



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

"Patoo a bawl doong a de bamboo walk!"

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Tonight, and from now on,¹ we're rehearsing at **Lord of Life, West Campus**

Attendance Dec 8 (after Heatherwood): 21 Members and 3 Guests

2010 Events

- Jan 2 George Mason Men's Basketball (anthem), noon
 - Jan 10 Installation Banquet
 - Feb 14+/- Singing Valentines
 - Feb 21 George Mason Women's Basketball (anthem)
 - March 12-14 Spring Prelims
 - APRIL 10 Jubil-Ares Spring Show!
 - Mary 28-30 Southern Div Contest
 - June 17-20 Harmony College East
 - June 28-July 4 BHS Intl Conv, Phil
 - July 4 Independence Day Parade
 - July 25 August 1 - Harmony Univ
 - October 1-3 Mid-Atlantic Dist Contest
 - Dec 9 Tall Oaks Senior Ctr, Reston
- Red = Newly Scheduled Event

¹ The Board voted to meet at LoL throughout 2010.

December Birthdays	(Meeting date/this week)
Pete Bermel 1	Joe Blair 5
Doug First 12	Bert Johnson 23

Lost & Found

- ❖ Did anyone notice my sport jacket which I left at rehearsal in LOL church last night (has license and 'stuff')? (Harold Weinberger)
- ❖ Still missing-Bob Zalenski's music folder (last seen in the black box at Fairfax High School)
- ❖ Doug Jones' red Jubil-Aires folder, possibly at LoL after Guest Night.
- ❖ FOUND: Red folder left behind at Heatherwood - found by Palmer McGrew.

Missing something? Let us know.

Note - Doug Jones has been taking a "bamboo walk" with Bonnie, so we've given him the week off. But yesterday, in a field outside Frederick, Md., three cigars were found wrapped in a document entitled "Special NDB Plans, No. 191." Based on the decoded

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

document, it can be reliably predicted that this week's rehearsal will include:

- O Setting up risers and chairs
- O Welcoming guests
- O Warming up
- O Singing!
- O More Singing!
- O And still more singing!
- O Business meeting where speakers will be told to limit themselves to 90 seconds but they will go on and on and on and repeat themselves redundantly . . . etc. etc.
- O Cooling down
- O Taking down risers and chairs
- O Meat lovers and chicken pizzas

And, since this is the season for giving,

- O Ron Obermeyer will collect Christmas hats
- O Bill McDonald and Kevin Deasey will collect money for the inauguration banquet
- O Kevin Deasey and Brian Johnson will collect money for patron (or other) Show Tickets

FROM THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER:

NBC's *The Sing-Off* is Finally Here!

Remember back in August when we promoted auditions for a new show? Well, the long-awaited two-hour season premier of [*The Sing-Off*](#) is this upcoming Monday, December 14, at 8:00pm Eastern Time. (Ed. Note – it will continue through Wednesday, and the following Monday)

The show features **Maxx Factor** - a Sweet Adeline quartet, as well as **Voices of Lee** - the group from which 2002 International Champion Quartet **Four Voices** stems. Also look for the **So-Cals** quartet as at least one Westminster Chorus member will be singing with this group!

Lots of barbershop roots in this competition, folks! It's sure to show off some good a cappella singing!

FARB's Life – Expectations –Aaron Watts –

FARB's met 7 Dec to work on Polecats and patter, but also to discuss what is expected of a FARB and how we can become better barbershoppers. We agreed there ought to be some specific FARB goals and timelines, but we also agreed that everyone has different expectations.

For example, while achieving the Polecat pin in your 1st year could be an important milestone, it is difficult to meet this expectation if a rookie doesn't have a Polecat CD or the spots, something he typically won't get until he receives his new member

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package from BHS. This problem has been around for some time, judging from a copy of "Observations and Perspectives of a New Member" written by former FARB Prez Tom Norin. We need to resolve this issue, and some others, such as repertoire CD distribution, soonest.

