

Illinois District Awards Committee Report to the Illinois District Board

February 3, 2012

The Awards Committee held a pre-convention meeting on January 31, 2012 to plan for the Spring 2012 contest. Those in attendance were Dickie Johnson, Steve Davis and Mark Betczynski.

The schedule of awards was reviewed and assignments made for the various tasks involving each award. Back by popular demand, Dickie Johnson will prepare proxy certificates to each of the award winners for which plaques will need to be made following the contest. This will enable the presenter to have something to hand to the winner as they are announced. Dickie will then coordinate artwork and ordering of the plaques. We are currently arranging presenters for each of the awards at the Spring Contest.

It is again ABE season, so expect to see a letter directed to District Board members, Chapter Presidents and former ABE recipients requesting (in all due haste) nominations for the 2011 ABE. Due to the absence of Jay Giallombardo at the Spring convention we made arrangements to present the 2010 ABE Award to him at the Fall contest, which proceeded very well.

We will also be soliciting responses from quartets and chapters regarding their charitable contribution totals for calendar year 2011 as part of the Sol Gamis and Charles Hecking Awards, respectively. Please encourage active quartets and each of the choruses to respond to this request. Gadzooks and Coles County have set the bar high by their generous giving. This should encourage and inspire other groups to become more engaged in their community and in their support of Harmony Foundation.

As a Fall Contest wrap-up, the Awards Committee was pleased to design a framed certificate commemorating the tenth anniversary of The New Tradition Chorus' 2001 International Chorus Championship.

It is with a sad heart that we reluctantly accept the resignation of Paul Tolley from the Awards Committee. Paul has done masterful job updating, storing and caring for all of the display trophies and plaques. Paul also coordinates the recruitment of non-barbershoppers to serve as judges for the Most Entertaining Chorus Award (MECA) at the Fall contest. We are actively seeking volunteers who would be willing to fill this vital role. Please direct any interested persons to the Awards Committee Chariman.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Betczynski - Chair

Committee Members:

Steve Davis
Hugo Feugen
Dick Johnson

Craig Rigg
Bob Squires