

DRAFT MINUTES (13-Aug-2023) – NOT APPROVED

BHS Illinois District Board Meeting

26-Mar-2023

**Illinois District Association of Chapters
Board Meeting**
March 26th, 2023

Location: Via Zoom

Date/Time: Sunday, Mar 26, 2023, 7:00pm

Roll Call

Name	Governance Role	Operations / Other Role	Present	Quorum Count
Terry Ludwig	President		Y	+
Benjamin Dirks	Exec VP		Y	+
Mike Isely	Secretary		Y	+
Leif Wildman	Treasurer		Y	+
Doug Finkbiner	BMAL	Membership	Y	+
Jeff Bowyer	BMAL	Events	Y	+
Jeff Lathom	BMAL	C & J	Y	+
(open)	BMAL		-	-
Jeff Lathom	Imm Past President	YIH	Y	-
John Q Morris		CSLT	Y	
Tim Beutel		Music & Perf	N	
Rich Hansen		Historian	N	
Evan Patrick		YIH	Y	
Doug Ferrier		Awards	N	
Carrie Marcotte		CDD	N	
Joe Gurreri		Marketing & PR, webmaster	Y	

Totals: 11 of 15 7 of 7

Called to order: 7:05 PM

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ADMINISTRATION

- Quorum
 - 7 of 7 Governance Board members present
 - Attendance 100%
- Minutes
 - Minutes posted from 14-Aug-2022
 - **Motion**
 - ◆ **Subject: Approve Minutes from 14-Aug-2022**
 - ◆ **Motion: Ben Dirks, Seconded Jeff Bowyer**
 - ◆ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
- Treasurer's Report – Leif Wildman
 - [Attachment: "01a-Report-Treasurer.pdf"]
 - **Motion**
 - ◆ **Subject: Receive Treasurer's Report-Jim**
 - ◆ **Motion: Mike Isely, Seconded: Ben Dirks**
 - ◆ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
 - Harmony College Midwest bottom line
 - ◆ Can't close the financial book on this yet – awaiting a promised payment from IDEA
- Reports
 - (Only listing specific things not otherwise in a written report)
 - Music and Performance – Tim Beutel
 - ◆ [Attachment: "02a-Report-MusicAndPerf.pdf"]
 - CSLT – John Q Morris
 - ◆ [Attachment: "03a-Report-CSLT.pdf"]
 - ◆ Lots of errors / bad information on the web site
 - Events – Jeff Bowyer
 - ◆ [Attachment: "04a-Report-Events.pdf"]
 - ◆ Looking a potential new venue for 2024 Fall convention
 - YIH – Evan Patrick
 - ◆ [Attachment: "05a-Report-YIH.pdf"]
 - Marketing – Joe Gurreri
 - ◆ [Attachment: "06a-Report-Marketing.pdf"]
 - ◆ Reminders to like the district web page on facebook!
 - ◆ Short discussion about ongoing communication with the district
 - Terry is sending out frequent letters to everyone.
 - Awards – Doug Ferrier
 - ◆ (no report)
 - Chorus Director Development – Carrie Marcotte
 - ◆ [Attachment: "07a-Report-CDD.pdf"]
 - Contest & Judging – Jeff Lathom
 - ◆ [Attachment: "08a-Report-DRCJ.pdf"]
 - Membership – Doug Finkbiner
 - ◆ [Attachment: "09a-Report-Membership.pdf"]
 - ◆ Actively working to contact leadership for every chapter in the district.

OLD BUSINESS

- Risers
 - \$10K line item added to budget to purchase risers
 - ♦ Not enough to replace all sets, but certainly enough to make a dent in this.
 - Should we just be renting risers all the time instead of purchasing new risers?
 - ♦ Factor in the monthly cost for riser storage...
 - ♦ Suggestion to take pictures on the contest stage, eliminating any need for a second full set of risers.
- Chapter Visits
 - Really want to get this all done by July
 - BHS may be folding chapters in our district without us being in the loop
 - ♦ This is a problem – we are supposed to be involved for various reasons
 - ♦ Terry will be talking to BHS about this issue
- Website
 - Our provider is not returning our calls
 - ♦ Jim Waldorf can't seem to get in contact with them
 - We are currently getting a bargain
 - ♦ Current plan is about \$90/month
 - ♦ Numerous day to day activities
 - But... Changes to the web site are not happening
 - ♦ Provider probably thought the site would be more static – maybe once a year
 - ♦ But we asking for a few changes a month
 - Site updating is very monotonous and time consuming – all manual operations
 - Do we stick with the current situation – which is at least predictable, or go elsewhere
 - We've been waiting 3 years for a more automated site to be set up
 - Terry will be having a conversation with the web provider

NEW BUSINESS

- Fall Convention
 - [Attachment: (summary from meeting about this at HCM) “11a-Contest_ideas.pdf”]
 - ♦ Ideas being investigated for this Fall
 - Friday doesn't change (HOD, quartet semifinals)
 - Saturday AM, sing-with-a-champ directly following the QCA meeting
 - Start an ILL District barber polecat program!
 - To be run by the QCA
 - Not the BHS program – more personal in the district
 - District pins designed for joining the program and completing it
 - Getting everyone to learn all the polecats gets people singing songs that everyone knows
 - SMAG fest being brought back
 - Saturday Morning Anything Goes
 - Literally anything goes
 - Some high profile (briable) judges involving
 - Offer some classes Saturday morning

