



# What's Happening?



Official Weekly Bulletin of the "Fairfax Jubil-Aires"

\*\*\*\* Mid-Atlantic District 2009 Southern Division Plateau AA Chorus Champion \*\*\*\*

Fairfax Virginia Chapter, Southern Division, Mid-Atlantic District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

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10 November 2009

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Tonight we're at  
**Lord of Life, West Campus**

Attendance Nov 3: 34 Members plus 4 Guests



Alex



Mark



Pondu



Sam

## Coming Events

- \*Nov 14 Southern Leadership Academy
  - Dec 5 Fairfax Christmas Tree Lighting
  - Dec 8 Heatherwood Retirement Center
  - Dec 12 Christmas Tree Lighting on Ellipse
  - Jan 10, 2010 Installation Banquet
- \* = not for full chorus  
■ Red = Newly Scheduled Event

November Birthdays (Meeting date/this week)

Lowell Holloway 7 Kevin Deasy 28  
(Let us know if we're missing a birthday.)

## Lost & Found

Lost: Doug Jones' red Jubil-Aires folder, possibly at LoL after Guest Night. It has Doug's name on the label on the front.

Missing something after a meeting? Let us know. We'll list it and see what happens.

## NDB PLAN FOR November 10 2009

-Doug Jones

We continue welcoming and including our guests into our Christmas Program rehearsals. Aaron Watts will be filling in

*A fellowship of men devoted to the art of a cappella barbershop singing, committed to excellence in musical performance and good will in the community.*  
Visit the Fairfax Jubil-Aires's Web page at [www.thefairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.thefairfaxjubilaires.org)

for Ron Obermeyer heading up our Guest portions. Aaron will be assisted by Charlie Preuss. Please continue to be the great hosts you've all proved to be throughout this guest event. Tonight's routine will follow the same pattern as the last two, rehearsing Christmas Music before the business break, and Repertoire Music afterward.

### Meeting Plan

- 7:00 - 7:30 **Riser Team** set up risers and chairs (all able-bodied members)- quartets, warm-ups 7:30(Sharp!) **Call to Order Ron Obermeyer (RO) [Aaron Watts (AW) is backup] Formally Welcome all Guests** with Opening comments (brief).
- 7:30 (Sharp) **In Chairs.** **Call to Order (Roger Arnold)**
- 7:31 - 7:35 **Introduce Guests** (whoever brought them) – your line is, "Hi, *<guest name goes here>!*"  
Opening Comments and move to Risers (**AW – C. Preuss (CP) backup**)
- 7:35 - 7:50 **Technical warm up/exercises** – timing and breath – (**J. Knueven, F. Jefferson backup**)
- 7:50 - 8:35 **Christmas/Seasonal Song Rehearsal** (Tom Meier w/Asst Directors)
- 8:35 – 8:45 **Business Meeting** – Keep items to 90 seconds or less and germane to our near-term goals! (**AW**) 90

seconds MAX per speaker  
(Timed by **CP**)

8:45 - 8:48 **Introduce and sing to guests**  
(**AW w/ CP** -trainee).

8:48 - 9:00 **Break** (Polecats, etc.)

9:00 - 9:50 **On Risers (AW/CP)**  
**Repertoire Rehearsal** (Tom Meier w/Asst Directors)

9:50 – 9:55 **Stow chairs and Risers** (all able-bodied members)

9:55 – 10:00 **KAS** (**Dave Sande w/Frank Jefferson backup**)

10:00 - 11:15+ **Afterglow** - American Legion Hall (Oak Street, Fairfax)

### FARB's Life

–Aaron Watts –

Gentlemen FARBsters gathered at Dan Patton's house Monday, 2 NOV, and practiced singing Polecats. We again worked on phrase synchronization, where to breath, and how to listen to each other; within a quartet, and within our chorus section.

As a qualified Polecat, Fred alerted us to the sign-off sheet at the back of the Polecat song book, where FARBsters can record evidence, by "qualified" signature, of competent quartet singing for each of the 12 Polecats. We all agreed that this qualification is a good thing to complete to help us grow as quartet members. Fred gave us tips on how to successfully complete the Barberpole Cat Program, noting that we should pick quartet members who actually know the Polecats, and that we should be alert to tests of our ability to "carry our part"; like an errant baritone singing near and dear to your ear.



