

Illinois District Membership Report to the Illinois District Board, July 16, 2011

A number of activities are in process with for the membership committee:

- On-going board member phone calls to new members
- Contact with and support for the "West Towns splinter group"
- Decommissioning of the Harrisburg Chapter
- Helping to define the new "Operation Harold Hill" initiative
- District-wide Chapter information gathering toward retention activities

New member phone calls. Not yet up-to-date. Watch your email inboxes for further requests of you.

West Towns Splinter Group:

A significant number of West Towns members have felt the desire no longer to attend West Towns rehearsals, yet remain active with the Society. This group has also attracted adherents from previously-but-no-longer-active West Towns members and entirely new, not previous Society members. Ultimately, it seems to involve approximately between 18 and 30 male singers.

This splinter group is very actively meeting with the DuPage Valley board, music committee and their membership to determine whether they can feasibly merge long-term.

It does not appear at this time that the new group wishes to start a new chapter.

..The District membership committee wishes these groups well and will endeavor to support their activities in such a way that Society and District membership is fostered, convention attendance might be enhanced, all the while Society rules are adhered-to.

Decommissioning of the Harrisburg Chapter:

With only three registered members, activities of the Shawnee Hills Chapter appear to have come to a standstill, and those members are meeting with other chapters, mostly the Little Egypt Chorus. The last president of the group, Ed Mick, indicates his chapter has minimal assets to its name, but he sees acquiescent to decommissioning the chapter. As soon as all the particulars can be ascertained, the Membership Committee expects to recommend to the District that it move to withdraw the chapter's charter and take control of remaining assets. This formal recommendation should be forthcoming within the next several weeks.

Operation Harold Hill ("OHH"):

A revival of a 15-year old membership drive by this name is afoot and finding discussion among District Membership VPs, under the direction of Society Membership honcho, Andrew Shackleton. In 1996-1997, that OHH led to a 17-consecutive month increase in membership, society-wide. Then, chapters would sign up in advance to receive special materials and place themselves in competition with other chapters involved in the operation, which the society would then assess for special awards. What is done this time around is perhaps closer to brainstorming mode, being done through conference calling. No documents yet exist to share with District Membership VPs, let alone anyone else.

Information-gathering and parsing, expected to be used toward retention initiatives, continue apace.

Respectfully submitted
Hugo Feugen

Committee members:
Kevin Smith
Greg Grey

Chapters gaining members since 12/31/10:

Coles County – 5	Belleville - 3
Aurora – 2	Bloomington - 2
Rockford Metro – 2	Springfield - 2
Sterling-Rock Falls – 1	Rockford - 1
Elgin - 1	Joliet – 1

IL District is now down to 997 from 1010 on 12/31/10