony Society.



International Second Place Silver Medalist 1993 • 1994 • 1995 • 1996 • 1997 • 1998 • 1999 • 2000

Meeting every Monday night at 7:30 P.M. for Barbershop Style Singing • Christian Heritage Academy • 315 Waukegan Road • Northfield, Illinois

June 2005

2001 International Gold Medal Chorus

XXIII NUMBER 3

## Quartets Place in Peoria!



**Talismen**

Gene Woolcott, Ralph Brooks, Ed Chapman and Dick Kingdon were the winners in the IL District Seniors Quartet Competition in Peoria this past April.




**Lakeside Edition**

Paul Saeger, Duane Fenn, George Harper and Bob Tempas were the 2004 IL District Champions. They are now 2005 International Qualifiers as well!

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**Salt Lake 2005**  
*The best you'll ever...Here!*

**The New Tradition Chorus  
Northbrook Chapter • Illinois District**

Meets every Monday at 7:30 P.M.  
at the Christian Heritage Academy  
315 Waukegan Road, Northfield, Illinois

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Jay Giallombardo

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**The HARMONY GAZETTE** is published by and for the New Tradition Chorus, Northbrook, Illinois Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., an educational and non-profit society.

Articles without by-lines are written by the editors. Contributions are appreciated and will be credited to the author. All submissions will be edited for clarity and for reasons of space.

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**Past Editors Richard Nelson and Michele Arnette were  
Illinois Bulletin Editor of the year  
1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001  
International BETY: Second place 2003,  
Third place 1999, 2000 - Fourth place 2001**

**THE SOCIETY VISION STATEMENT**

The Society is to be a widely recognized ever-growing, singing fraternity of men, drawn together by their love of the four-part a capella, close-harmony style of music known as barbershop whose mission is to perpetuate that style by sharing it and their love for it with people of all ages throughout the world; and to be a leader in the cause of preserving and encouraging vocal music, in our education systems and in our communities, as a lifelong recreational activity and an essential element in one's cultural well-being.

**Editorial Comment...**

Gentlemen:

If any of you saved a copy of the Harmonizer from July 2001, pull it out and go over the article about "Eight Is Enough." Read over that article, and absorb the emotion of what it was like to go for the gold back then.



Don Meseth  
Editor

We have five weeks left before we mount the stage at the Conference Center in Salt Lake City and let the Barbershop Harmony world know what it's like when the New Tradition adds another Gold Medal to our collection. Many of you know the feeling of pride that washes over you when you are acknowledged to be "the best of the best." There are still a few of us in the chorus who want to be part of that; we want it more than anything.

Remember when we started into the back entrance of the auditorium at Portland for our Swan Song? Remember when the Masters of Harmony waited on the sideline for us to pass? When one of them started to applaud, then another, and another, and finally that entire chorus offering us their accolades as we entered for our grand finale, one champion to another.

I shall never forget that emotion-packed moment. I know there are chorus members who feel the same way. And I can't wait for it to happen again. Gentlemen--five weeks to go--let's get that second "Gold".

The Gazette  
Bulletin of The New Tradition Chorus  
Editorial Goal

By means of professional reporting, articles, photos, features, letters, and editorials, provide information about the Chorus to our chapter, the Society and the community, which will assist our members in achieving our goals and objectives.

Submissions for the next issue of the  
Harmony Gazette are due by  
July 15, 2005.

# The Power of Music

submitted by VP of Marketing & PR Max Kieba, with permission from Mike McCoy, Madison, WI Chapter

*To give you a background, Mike contacted me at the end of April to see if I could send him a copy of the VLQ article from the February Gazette as it would help his chorus in its VLQ development. After I got him the article and we exchanged emails, he included in one email "We have to get you all back again to Madison for our annual show. New Tradition quickly became my favorite chorus when I heard it live for the first time, on our stage, about two years back." I thanked him for the comment, and got this great story in return. Although those that took part in our Broadway CD can feel especially proud of the effect that CD had, everyone in NT should use this as a reminder of the gift we can provide through any of our CDs or performances.*

Max, you mentioned in an e-mail to me on Wednesday: "It's always gratifying to get good comments from area chapters."

Let me offer another, prompted by a phone call from my daughter just a few days ago. It's about how the New Tradition Chorus saved the day for me -- and not just any day, but one of the most important days of my life.

First some background. My daughter got married last October in Knoxville, Tennessee, where she has lived for several years.

The one parental obligation I had put off, even as the wedding week started, was preparing my toast to the new couple, as the father of the bride. This was my one and only daughter, and thus would be my one and only chance in my life to make such a toast. That realization really put pressure on me.

