

IL Chapter Membership 8/2016

CHAPTER	CODE	members 8/31/15	members 02/16	overdue 02/16	members 08/16	overdue 08/16	mem% inc/(dec)	overdue inc/dec since 2/2016
Frank Thorne	E-000	37	35	5	38	3	3	-2
Arlington Heights	E-002	35	35	0	34	2	(3)	2
Aurora	E-003	14	13	0	15	1	7	1
Belleville	E-005	37	37	3	34	4	(8)	1
Bloomington	E-007	122	118	3	120	5	(2)	2
Macomb	E-008	17	14	2	12	0	(29)	-2
Northbrook	E-009	92	89	9	83	4	(10)	-5
Champaign-Urbana	E-010	10	10	1	16	0	60	-1
Chicago No. 1	E-012	2	2	0	2	0	0	0
Danville	E-013	20	21	1	26	1	30	0
Decatur	E-014	21	21	4	17	0	(19)	-4
Collinsville	E-016	9	8	1	7	1	(22)	0
Coles County	E-017	36	33	1	32	2	(11)	1
Elgin	E-018	36	38	4	34	6	(6)	2
Rockford Metro	E-019	24	23	3	21	0	(13)	-3
Lake County	E-021	27	27	1	27	3	0	2
Bureau County	E-024	10	10	1	9	0	(10)	-1
Quincy	E-029	3	2	0	2	0	(33)	0
Chicagoland West Suburban	E-030	87	88	5	90	5	3	0
Peoria	E-044	26	25	0	24	4	(8)	4
Chicago Metro	E-045	22	22	1	25	0	14	-1
Rockford	E-047	40	41	4	39	2	(3)	-2
Rock Island	E-048	20	18	0	18	2	(10)	2
Will-Cook	E-050	43	42	1	43	4	0	3
Sterling-Rock Falls	E-052	39	38	3	39	3	0	0
Waterloo	E-054	19	21	0	22	2	16	2
Springfield	E-061	45	43	2	41	1	(9)	-1
DuPage Valley	E-066	60	60	3	61	2	2	-1
Kishwaukee Valley	E-067	9	9	0	9	1	0	1
Sandoval	E-073	2	2	0	2	0	0	0
Carbondale	E-075	24	25	0	24	3	0	3
Kankakee	E-077	11	11	2	9	1	(18)	-1
		999	981	60	975	62	(2)	2

Member Count by Member Class		
Member Class	# of Members	
L5	2	2
LF	6	6
R5	21	2
RG	521	508
S5	66	68
SL	131	120
SN	125	120
Y2	31	33
Total	883	873
	(2/2016)	(8/2016)

Membership Report

August 27, 2016

The attached charts show how IL District chapters have fared in the last year.

The big story remains “non-renewals.” Each Chapter Development Officer/VP Membership needs to keep his finger on “ebiz.barbershop.org” to see who in his chapter is nearing his renewal date (and hasn’t done it). Across the district since February of this year, we’ve had a net 2 increase of non-renewals. However, Northbrook and Decatur have done wonderfully in that category, reducing their overdue counts by 5 and 4, respectively, just since February. But in the big picture, we’re still losing members, down 10 since February, and down 26 from a year ago!

FIND WAYS TO ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO RENEW! IF YOU CAN’T CATCH THEM AT A MEETING, CALL THEM AT HOME! IT’S PARTICULARLY AT RENEWAL TIME THAT MANY ARE STRUGGLING WITH THE QUESTIONS SURROUNDING WHETHER THEY WANT TO RENEW. DON’T LET THOSE MEMBERS THINK THEIR CHAPTER DOESN’T CARE ABOUT THEM (unless you don’t---that’s a joke).

The national Membership Committee advice regarding membership has been a general encouragement to all chapters to “get out in the community and show what you are and can do.” Don’t hide your light within the confines of your meeting hall! Perform! If you don’t have gigs, find places to perform. Brainstorm where you could perform. Seek out places where your performances would catch the eyes and ears of potential male barbershop singers. Ask to perform, then do so--in style!

The most successful “program” in the society for increasing chapter membership (one at a time) is not the podium cattle calls of “Wives, get rid of your husbands on Thursday nights! Send them to us!” but rather, personal invitations, particularly using the “Super-charging Your Chapter” method (this year, the creator of that initiative was on the faculty at Harmony University at Belmont University in Nashville) by initiating a closely-scripted, five-minute interaction with a prospective member, inquiring about their singing. (Copious details available via barbershop.org, Supercharging Your Chapter, and on Facebook.) Chapters should maintain an electronic presence, so singers trying to check out chapters in your area will find you in the most common ways they’re looking these days.

As always, I’m eager to hear (and receive as emails) stories of your chapter’s triumphs, losses and support needs—particularly all those strategies you believe are paying off.

Respectfully,

Hugo Feugen

P.S. 50-year pin awardees: Doug Smith (Elgin), Wes Willard (Northbrook), Richard Misiaveg (Will-Cook), George Collar (West Towns), Tom Roger (Peoria), Bob Wahl (West Towns)