And speaking of soonest, FARBs are looking for nominations to take current Prez Dan Patton's position in Jan 2010! It will be tough to leave Dan's rather centrally located house. As the pic from Monday's meeting shows, FARBs have become comfortable singing around Dan's fireplace ... and accustom to Dan and Silvia's hospitality!



BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR FOR 2009 –Tom Norin –

Gentlemen of Song,

The time has come to vote for Barbershopper of the Year for 2009. Voting will take place over our next two Chapter meetings. Thanks to those who have

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stepped forward and written summaries for their candidates for BOTY, and congratulations to our very esteemed and most worthy slate of candidates. At this time, nominations are closed. Our slate of candidates, in alphabetical order are:

- Don Collier
- Fred Geldon
- Doug Jones
- Steve Lingo
- Tom Meier
- Dan Patton

DON COLLIER – Don exemplifies what we need in a barbershop chorus member: the drive to take an idea and carry it through to fruition in fine style. By his all-but-solo efforts, Don brought the Irish Music Festival into being, and has sustained it now for a third year. Similarly, he took an idea – the Fairfax Squadron – and implemented the first variation on the popular "Harmony Brigade" concept to be held anywhere. Lots of folks offered suggestions, but Don made it happen! For his creativity and personal efforts to add fun, variety and community exposure for the Fairfax Jubil-Aires, Don Collier should be Barbershopper of the Year for 2009.

FRED GELDON - I would like to nominate Fred Geldon for BOTY. Fred accepted the ongoing and time-consuming task as Editor of What's Happening, making it an even more informative, interesting, and entertaining read incorporating several new features and numerous photos that he himself generated. Fred has written and stimulated many fine articles, and has made it a banner of club pride! He developed the

theme for next year's annual chapter show, and has worked tirelessly on the show committee. As a stalwart participant in the FARBS, Fred has managed to earn his PoleCat pin. He has a sharp sense of humor and a quick wit – quite rare among bass singers. He attends almost every function put on by the Jubil-Aires despite a much further commute to chapter venues than any other member – he lives in Maryland! For exceptional professional ability, steadfast initiative, and selfless dedication to the preservation and encouragement of barber shop quartet singing with the Fairfax Jubil-Aires, Fred Geldon reflects great credit upon himself and his chorus, his actions keeping with the highest traditions of the Barbershop Harmony Society. We should recognize his originality and energy with the BOTY award.

DOUG JONES - I nominate Doug Jones. His two years as President have been great ones for the Jubil-Aires. We have taken some significant chances and made real progress. During his tenure the chapter has grown significantly in size. Doug attended to the largest and the smallest chapter details, such as enthusiastically adopting the compellingly attractive chapter meetings format, helping to design choreography for our contest songs, and making contest hotel arrangements (with a little help from his best friend Sue and others) at Reston, Wildwood, and Lancaster. Doug has unfailingly written weekly pieces in What's Happening to keep us in the know. He repeatedly took on responsibility for more than his share of the tasks required to keep our organization functioning, including work in helping to find a place for us to meet when we lost the Old Town Hall. He agreed to serve two years as president, and finds time to sing with Special Blend, HHS and

represent the JA's at frequent BHS meetings. Moreover, he has served with integrity in the difficult and thankless role of President for a most demanding, opinionated and varied group of men - - he's been a good leader!

STEVE LINGO – I am compelled to nominate Steve Lingo! I believe that Steve has earned this award for all of his efforts and participation since joining the Jubil-Aires. Along with volunteering for hospitality suite hosting, Steve consistently suggests ideas for improvement of the Jubil-Aires, unique performance opportunities (Skiing Santa?!?) and demonstrates a level of involvement and energy that is an inspiration for members new and old. The guy simply loves to sing and has experimented with singing all voice parts. We are a much better chorus for having a new member with so much to offer. For these reasons and lots more, I nominate Steve Lingo for Barbershopper of the year.

