



# 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

## SPECIAL POETRY EDITION

Vol. 57, No. 6

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February 9, 2010

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Tonight we're rehearsing at  
**Lord of Life, West**  
(Weather permitting and the crick don't rise!)

Attendance Feb 2: Attendance wasn't taken, since it was an abbreviated<sup>1</sup> meeting.

### 2010 Events

- Feb 9 Hypothermia shelter at LOL, East
  - Feb 11-14 Singing Valentines
  - March 6 St. Paddy's Day
  - APRIL 10 Jubil-Aires Spring Show!
  - May 28-30 So. Div. Cont, Roanoke
  - Jun 17-20 Harmony College East
  - June 28-July 4 BHS Intl Conv., Phila
  - July 4 Independence Day Parade
  - Jul 25-Aug 1 Harmony University
  - Oct 1-3 M-AD Cont, Lancaster
  - Dec 9 Tall Oaks Sr Ctr, Reston
- Red = Newly Scheduled Event

<sup>1</sup> Question of the day, from Aaron Watts: "why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?"

February Birthdays (Meeting date/this week)			
Bob Zalenski	2	Dave Whitney	13
Fank Fedarko	14	Randy Moller	25
Tom Meier	28		

### Lost & Found

(Contact the editors if you lose something, find something, or just feel like talking.)

### NDB Meeting Plan for February 9, 2010 - Doug Jones -

Tonight, and for the next few rehearsals, we will be perform our contest set (Paper Doll and Paper Moon), including the existing choreo. So, if you need to review those moves, please do so and arrive ready for "performance presentation." The current choreo will probably be modified or replaced in the near future, but until it is, we will perform what we have. We will also work more on SV songs before turning our attention to Show Tunes for April. We will review the new song (Moon River) and, if the Learning Tracks are ready, learn another brand new song "Annie Medley" written specifically for our show. Then we will review other repertoire songs we plan to include in the Show next April.

**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)

## Meeting Plan

- 7:00 - 7:30 **Riser Team** set up **Five Risers** and chairs (all able-bodied members)- quartets, voice warm-ups.
- 7:30 (Sharp!) **On Risers.** Call to Order (**Aaron Watts/Doug Jones backup**) Ask "do we have any Guests?"
- 7:31- 7:35 Introduce Guests (whoever brought them) – your line is, "Hi, *<guest name goes here>!*" Welcoming Comments (**Aaron Watts/Doug Jones backup**)
- 7:35 – 7:45 Technical warm up/exercises – timing and breath – (**F. Jefferson/ backup to be assigned**)
- 7:45 – 8:25 **New Song Sectionals - Annie Medley** (Tom Norin/Tom Meier/Section Leaders) (four sections in different rooms w/learning recordings and spots
- 8:25 – 8:30 **On Risers** (or Arch Singing) Combined chorus sing Annie Medley
- 8:30 – 8:40 Business Meeting – Keep items to 90 seconds or less and germane to our Near-term goals! (**A. Watts**) 90 seconds MAX per speaker (Timed by **Pete- aka – "Basher" Brintnall**)
- 8:40 – 8:55 **Break** (**A. Watts/backup to be assigned**) (Issue Music, Polecats, etc.)
- 8:55 – 8:58 Introduce and sing to guests (**A. Watts w/ L.Holloway - trainee**)
- 8:58 – 9:15 Singing Valentines (**SVs**) – Tom Norin
- 9:15 – 9:20 **On Risers** Call to Order (**A. Watts/backup to be**

**assigned**) Music 101 – Tom Meier

- 9:20 – 9:50 Repertoire Songs (**Tom Meier w/Asst Directors**) **Moon River** (T.Norin Dir) – Rainbows end waiting - - -
- ❖ **Paper Moon** – You're all of the - - -
  - ❖ **Paper Doll** – I guess I've had - - -
  - ❖ **Heart** - When you're blue and - - -
  - ❖ **I'll Fly Away** – Glory Halleluiah Bro - - -
- 9:50 – 9:55 Stow chairs and Risers (all able-bodied members)
- 9:55 – 10:00 **KAS** (**Ron Obermyer/Frank Jefferson backup**)
- 10:00 – 11:15 **Afterglow** – American Legion Hall (Oak Street, Fairfax)

### Phil's Phyles –Phil Merkel –



Despite the threat of (and the arrival of) snow, we had a good rehearsal. I thank all who were there. And the first order of business at the next board meeting<sup>2</sup> will be to establish an inclement weather policy. I monitored the weather forecast, but I need to watch the school closings!