I guess I had been counting on inspiration to hit and all I was getting -- at best -- were light glancing blows.

It was very much on my mind as I left Madison, Wis., where I live, to make the drive to Knoxville for the wedding. To help keep my mind occupied during the journey and off my failure to have the toast ready, I had grabbed some CDs for the trip. One of them was New Tradition's "Broadway."

I think I was somewhere in Indiana when I was listening to it for the third time, my mind still occupied by the fear I was going to come up with the most forgettable toast ever given by a father of the bride.

Whenever I need a shot of comfort -- and this was one of those times -- I usually listen to the New Tradition's "West Side Story" medley and the resolve at the end which always makes the hair stand on my arm. No matter my mood, it's always improved after that.

This time, it was the "Fiddler on the Roof" number that got my attention. In it the narrator talks about "Tradition(!)" and how the residents of a small Russian village had a tradition for everything, including marriage.

And then the New Tradition began singing "Sunrise, Sunset." That got me thinking that the wedding rehearsal was scheduled for dusk the night before the ceremony, and that the sunrise the

next morning marked the first day that my daughter and her husband-to-be would begin their lives together.

It was the inspiration I needed. I continued to work on the toast for the remainder of the drive, then when I had some time to myself at the hotel, I grabbed a piece of hotel stationery and wrote down what I wanted to say. For the remainder of the time, I worked at memorizing the toast so I could give it without referring to notes.

I'm glad I had done that advance work because, at the dinner following the wedding, my daughter asked me as soon as I arrived to begin the toasts and to do it right then. And so I did to the 50 or so in the room. As soon as I was finished, my daughter left her table to come over to me, with tears in her eyes, to hug me and to ask me to write the toast so that they always had a copy. I simply handed her my notes which had it all.

Jump forward to last week. My daughter called me just to tell me she and her husband had been in the basement, going through some of their keepsakes from the wedding as they prepare for a move. She wanted me to know they ran across the toast and began to read it together. Midway through, they looked at each other and realized each was crying. She just wanted me to know that it had had that impact on both of them.

I really had hit a home run, and I really owe it all to the New Tradition Chorus.

Mike

P.S. Sorry for the length of the above, but just in case you're still reading and would like to find out what I said in the toast, here's the text.

In the musical "Fiddler on the Roof," the setting is the small Jewish village in rural Russia called Anatevka. The story of its inhabitants is told by one of the residents named Tevye, who otherwise is known as "Poppa". Tevye explains that the fiddler on the roof is symbolic of those who live in Anatevka because they are people who are trying to scratch out a tune without falling off the roof. How do they keep their balance? Tradition!!!! They have a tradition for how you dress....a tradition for how you eat....and even a tradition for how you celebrate the bonds of matrimony. It is at a wedding of a young couple that Tevye asks himself, in song: Is this the little girl I carried? Is this the little boy at play? I don't remember growing older. When did they? When did she get to be a beauty? When did he grow to be so tall? Wasn't it yesterday that they were small? Those lyrics are from the beautiful song, "Sunrise, Sunset." Last night we gathered at sunset for the wedding rehearsal, an event which also marked the sunset of Anne and Jon's lives apart. This morning's sunrise marked the first day of their new lives, as one. Like the citizens of Anatevka, Anne and Jon also will need to find ways to keep their balance as they play the tune of their lives. To help them keep their balance, my hope is that their tradition will be -- as each day dawns -- they each search for ways that day to deepen their love, one for the other. Here's to Anne, and Jon -- and tradition!



## Presence

By President John Trumbull

“Gentlemen,”

That is the word that we use to begin most of our announcements to the chorus: “gentlemen”. Gentle ... men....

What does it mean to be a gentle man? Perhaps to be a gentle man is to allow yourself to be vulnerable; to admit your human-ness – your humanity.

As proud men, we find it SO difficult to “let go” when we sing. We like to control everything around us, including our own emotions. We fear we will be judged by others, if we dare to show emotion.

“Big boys don’t cry.” But, gentle men do....

We may find a song like “If I Loved You” to be technically challenging, but we *can* master the technical part of this song. It is the emotion of the song that is hard for us to feel, and even harder to share with an audience.

While we were performing for the judges at the Spring Show, Bob Squires grabbed my arm and said “Great presence!” That word – “presence” – what does it mean?

What does it mean to be “present” in a song? How can you be “in the moment”? I believe there is only one way to achieve “presence”: we must each live the song. We need to allow ourselves to *feel* the lyrics, to represent the emotions, to “throw it out there, over the footlights”, so our audience can feel what we are feeling.