TOM MEIER - There are a lot of guys who are active or who contribute, but IMO there's one that stands out way above the rest....Tom Meier: He works tirelessly as director. Learns all the parts to most everything. Pinch hits with quartets that need a voice to stand in for a missing member. Never misses an afterglow. Quick to help and coach new guys. In at least one, maybe two quartets. Sings with the Loudoun Chapter, and doesn't he sing with the Culpepper chapter, too? WROTE the entire 2009 show script on short notice and it was very good. Participates in every event - Irish Music Festival, Fairfax Squadron, etc.). Arranges fun and innovative songs for a variety of setting and patiently teaches them to the chorus. Beneath that gruff, occasionally caustic and tough exterior lurks

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a most genuine, thoughtful and – yes – even passionate and compassionate friend to the Jubil-Aires. And much more (where would we be without Kathy?) There isn't anyone who comes close to all of that. Even if he's won it before, he deserves it again.

DAN PATTON – It might be easy to overlook Dan as the obvious candidate for Barbershopper of the Year. He is simply an individual who is almost always present, contributing, never offers a harsh word or criticism, or has a bad thing to say about another. He offers to host events, help with planning, or share his home for parties or FARBS meetings with such ease and selflessness it might be easy to take Dan for granted. But shame on us if we fail to recognize the value of his participation and contributions. In an organization like ours, it takes all kinds of personalities and talents to keep the whole mass moving in a positive direction. Dan is a huge part of what adds value for his fellow members. For his understated and selfless contributions, I urge the membership to recognize Dan with Barbershopper of the Year.

Unfortunately, we are not able to share this recognition among all six candidates. In my view, all deserve the honor of Barbershopper of the Year! Congratulations to each of you.

**SHOW
TICKETS
READY FOR
SALE! - Lowell
Holloway -**



Tickets for our

Show (**Lights, Action, Barbershop!**) on April 10, 2010 are ready for sale! See Brian Johnson for tickets and info.

Ticket prices for our 2010 Show:

✚ Regular Seating, Matinee and Evening:	\$20
✚ Patron Tickets (80% tax deductible)	\$100
✚ Military, Active Duty	\$10
✚ Senior Citizens (Residents of retired centers w/ID cards)	\$10
✚ Students (w/ID cards)	\$5
✚ Children under 12 years of age	Free
✚ Bus Drivers (for retired centers/military hospitals)	Free

Different tickets will be printed for regular seating and Patron seating with Matinee and Evening regular seating tickets being printed in different colors. (Discounted tickets will not be specially printed. Each FJA will be on the honor system to reconcile discounted sales with Brian.

Patron tickets bought in 2009 will yield 2009 tax benefits, so act quickly! Each Patron ticket sold adds \$100 to our treasury – need we say more! So, Patron tickets contribute to the FJA's – year end is coming and the tax man soon follows so this is an easy way to contribute to your chapter – buy one or more TODAY!

Remember, Show tickets make wonderful Christmas presents - and tremendous gifts!

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Editor's Note

– Fred Geldon –



Okay, I won't keep you in suspense any longer. Here are the answers to the Name That Jubil-Aire contest. In some cases more than one answer gets credit – often the result of suggestions made in answer sheets. The decisions of the judge (that's me) are final. No appeal. But let me know if you want more explanation.

Name That Jubil-Aire!

1. He winks when he smiles = Aaron Watts, of course. (Everyone got this one)
2. Jubil-Aires' starting pitcher = Roger Lemieux (pitchpipe, get it?)
3. Washington Senators benchwarmer? = Pete Bermel (remember Reston?)
4. El Jefe = Doug Jones (credit also for Frank Jefferson)
5. The Producer = Lowell Holloway. (Half credit for Palmer McGrew)
6. The Cinematographer = Tom Norin (Half credit for Fred Geldon)
7. The not-so-big train = Joe Blair (Half credit for Doug Jones)
8. Papa FARB = Mike Farb
9. His bones may be old, but his spirit's not = Bix Doughty (If you didn't get this one, you should be ashamed)
10. He wouldn't really go postal – would he? = Bob Zalenski (extra credit for Joe Maile)
11. Jubil-Aires' relief pitcher = John Kneuken or Joe Blair
12. He wears a scarlet B = Bobby Scarlett