We introduced our choreographer coach, Sally Galloway, to those who did not know her. Sally brings impressive credentials to this opportunity (and challenge), including being an assistant director of the 3-time silver medal winning Sweet Adelines chorus, the Pride of Baltimore.

<sup>2</sup> Ed: Under the new inclement weather policy, the next board meeting was postponed as a result of snow!

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The reason we are investing in her coaching is to continue the overall improvement of the chorus. It is my strong belief that if we stagnate, we will wither and drift into being just a community chorus. We will lose quality singers who have higher goals than we can satisfy. We can aspire to and reach higher goals, only one of which is our contest results. The value of participating in contests is that it improves our entertainment value and our viability as a barbershop chorus.

I have studied the descriptions of the three judging categories—music, singing and presentation—and recent scores from our last district contest. These are all available on the BHS and M-AD websites. What you learn from the three judging categories is that they are inextricably interrelated, overlap in their criteria, and are generally confusing. What you learn from the scores is that they do not vary significantly across the three categories. In a great many cases the three scores vary by less than one percent. The obvious conclusion is that a poor score in one area drags down the score in the others. In education, this is known as "the halo effect," where one score influences others. Also, the reverse is not true, that a high score in one area brings up the others. This is because judges start from an overall impression and deduct points from there. They don't add points as the performance evolves before them. So we have to do well in all areas in order to get a good score in any area and overall. And this is why we have enlisted a presentation coach.

This will change the way we run our meetings. On the nights when our coach is present, choreography will be primary and singing secondary. In this way we expect to obtain maximum benefit from her presence, which will be about two meetings per month and then only for the first half.

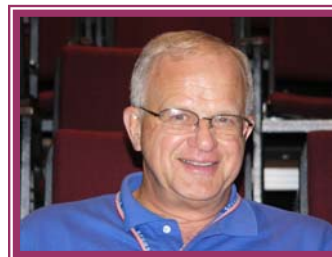
As before, we will find ways to accommodate men who can't quite keep up

with the overall performance requirements or who need extra practice. We have come a long way in our ability to learn the dual disciplines of singing and expression (presentation). Bringing those to the same high level is what the Run to Roanoke is all about. It's great to be a Jubil-Aire!

## **Jere Richardson-Update**

– Ray LaTurno-

I am happy to report Jere Richardson has been released from the Loudon County Hospital following his stroke and on the road to recovery at home under the watchful care of "Nurse Nancy". Nancy and the family thank everyone for all your calls, caring e-mails, thoughts, and prayers throughout his hospitalization. Though he is resting better at home she asks that you please call in advance if you would like to pay him a visit (once we dig out from the Blizzard of 2010). We all hope that Jere can speed through his speech therapy and join us again on the risers real soon.



## **SV's for Deployed Servicemen**

– Ron Obermeyer-

Our Chapter will deliver a Singing Valentine on behalf of a deployed serviceman (male or female) to anyone in our area, free of charge. To do that however, we need the request from the deployed serviceman. That's where we need everyone's help...to identify the deployed serviceman and get the word to him. This has to be done by personal contact through someone that knows him. We need your

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help in getting the word out to neighbors, church members, organizations (e.g., American Legion, VFW, Optimists, Lions, etc.) that this is available and to have them provide you with a way to contact the serviceman or a person (other than the intended SV recipient) that can contact them (e.g., friend, parent). If you provide that information to Ron Obermeyer, he will take it from there.

Have your wife get the word out to her social organizations too. Every year we have done a few more. Let's make this year our best year yet. It's a great way to support our servicemen who cannot give their loved ones a personal valentine because they are away serving their country ...and you and me.

### New Wrinkle for "Lights, Camera, Barbershop"

—Lowell Holloway —



Cliff Shoemaker, one of our own, has suggested that we perform a "medley" as an opening to our Show on April 10th, 2010. This medley, entitled "Annie Medley", would be based on the show "Annie" and would consist of several songs from this movie, such as "It's a Hard Knock Life" and "Tomorrow"; both for the Chorus and perhaps a quartet or two; we have asked our guest quartets if they would be a part of it. This also would fit in some fashion as part of the ending of the Show. Much to do yet, but Cliff did this on his own, including having the opening medley "arranged" for us. This is still in the early "breaking news" stage, but the Show Committee has approved that we try it. Stay tuned to our Director and watch

the NDB for our rehearsals soon. Talk about initiative, Cliff! If we all had this much...!

