

ILL District YIH Report March 2014

- ✓ Another successful high school quartet competition was organized by Bill Ward and John Jeide and was held at Barrington H.S. on Sunday afternoon, February 9, 2014. Nine quartets and nine ensembles (both male and female) competed for top honors. First place was awarded to the “Rolling Tones” from Grant H.S. in Fox Lake. Bill informs me that there is a possibility of four H.S. quartets from this contest that could be competing in the district this spring and is awaiting word from parents and schools for approval and to coordinate schedules. However, it is likely that some or all of the quartets may not be competing in Davenport, but rather in the LOL District. In that event, announcement of the ILL Dist. H.S. award and presentation of the Buzz Haeger trophy would need to be postponed until May.
- ✓ This year marked the first gathering of an Illinois District Youth Chorus. The group was made up of about 30 boys whose ages ranged from high school to college and beyond and was directed by members of the “After Hours” quartet at the district’s annual IDAH in Bloomington on Saturday, February 22. Several of the boys had attended our fall festivals back in October. The boys worked on two challenging arrangements during the day and performed them on the evening show. A thunderous standing ovation greeted the boys after their last song. Kudos to Terry Ludwig, Tim Pashon (IDAH coordinators) and “After Hours” for taking the time to organize this, which we hope will be the first of many youth choruses in the district.
- ✓ Upcoming festivals:
 - **September TBA:** Festival, Sterling, IL (contact Kevin Deets, kjdeets@frontiernet.net)
 - **October 18:** Festival, Fox Lake, IL (contact Bill Ward, kingschancellor@gmail.com)
 - **October 20:** Festival, Charleston, IL (contact Tom Woodall, twoodall@eiu.edu)
 - **October 23:** Festival, Bloomington, IL (contact Rich Hansen, hansenr@mtzion.k12.il.us)
- ✓ I am currently in negotiations with International Champions “Ringmasters”, who are planning a fall tour in the U.S., to be the guests for our 2014 October festival season. They are due in the states in late October and could be available as clinicians/guest performers for two or possibly all three of our October festivals. Costs for their weeklong visit would be divided up between the chapters sponsoring the festivals. More information will be forthcoming.
- ✓ All grants for fall festivals need to be submitted by November 1st of the previous year to be eligible for funds from the Harmony Foundation.
- ✓ All YIH event sponsors are required to submit a list of names and email addresses of their workers to BHS to take the updated sexual molestation training video – which can be done individually at home. Each worker will have to take the test online and submit their quiz answers to BHS. The list of workers at the festival then needs to coordinate with the list BHS has of those who have successfully taken the online training. Timing is important – this needs to be done well before the event itself. Grant money from BHS and Harmony Foundation require this now!
- ✓ All event sponsors should submit their event to the district calendar and alert the DVP of YIH and District President and Treasurer (if requesting funds to help defray costs) in advance of the budget approval for each year.
- ✓ It has truly been an honor to serve as your DVP of YIH over the years. I am currently searching for a new DVP of YIH when I assume the responsibility of district president in 2015. I hope to have a decision made by the middle of this year or early fall. Thanks for all of your support!

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Hansen
ILL Dist. VP - YIH