If you don’t have a tear running down your cheek by the end of “If I Loved You”, you are either not trying hard enough ... or, you are dead.

There is a scene, in the movie “Men In Black”, where Will Smith catches Tommy Lee Jones looking at an image of his wife – a woman he was forced to abandon.

Will Smith says: “Well, it’s better to have loved and lost, than never to have....”

“Try it!” snaps back Tommy Lee Jones.

That is tangible pain. In two words, he reminds us how much it hurts to leave someone behind ... to not be able to have someone, no matter how much you want them.

I would suggest that every one of us has felt that kind of pain, at one time. We have loved, and we have lost.

And that is what “If I Loved You” is all about. And may I suggest to you that the only way to breathe life into that song ... is to ALLOW yourself to FEEL that pain, again. Go ahead. Dare to remember a loved one whom you can no longer be near. Hold that memory in your heart as you begin to sing those words. Honor the memory, and acknowledge how much that person meant -- still means -- to you. After all these years, you can still feel it. Let it flow, let the tears flow, as you sing those words.

Remember: audiences, and judges, do not come to your performance to be ENTERTAINED. They want to be MOVED.

But first, you must be moved.

Be “present”. Go ahead. I’ll cry with you.



GADZOOKS after the competition in Peoria!

Saeger Photo



## Spring Contest Re-cap

Submitted by Max Kieba, VP of Marketing & PR

Congratulations to all members of The New Tradition Chorus who took part in a successful weekend at the Illinois District Spring Contest in Peoria. Our chapter quartets and chorus accomplished much that weekend.

Our chapter quartets had a strong presence in the International Prelims contest. In all, we had six chapter quartets entered in the contest, the most from any chapter in the district. It was exciting to see some new faces as well as some "experienced" faces we haven't seen on the quartet contest stage for some time. In **The Chi-Tones**, **Noah Miller**, **Mike Schnitzler**, and **Andy Smith** were making their novice debut on the contest stage. **Ralph Brooks** sang as the new lead for **Talismen**. **Pete Harrison**, who hasn't been in a quartet contest in 10+ years, and **Dave Brady** (30+ years removed from his last contest!) sang with **Take 2**. And then you had the rest of the "seasoned veterans": **Larry Emery (The Chi-Tones)**, **John Cain**, **Bob Scheible**, **Bill Schwarz (Gadzooks)**, **Duane Fenn**, **Paul Saeger**, **Bob Tempas (Lakeside Edition)**, **Tim Carter**, **Doug Smith (Skyline)**, **Max Kieba**, **Mike Woods (Take 2)**, and **Dick Kingdon (Talismen)**.

When all was said and done, 5 of our quartets made the top ten (2 were in the top 5). **The Chi-Tones** placed second in the novice contest, just five points out of first place. **Talismen** was declared the District Seniors Quartet Champs with **Gadzooks** placing second. Perhaps the highlight of the evening for NT quartets was **Lakeside Edition** qualifying for the International Quartet Contest in Salt Lake City; quite a follow-up to their District Championship in the fall. I should also mention NT members who competed with their quartets in other area competitions. **Jerry Metz** competed out of district with his quartet **Boom Town** in the Pioneer District International Prelims Contest. **Steve Schoultz** competed with his quartet **Geneva** in the LOL Division One contest. Their scores would have been good enough for second and top 10 respectively in the Illinois district. And for those that remember **Mike Byrley**, his quartet **Impulse** competed in the JAD Spring contest and qualified as a wild card competitor for Salt Lake City.

Our chorus also took part in the weekend, even if it wasn't our time to compete. The district asked us to perform a set after the regular chorus contest. We unveiled our new contest package, and also performed some other

songs that would appear on our spring show. As usual, we gave the audience a good sampling of the serious and the "not so serious" songs. Many of our audience members enjoyed the variety in our set, and we even got recognition from a society officer at the House of Delegates meeting. Drayton Justus gave a presentation on the desire to have more chapters perform shows with greater variety. He specifically mentioned NT as a great example.

