



Subject: VP CSLT Report to BHS IL District Board

Date: August 4, 2017 & Revised August 5th

IL District Board,

I have an out-of-town commitment on August 12, 2017 so I will not be at the Peru Meeting. Here is my report for this years' activities to date;

1. 2017 & 2018 Leadership Summit

The January 14, 2017 IL District/MHA Leadership Summit was a success as 45 Barbershoppers participated in a full day of Chapter Officer jobs training. BHS CEO Marty Munson taught the President's Class and BHS Leadership Committee Chair, Christian Hunter, taught the class the basics of the new "Ready, Set, Sing" program to entice new members to join BHS Chapters. The Brotherhood of Harmony reports having 15 guests for the first night of this six week program that provides individual voice lessons to prospective members.

The fourth annual IL District/MHA Leadership Summit will be held on January 13, 2018 at a venue T.B.A. Nationally renown teachers have been lined up again. Ideas for improving participation of non-Northern IL Chapter Officers are welcome. This past year we offered free registration to those who traveled more than 100 miles total.

2. Chapter Advocates Program

Advocate activity in mid-2017 was mediocre. Bob Squires recently reported on his visits to the Lake County and Aurora Chapters. Rich Hansen advised me that he has made a number of visit that he will document by August 12. No reports have been received in six months from Dave Howe, or Greg Martin,

I held a Chapter Advocate Luncheon Meeting during the Spring Jamboree but only Bob Squires and Rich Hansen attended. I did initiate an Advocate GroupMe smart-phone application to encourage fellows to communicate among themselves and me. I need to use this phone app more with the advocates to show them how it can work for us.

3. A Barbershop Chorus Director's Educational Forum (ABCDEF)

Much effort was expended over the past few months lining up facilitators for an ABCDEF event on Sat, August 26, 2017 in Elgin, IL. This Forum is meant to provide a day of Chorus Director training. We expected to draw 30 students, consisting of Chorus Directors (CD's), Assistant CD's and wannabee CD's to this event from IL, Southern WI and Eastern IA. Despite our e-mails to a reliable list of IL Chorus Directors, less than a handful signed up for the event. We were also disappointed that our request for an IDEA grant to subsidize a Harmony College raffle prize was turned down because we would not agree to limit the award to an Illinois Chorus Director in good standing.



We canceled this event last week due to limited registration. We are studying the poor Chorus Director response and looking at alternative approaches to train Chorus Directors.

4. Monthly Jollity Rehearsals

The Midwest Harmony Alliance (MHA) Leadership Team has authorized the designation of the third Saturday morning of each month as a combined MHA Mass Chorus Rehearsal and Social Get-together. The objective of these rehearsals is to improve mass chorus sound, synchronization, and performance readiness. We held the first Jollity in June in Elgin and are planning another in Rockford in September.

Bill Miller

VP Chapter Leadership Training and Chapter Advocates

President, Midwest Harmony Alliance

630-587-6383



Midwest Harmony Alliance

A New Kind of A'cappella Massed Chorus