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## President's Corner Comments

– Doug Jones –



First, I'd like to congratulate our Guest Christmas Singout Team on the excellent job they're doing. Tuesday evenings are very well organized, well-attended by our guests as well as members, and everything I hear about it is good. Congrats to Obie and his team. Way to go, guys!

Second, I want to tell you what a marvelously fun Saturday morning and afternoon was had at the Fairfax Squadron Event spearheaded by Don Collier. This was another of Mike Stoll's very worthwhile suggestions that have brought a lot of Barbershop fun to this Chapter. Great suggestion, Mike, and a fantastic, well run event, Don. I know all the participants join me in thanking and congratulating both Don and Mike on the program, for the singing, the coaching, and not least by any measure, the delicious catered lunch. 'Way to go, guys! Hopefully, this will catch on like our St. Paddy's Day event has. If it does, I encourage everyone who can spare the time to join in. In addition to the simple fun of the singing, you also receive some very helpful singing and performing advice from the fine Judging Panel. I learned that my Oklahoma twang is getting in the way, and I need to sing more "vertical." So I've got something to work on that was pointed out (again) yesterday. And, if it will make better barbershop blends, I'll work hard on it! I'll leave the full telling of the Squadron's story and details to Don and other members who attended. I just want to say how very

worthwhile and fun it was and to encourage all of you to jump on board next year's event. You'll be glad you did, too!

After our Business Break and during our Repertoire Work portion of our rehearsals the last couple of weeks, our Director has taken us through some fine Section Sound training, followed by then blending the four voices together for a Chorus Unity Sound. I hope you have all noted the significant improvement it has made to our combined sound. So if you've been cutting out after the break, you've been missing out! Plan to stay for the entire rehearsal, if possible.

This is the time to be hawking our Patron show tickets, since they are 80% tax-deductible. Even retired folks can benefit from that. And so can businesses! They can make excellent doorprizes for Office/Organization Christmas Parties. But only if the businesses and offices know about them! Just a thought.

## Wanted: A Few Good Men

- Jere Richardson -



I am coordinating the southern Leadership Academy on November 14th in Reston. I need a few men to assist me. Some of the help can be done at home prior to the 14th. The rest will be concentrated between 7:30 AM and no later than noon that day. You have my address and phone number. Please let me hear from you.

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**SWEIGART, LINGO,  
DOUGHTY,  
RICHARDSON WIN  
FIRST FAIRFAX  
SQUADRON! – Don  
Collier**



Congratulations to all of you for a fantastic Fairfax Squadron! We "fell in" at 1000 hours at the Reston Library as scheduled, quickly stimulated by coffee and sugar-bombs catered by Steve Lingo. Way to get us spooled up, Steve!

We know Leads are slow on the uptake, but how did two of them show up at the wrong library? AWOL!!! Don't worry, Tom and Roger, nobody is going to tell who they were!

After opening announcements, singers sought out likeminded vocalists to practice their six songs from the Harmony Classics selection (Hello Mary Lou, I'm Sitting on Top of the World, Lazy River, Little Pal, This Little Light of Mine, and Zip-a-Dee Doo-Dah). Frantic to complete their dance cards, they sang from the kitchen, the hallways, outdoors, the bathroom, corners of the performance room, any niche they could find. By noon, and before tackling a wonderful lunch again catered by Steve Lingo, hey turned in the dance cards.

Winner: Mr. Fred Geldon of the Fairfax Jubil-Aires (editor of the "What's Happening" newsletter), who sang 27 times in less than 90 minutes!

And while we were all sitting around belching and scratching and cleaning our lunch off the carpets (Mike!), our esteemed judges were introduced: Mr. Arthur Louis, dual member at Alexandria and Loudon County and newly drafted bass for the quartet Downtown(!); and Mr. Jerry Eiler, dual member at Arlington and Mt. Vernon and lead singer for the quartet Cliché. Lots were drawn for quartets and song assignments (2 each) and we all went away to practice some more, returning in 15 minutes to start performing.

Doug Jones (L, Frfx) started the competition with Fred Geldon (B, Frfx), Dick Webber (T, MtV) and Bill McDonald (b, Frfx), performing under the name of "Numero Uno", a most original label, singing "Hello Mary Lou." In the second round, they sang "Lazy River." They won enthusiastic applause from the audience.