Some would think having the chorus perform, several quartets compete, and several other chorus members register for the convention weekend to support the district would be enough. However, we weren't done there. Through a few phone calls and emails between NT members a great idea

(continued on page 6)

## Northbrook Chapter Quartets

\* Denotes Chapter Members



### Boom Town

Tenor: Craig Hall  
Lead: Chris Kirkham  
Bari: Pat Henders  
Bass: Jerry Metz\* (847) 354-2823

### The Chi-Tones

Tenor: Noah Miller\*  
Lead: Larry Emery\* (815) 477-3037  
Bari: Mike Schnitzler\*  
Bass: Andy Smith\*

### Chicago Sound

Tenor: Peter Fink\*  
Lead: Dennis Barto\*  
Bari: Bart Chapin\*  
Bass: Walt Parus\* (847) 253-7197

### Chordiac Arrest

Tenor: Marty Jahnel\*  
Lead: Dick Johnson\* (815) 838-1874  
Bari: Mike Bagby\*  
Bass: Earl Meseth\*

### Father 'N Son Reunion

Tenor: Paul McCracken\*  
Lead: Lawrence Dohogne (618) 452-7196  
Bari: Steven McCracken\*  
Bass: Larry Dohogne

### Gadzooks

Tenor: Ed Hobbs  
Lead: John Cain\*  
Bari: Bob Scheible\* (312) 255-1344  
Bass: Bill Schwarz\*

### Geneva

Tenor: Gareth Cole  
Lead: Wayne Weiser  
Bari: Steve Schoultz\* (312) 558-8642  
Bass: Paul Zeien

### Hospitality

Tenor: Pat Brady\*  
Lead: George Carlson\*  
Bari: Keith Mockenhaupt  
Bass: Joseph Schlesinger\*  
(847) 328-0921

### Lakeside Edition

Tenor: Bob Tempas\* (630) 887-8399  
Lead: George Harper  
Bari: Paul Saeger\*  
Bass: Duane Fenn\*

### Seriously

Tenor: Robert McClerrren\*  
Lead: Craig Huotari  
Bari: Darryl Nordentoft (708) 482-7174  
Bass: Thomas Grant

### Skyline

Tenor: Tim Carter\*  
Lead: Dan Starr (630) 483-0418  
Bari: Mark Betczynski  
Bass: Doug Smith\*

### Take 2

Tenor: Max Kieba\* (312) 656-7469  
Lead: Mike Woods\*  
Bari: Peter Harrison\*  
Bass: Dave Brady\*

### Talismen

Tenor: Gene Woolcott  
Lead: Ralph Brooks\*  
Bari: Dick Kingdon\* (847) 934-1171  
Bass: Ed Chapman

### Without a Prayer

Tenor: Tom Weidenhoefer  
Lead: Casey Clements (815) 744-8418  
Bari: William Parks\*  
Bass: Ron Welch



### Spring Contest Continued...

was brought up to have the Sounds of Sweetness chorus from Walter Payton High School in Chicago take part in the weekend. It was decided SOS would mic-test before the chorus contest, and perform a set after the chorus contest before NT. There was only one problem; neither SOS nor the district had the funds to bring them down there. Realizing this was such a great opportunity for the kids, NT agreed to underwrite the costs.

I foolishly thought it wouldn't be too difficult to get the kids on the bus, get them down to Peoria and have them perform on stage. However, it was soon realized much more was involved. We had to make sure the bus picked up SOS early Saturday morning and get them down to Peoria in time, arrange for parking for the bus, arrange for a warm-up room, get the chorus on the district's schedule for pictures, mic testing, and their after-contest set, etc. Oh yeah, and since we're talking about 16 high school aged boys plus director and chaperone, it's also a good idea to feed them. All this, and those of us in NT working on logistics also had to get ourselves to the NT rehearsal for our own set.

The plan was to have the boys get there at noon, eat and get changed, warm-up and take pictures before they mic-tested. The food was picked up a little late, which was bad enough, but the bus got to Peoria even later. This meant the boys had to quickly change and warm-up just in time for their mic-test performance. Their eating (the most important part) would have to wait until after they sang and their pictures were also pushed back until after the last competing chorus took its picture.

I was very impressed with SOS considering the rushing around associated with the change in schedules. They performed their songs both for the mic-test and the set afterwards, and got their pictures with no issues. It was no surprise they found time to devour their food. I was also pleased with the response from the audience and the district. I had asked for some kind of certificate to give to SOS as a special token of appreciation to bring back with them to Walter Payton HS. The district wound up providing the boys with engraved key chains and the director with a plaque. He was very moved by the gesture. I was also happy to hear the district thank NT for our efforts in both our set and for bringing SOS to Peoria. The district VP of YMIH reiterated these thanks in the HOD meeting. I personally have a lot of people to thank for their efforts, but

most specifically **Bowen Schumacher** and **Jenn Sievers** for helping with logistics, and **John Cain** for helping to arrange the gifts for SOS. I would also like to thank Wayne Wright and Al Quinn for all their help at the district level.

Forget about the PR NT got out of it or the enjoyment the audience had with seeing SOS. What meant the most to me was the experience the kids got out of it. They truly had a great time down in Peoria. They enjoyed performing, were floored by NT's performance, and enjoyed the after-contest thanks. Their director said it was big boost of morale for them as they had been working so hard in rehearsals lately. Sound familiar?