13. He takes a lot of notes = Cliff Shoemaker (half a credit for Tom Meier or Fred Geldon)
14. J.R.'s cousin? = George Ewing (but half credit for Cliff Shoemaker, since on Dallas, J.R.'s brother Bobby's brother-in-law – i.e., Pam's brother - (does that make him a brother-in-law-in-law?) was named Cliff Barnes.)
15. Squadron commander = Don Collier
16. Namesake of Irish patriot = Kevin Deasey (ask him to tell you the story, if you have an hour or two)
17. Luke Skywalker's mentor = Ron Obermeyer
18. I'm a pepper, you're a pepper, he's a peper too. = Ivan Halfond (or John Kneuken)
19. Ragtime Joe = Jere Richardson
20. Takes mustard on his hot dogs = Pete Brintnall

Entries were submitted by, in alphabetical order², Pete Brintnall, Steve Lingo, Doug Jones, and Bill McDonald. I'm pleased to say that all qualified as "ringers" (18-20 right), but Doug Jones (a/k/a El Jefe) scored highest with 19/20. Good job!

And for those of you who kept your answers to yourself, how many did you get right?

On the next page are pictures from Heatherwood, thanks to Dave Sande

This will be the last issue of What's Happening? for 2009. Unless, of course, it isn't. Either way, have the happiest of holidays.



² by the last letter of their first name

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At last, the reward!

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Dear M-AD Men,

This year marks the **37th**
Annual Blast and
 the **Dundalk Chapter** of
 the **Barbershop Harmony**
Society cordially invites you and/or your
 quartet to join us.

Each year our beloved region celebrates an annual get together, continuing a tradition that has run consecutively for 37 years! Many area chapters take the week between Christmas & New Years off, and if you're like us you may find yourself craving 4-part harmony. If this sounds familiar, this one-day only event is for you!

As in previous years, we will have a **mock quartet contest** and an **entertainment portion**. If you would like to perform during either portion, come prepared with a song! Registered quartets will sing during the Entertainment portion, while throw together quartets will compete in our mock contest.

Can we count on you attending the party? (rhetorical question)

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, 29 December 2009, 7pm - 11pm.**

All you can eat & drink included in the **\$15** cover charge.

Location

Michael's 8th Avenue

7220 Grayburn Dr.

Glen Burnie, MD

[Google Map](#)

More details, directions, & past photos available at blast.dundalk.org.

Questions? blast@dundalk.org

Thanks for your support and interest in the Blast!

Blast Coordination Team

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*'Tis a St.
Patrick's Day
Celebration!*

Come join the Fairfax Jubil-Aires'
**Fourth Annual "Festival of Irish
Song, Barbershop Style"**

**When: Saturday, March 13, 2010,
12:00 noon to 4 PM**

**Where: American Legion Hall, 3939 Oak
Street, Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 273-2250**

**Who can attend: Barbershoppers and
friends.**

**Who can compete: Any amateur male
or female or mixed barbershop quartet
(Society registration not req'd) based in the
Washington, D.C. metro area**

**Cost: \$50 per quartet (w/reg'n *); \$15 per
guest**

**Not refundable after February 29, 2009*

**Cash no-host bar; hot Irish style lunch
included**

**Competitors: Sign your quartet up now and
mail to Don Collier at the address shown below
!**

Quartet name:

Point of contact:

Phone number:

E-mail address:

Singer's names:

**Contest rules: Competitors will sing two
songs of clear Irish content arranged in the
barbershop four-part harmony style (only G-
rated material, please); additional songs may
be sung, in batches of two until a winner of
Most Songs is determined. Quartets will be
judged on quality of music, performance, stage
presence, costume, and originality **Bring your
favorite limerick to tell between quartet
performances.****

Prizes will be awarded for:

- (1) Best male quartet
performance: quartet name
goes on rotating cup
- (2) Best female quartet
performance; quartet name
goes on rotating cup
- (3) Most unique Irish song
- (4) Most authentic **Irish** costume
and props
- (5) Best **"in-character"**
performance
- (6) Most Irish songs in repertoire

**Address: Don Collier/1713 Palm Springs
Drive/Vienna VA 22182**

**Phone: (571) 232-4474 e-mail:
jdonaldcollier@verizon.net**

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