Keep those ticket and ad sales going! Bill McDonald gave an impassioned plea last week at rehearsal about turning "tickets into cash" for our Treasury. So let's not let Bill down! We want to "fill the hall" for both the matinee and evening Shows. And I am sure that Pete Brintnall still has room in the Show Program for as many ads as we can sell! So, keep at it!

To recap, the ticket and ad sales prices are:

✚	Reg Seating, Matinee & Evening:	\$20
✚	Patron Tickets (80% 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 retiree ctrs/military hospitals)	Free

SHOW PROGRAM AD's

Back Cover (only 1— see Pete)	\$200
Inside Cover (2 available — see Pete)	\$150
Full Page (as many as we can sell!)	\$95
½ Page (as many as we can sell!)	\$70
Business Card (ditto!)	\$40

Remember: If we don't sell the tickets and ad's for OUR FJA's SHOW, no one else will!

### FARB's Life – New Member Orientation

—Aaron Watts —

There were 9 of us at our 1FEB FARB practice. We did a lot of quartet singing, while those not in the quartet critiqued and coached. While it is sometimes difficult for us rookies to get up in front of everybody to sing, we all agreed that these practices are the time to get up there, give it a whirl, and

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improve! After all, as FARBs Prez Larry Gordon said, "What happens at FARBs, stays at FARBs!" (Except of course, for a few snippets in What's Happening!)

Papa FARB was impressed with our singing and improvement! Mike asked us to practice a technique to making a brighter sound ... cheeks raised like a smile, nostrils open allowing air (and sound) to pass through. Mike also suggested that we can become more aware of where we are singing in a chord by marking in the music when we are singing 3rds, 5ths, and 7th chords.

Larry Gordon wrote down an answer to a question the FARBs discussed in our last meeting; Q: How do I find my first note in a song, based on the pitchpipe note that is blown in the major key of the song? We discussed several techniques, but agreed to collect this question and answer, plus other FAQs, and record them for the new and revised "New Member Orientation" booklet. This revised booklet will be handed out at FARBs meetings, and will include additional information for rookies, like a new member check-off list.

If you are a rookie (or if you would just like to tune up with the FARBmeister), you should join the FARBS at our next meeting! We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday every month. Our next meetings are 15FEB (possible) and 1MAR (definite)! Make sure you contact FARB Prez Larry Gordon to get on the FARB email list; 703.975.1238; [Larry.Gordon@cox.net](mailto:Larry.Gordon@cox.net)

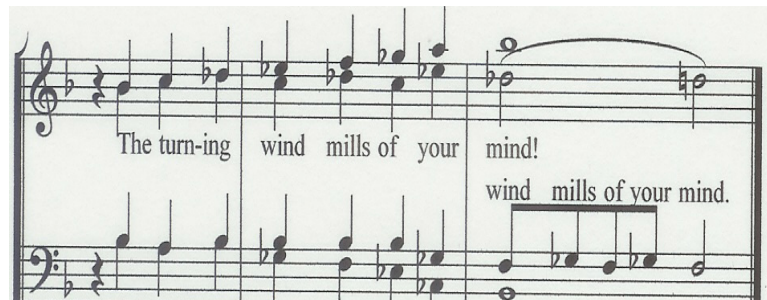
## Irish Songfest – Don Collier

Reminder: Send your reservations to Don Collier as soon as practicable. Visit your friendly Jubil-Aires website for detailed information and then tell Don at

[jdonaldcollier@cerizon.net](mailto:jdonaldcollier@cerizon.net) how many will be in your party on March 6, including – for singers – corresponding voice parts for assembling pick-up quartets. The American Legion has limited capacity, so get your reservations in early! We don't forbid people who come just to stand and watch, but seating is prioritized for those who pay for and enjoy the hot Irish lunch.

And don't forget, start saving all your favorite Irish limericks for the amusement of all!

Here's a tag, courtesy of Roger Lemieux:<sup>3</sup>



## Editor's Note

### – Fred Geldon -

Well, we received two wonderful entries to the new "Write That Poem" contest, from Phil and Steve. They are printed on the next page, in their entirety (and with all due apologies to Clement C. Moore). The first comes from Prez Phil, and the second – but you'll already know this if you read the last line – comes from YahooMeister Steve Lingo.