The fun for the boys didn't stop there. One would think after their busy day they would collapse on the ride home. However, we had three members of NT (**Bowen, Tom Murray, and Al Landry**) who rode the bus with SOS and decided to teach the boys some tags. It turned out the boys loved it. Al in particular said it very well: "I was teaching these guys tags on this noisy, bumpy school bus. You could hardly hear yourself for all the road noise and the rattling of the bus! But despite the less-than-ideal circumstances, these guys just ate it up!! It was truly refreshing to see the genuine excitement on the faces of these kids each time they finished a new tag! After years and years of doing this hobby and working so hard at our rehearsals, you sometimes forget the pure, simple joy of singing. And you forget the appeal our style of harmony has for men and women of ALL ages.

It was a great experience and a great chance to share our hobby on a personal level with the next generation of potential barbershoppers."



The Chi-Tones singing in Peoria  
Saeger Photo

# Sweet Traditions

New Tradition Women's Auxiliary

Join us!

**Date:** 3rd Monday of each month

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** Christian Heritage Academy

**Program:** TBA

### The 2004 Sweet Tradition Board

Nancy Nicholson, President	262-886-5486
Merrill Seal, Vice President	847-229-1868
Kay Schuetz, Secretary	630-325-0214
Marlene Anderson, Treasurer	708-422-0918
Marion Meseth, Membership	847-827-6530
Roxanne Barto, Sunshine	847-564-0399
Mindy Lazor, Immd. Past President	847-257-1000

Please call anyone on the Sweet Tradition board if you have questions, suggestions, or wish to volunteer.



Skyline  
Saeger Photo

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the home of Immediate Past President Stan Hadley at 7:30 P.M.

Members are encouraged to attend.



Take 2 in Peoria  
Saeger Photo

## New Tradition's Section Leaders



Duane Fenn  
Bass Section



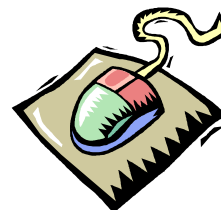
Dick Kingdon  
Baritone Section



Ralph Brooks  
Lead Section



Bob Tempas  
Tenor Section



access the web...

**New Tradition Chorus:**

[www.newtradition.org](http://www.newtradition.org)

**Barbershop Harmony Society:**

[www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

**Illinois District:** [www.harmonize.ws/III/](http://www.harmonize.ws/III/)

**Barbershop Harmony Chicagoland:** [www.bbs.singer.as](http://www.bbs.singer.as)

**Chordiac Arrest:** [www.chordiacarrest.com](http://www.chordiacarrest.com)

**Hospitality:** [www.harmonize.ws/hospitality](http://www.harmonize.ws/hospitality)

**Lakeside Edition:** [www.lakesideedition.com](http://www.lakesideedition.com)

**Skyline:** [www.harmonize.ws/skyline](http://www.harmonize.ws/skyline)

**Take 2:** [www.take2quartet.com](http://www.take2quartet.com)

**Without a Prayer:** [www.singingmenofnote.org/wap.htm](http://www.singingmenofnote.org/wap.htm)



**International Gold Medalist - 2001**  
 International Silver Medalist  
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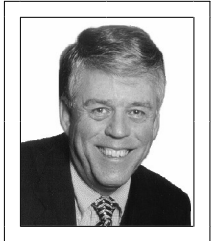
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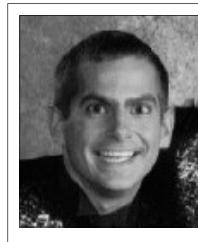
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J.D. Rich



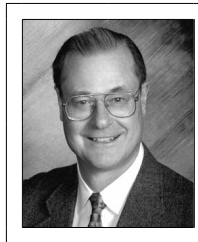
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Chuck Feuillan



Chapter Dev. VP  
Ralph Brooks



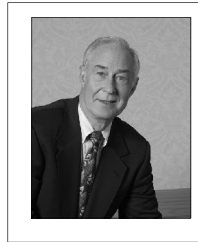
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Stan Hadley



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Barry Cain



Treasurer  
Rich Nelson



Secretary  
Mike Saeger



Chorus Manager  
Brian Milnikel

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
 (other than regular Monday night meetings)

- June 30 Free Show at Lake Zurich High School
- July 5-10 Barbershop Harmony Society International Contest and Convention Salt Lake City, Utah
- September 12 NT Guest Night for society wide UCANSING2 recruiting week