The second quartet was led by Don Sweigart of Mt. Vernon, supported by Steve Lingo (B, Frfx), Bix Doughty (T, Frfx & MtV), and Jere Richardson (b, Frfx & MtV). Introduced under the name "When You Are Number Two," they sang "I'm Sitting on Top of the World" and "Little Pal, " and, boy, did they sing! They took top honors, and to prove they knew what they were doing, performed a

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Polecat encore that pushed the walls back! Don, a novice quartetter, was more surprised than anyone. Congratulations, guys.

The "Dimwits," a quartet admitting to having rehearsed the wrong song for their performance, was led by Tom Norin (Frfox), supported by Don Collier (B, Frfox & MtV), Phil Merkel (Frfox) and - substituting for the croaking Tom Meier (Frfox) - Mike Stoll (b, Frfox). They sang "This Little Light of Mine" and "Lazy River." They were rewarded with resounding applause from the audience, and a lukewarm reception from the judges!

Quartet number four, "Two-bits, Four-bits, Six-bits, a Dollar," so named because a toddler placed a dollar at their feet when they were rehearsing outside the library, was led by Roger Lemieux (L, Frfox), joined by Randy Moller (B, Frfox), Arthur Terreson (T, Culp), and Cliff Shoemaker (b, Frfox). They sang "Hello Mary Lou" and "Little Pal," both to rave reviews. However, one of the singers (and you know who!) was chided for dancing the twist during the sentimental second song!

Incidentally, organizer Don Collier confessed to an oversight in forgetting to bestow upon Arthur Terreson the Radical Barbershopper Award. Arthur drove three hours from Afton, Virginia to participate!

The fifth and final competing quartet, appropriately named "The Last Quartet," was formed by Lowell Holloway (L, Frfox),

Steve Lingo (B, Frfox), Dick Webber (T, MtV) and Mike Stoll (b, Frfox). They performed "I'm Sitting on Top of The World" and "Zip-a-Dee Doo-Dah." A wall of applause descended on them, particularly in appreciation for the staccato clap in the closing lines of "Zip."

As the judges completed their scoring, quartets came together spontaneously to perform songs of choice. Thanks to the technical genius and generosity of Tom Norin, all the contest songs, as well as the Afterglow songs, were recorded digitally and will be distributed to the performers.

Again, thanks go out to Tom Norin for conceiving the mini-Brigade concept that later was named Fairfax Squadron. Everybody had a great time, and the event may repeat next year. Feedback is being sought on how to do it better (see notes below).

We owe gratitude to Mike Stoll and Dick Webber for their guidance in structuring the Squadron, and for their help, with Tom Meier, in teaching effective barbershopping techniques at practice sessions. Thanks again to Steve Lingo for taking on the catering task; it was well done.

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**Editor's Note****– Fred Geldon –**

This was an exciting week, capped by the Fairfax Squadron on Saturday. It was a terrific chance for those of us who haven't had much quarteting experience (plus many who have) to sing and polish a half dozen great songs. A big Thank You to Don Collier, our Squadron Leader, as well as to Tom Norin (who recorded it for both present and posterity) and Steve and Lise Lingo (for keeping us well nourished.) And congratulations to the winning quartet – "When You Are Number Two" – Jere, Don, Steve, and Bix. Check out the Squadron pix on the next page.

By the way, although yours truly won the prize for the "Best Dance Card," I have no plans to go on "Dancing with the Stars"!

We have another edition of Cliff's Notes that will be sent separately. (It was delayed from last week; the delay is the fault of the editor (me), not Cliff.) Please remember to send in your bio forms to Cliff so you can be included in Cliff's Notes – if you don't, he'll call you anyway!

Well, we have a winner for this week's Music Trivia Contest. Congratulations to

Jere Richardson, who brings the trophy back to the Jubil-Aires. Here are the answers:

1. Paper Cup (No. 34 in 1967) – The Fifth Dimension
2. Paper Roses (No. 5 in 1960) – Anita Bryant
3. Paper Roses (No. 5 in 1973) – Marie Osmond
4. Paper Tiger (No. 23 in 1965) – Sue Thompson
5. Paperback Writer (No. 1 in 1966) – The Beatles
6. Paperlate (no. 32 in 1982) – Genesis

Jere also won the Name That Caption contest – see the caption below. We had another strong entry (thanks, Charlie), but unfortunately the censors insisted that it was not suitable for a family-oriented newsletter. Suffice to say it was something about Tom's right hand. You do the math.



**"I give up. Did you get a new hairdo?"**

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**"Blue skies up above . . ."**

Now there's a novel idea - Contest Judges have to sing to their audience!



**"When You Are Number Two"**

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