<sup>3</sup> Bonus if you know the movie this comes from. Hint: In 1969, it won the academy award for best original song.

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T` was the night before contest  
 And all through the place,  
 Not a creature was singing,  
 Not even a bass.

The chorus was snuggled  
 Aall safe in our beds  
 While visions of trophies  
 Danced in our heads

The morning dawned bright  
 We gathered full dressted  
 And wondered aloud,  
 "How could we be bested?"

We warmed up and sang  
 And sang to the letter  
 And the judges all said,  
 "It couldn't be better!"

Our dancing was smooth  
 We moved to the tunes  
 Of the songs that were writ  
 To glorify MOONS

We stayed up all night  
 In our hospitality suite  
 And all of our guests  
 Said "This has been sweet!"

We came home to Fairfax  
 And went right to work  
 Improving our songs  
 With our president Merk

So next comes Lancaster  
 It's not far away  
 But we're ready to shine  
 And we'll shine there that day.

Twas the night before contest  
 And all through the place,  
 Not a creature was singing,  
 Not even a bass.

The risers were sprung  
 And the members in place,  
 Waiting for Tom  
 To begin the night's pace.

The tenors were primed  
 And the baris were chipper,  
 The basses were proud  
 (But smelled like smoked kippers).  
 When all at once  
 There arose such a clatter,  
 The leads struck their tone  
 But it was mostly a splatter!

First Tom, then Frank,  
 Then John did shudder,  
 "Stop! Let's try that again,"  
 They all did utter.

The pitch was piped  
 And they tried it once more,  
 This time they nailed it  
 Oh! How their voices did soar!

The tenors were climbing  
 The basses profound  
 The baris, right in there  
 Making the chords round.

First one song...  
 Then another...  
 Then a few tags  
 With our brothers!

There ain't nothin' better  
 When everything's clickin',  
 'Cept maybe cold beer...  
 And Meat Lovers PLUS CHICKEN!

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**THE ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS**

- **THE WESTMINSTER CHORUS**
  - **THE CRUSH**
  - **THE EDGE**
  - **MAXX FACTOR**
- **MUSICAL ISLAND BOYS**
  - **OC TIMES**
  - **OLD SCHOOL**
  - **RINGMASTERS**

THE BEST IN WORLD A CAPPELLA MUSIC

At George Mason University's Center for the Arts  
**June 27, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.**

**MASTERS OF BARBERSHOP HARMONY COME TOGETHER FOR**

**THE PERFORMANCE OF A LIFETIME**

**STARRING THE WESTMINSTER CHORUS**  
 WITH CHAMPION GUESTS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE



**THE ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS PRESENT**

The Westminster Chorus, winner of the 2009 Choir of the World competition, is joining forces with the Alexandria Harmonizers, four-time champions of the International Barbershop Competition, for a concert at the George Mason University Performing Arts Center in Fairfax, Virginia, on June 27, 2010. They will be joined on the show by some of the world's best a cappella quartets, including OC Times (2008 winners of the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Quartet Championship), Old School (2009 second place winners of the BHS's International Quartet Championship), Maxx Factor (2009 contestants on NBC's 'Sing Off!'), and four

of the world's most exciting young quartets, New Zealand's Musical Island Boys, Sweden's Ringmasters, California's The Crush and The Edge.

## JOIN US ON THE ROAD TO PHILADELPHIA!

The international barbershop competition is in nearby Philadelphia just days after our show. Most of our stars are on the road to Philadelphia... and so is our show!

It's at the George Mason University Center for the Performing Arts, which is conveniently located in the Washington, D.C. area, and is the perfect state-of-the-art venue to house this A-list of a cappella singers.

For anyone headed to Philly for the convention, the only sensible thing to do is to fly into one of our several convenient DC airports, attend this show and stay in one of the many excellent hotels in the vicinity of the venue as you (and our performers!) head on to the international competition. Then YOU'LL be one of those in the know about what kind of performances these competitors are bringing to the stage in Philly.

Join some of barbershop's greatest competitors for their last show on the road to Philadelphia, where performers and audience alike will be divided into two groups: those who missed this show and those who attended.



**COUNTDOWN TO THE  
 PERFORMANCE OF A LIFETIME**



**THE GREATEST SHOW IN YOUR LIFETIME!**

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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 6, 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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