



## QUARTET PROMOTION

Tom Woodall – Quartet Promotion Chair – M&P

Over the last four years, we've organized four distinctly different attempts to have Illinois District members enjoying the quartet experience together. To date, none of them have cost the District any money and seem to have been received well.

### **Parts and Partners Party**

Thus far we have had three of them” 2009 (Charleston), 2010 (Starved Rock) and 2011 (Bloomington). Participants and wives seemed to enjoy them, though the number of attendees declined with each passing year. There was no event held last summer and it's questionable that there will be one planned for this summer.....people seem too “busy” and in some ways; it is sort of a mini-IDAHA.

### **Thirty Minutes of B Flat Singing**

This event is held on the Saturday morning of the Spring Convention. Enlarged copies of Polecat songs are mounted around the walls of a large room. Singers move from site to site, picking up new singers in exchange for those who go another direction. The room is filled with singing and there is no attempt to regulate the spontaneous out pouring of four part harmony. As the clock winds down toward the end of the time, typically a photo of the group is taken, documenting that at least 50 men have taken part. Men wear name badges and new friendships are formed as the random foursomes....or other ensembles identify themselves.

### **Sing With A Champ**

This one hour event is held on the Saturday morning of the Fall Convention. No judges, audience members or guidelines. Each year we have had from 20 to 24 former Champs take part and sometimes an Out-Of District Champ who is attending the Convention, will join in. We've had several judging panel members take part. Former Champs are identified by a golden paper crown (Thank you Burger King) and other singers position themselves so as to get to sing with a variety of these District heroes. We've never had less than 50 participants.

### **Quartet Corner**

We've attempted this event at each of the 2012 Conventions. It is designed so that folks passing a pre-designated area could stop and sing a song or a tag without having to try to locate a special room for that purpose. Typically, the area is in close proximity to the Convention or Hotel Registration Desk so that singers can hear and see the fun that is going on upon entering the Headquarters Hotel. Some men stay for nearly an hour, while others may sing one song and then move on. Last year, Coles County members manned the area, eagerly encouraging those passing by, to stop to join in for a few minutes.