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- Grant writing
 - Other educational things in the works
 - Chorus contest moved to the afternoon, quartet finals to the evening
 - Times shifted back to 1pm for chorus (instead of 11am)
 - Provides more time for convention activities
 - Quartet winners to be announced at the president's reception – not sitting around waiting in the theater.
 - This gets everyone to the hospitality rooms earlier
 - Invite Harmony Inc and Sweet Adelines International to participate.
 - Can't compete for placement – but CAN compete for a score.
 - Note that SAI's international competition is a month after our convention, making it a natural for our convention to be a place to hone the contest sets
 - ♦ Joe loves this – having seen other district conventions. On to the right track.
 - Engagement level with general attendees was high at these other events
 - ♦ It is incumbent among us as board members to get our chapters to stay
 - Note that moving the chorus contest to the afternoon may have the reverse effect – a risk for the district
 - But it also may encourage attendees to actually get involved in activities as opposed to rehearsing in the afternoon and competing in the evening.
 - ♦ Overall theme here is to present real interesting singing activities for general attendees – not just competing quartets.
- Grants
- ILL is offering \$50M available to arts organizations coming out of Covid
 - This is NOT IAC
 - Application process is streamlined and should be easy
 - ILL District itself can apply for money – going to ask \$100K
 - Think about projects in the district that would help everyone
 - Joe recommends hosting a zoom session in short order for grant writing. Many chapters are going to be deer-in-the-headlights
 - Window for this is very short
 - Gist of this is to cover for loss of income over Covid – meaning tax forms will probably be part of the application process
- IDEA
- By-laws change requested from IDEA
 - [Attachment: “12a-Proposal-IDEA.pdf”]
 - Board needs to approve then it goes to the HOD
 - **Motion**
 - ♦ **Subject: Approve presentation of IDEA bylaws changes (as described in prior attachment) to HOD for formal approval**
 - ♦ **Motion: Mike Isely, Seconded Jeff Lathom**
 - ♦ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
- Four year plan
- Discussions between Terry and Ben about assembling a full four year plan, as a way to achieve continuity into the next presidency.

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- Nothing unattainable in this plan – but certainly some items more challenging than others
- ILL did a joint convention with CSD a while back – went really well

Adjourned: 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Isely

12:27 PM

03/06/23

Cash Basis

IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

Profit & Loss

January through February 2023

	Jan - Feb 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
5100 Event Income	
On Line Registrations	6,979.28
Total 5100 Event Income	6,979.28
5210 District Dues	3,803.16
5310 Interest Income	0.56
Total Income	10,783.00
Gross Profit	10,783.00
Expense	
7500 Contract Services Expenses	
7540 Judging Expense	440.00
7570 Event Meals	3,707.29
7580 Other Contract Expenses	1,500.00
Total 7500 Contract Services Expenses	5,647.29
8100 Nonpersonnel expenses	
8110 Supplies	79.00
8140 Postage & Shipping	12.00
Total 8100 Nonpersonnel expenses	91.00
8200 Facility & Equipment Exp	
8210 Rent, parking, & other	250.00
8260 Equipment Rental	706.80
Total 8200 Facility & Equipment Exp	956.80
8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses	
8310 Travel	2,289.95
8320 Board Meet. & Conventions	
Comp Housing	2,318.40
Total 8320 Board Meet. & Conventions	2,318.40
8330 Hospitality	651.55
Total 8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses	5,259.90
8400 Education Programs	
8480 YIH Program	1,000.00
Total 8400 Education Programs	1,000.00
8500 Other Expenses	
8505 Gov Board	
President	348.20
Total 8505 Gov Board	348.20
8560 Outside Computer Services	99.00
Total 8500 Other Expenses	447.20
8600 Business Expenses	
8610 - Corporation Filing Fees	4.00
Total 8600 Business Expenses	4.00
Total Expense	13,406.19
Net Ordinary Income	-2,623.19
Net Income	-2,623.19

IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA
Event Profit & Loss
As of February 28, 2023

	Fall Convention	Harmony College Midwest
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
5100 Event Income		
On Line Registrations	8,279.02	6,979.28
On Site Registrations	2,295.88	0.00
Total 5100 Event Income	10,574.90	6,979.28
Total Income	10,574.90	6,979.28
Gross Profit	10,574.90	6,979.28
Expense		
7500 Contract Services Expenses		
7540 Judging Expense	4,928.98	0.00
7550 Temp Help - Contract	1,743.00	0.00
7570 Event Meals	0.00	3,707.29
7580 Other Contract Expenses	500.00	1,500.00
Total 7500 Contract Services Expenses	7,171.98	5,207.29
8100 Nonpersonnel expenses		
8120 Awards, Plaques & Pins	941.54	0.00
8170 Printing & Copying	863.48	0.00
Total 8100 Nonpersonnel expenses	1,805.02	0.00
8200 Facility & Equipment Exp		
8210 Rent, parking, & other	2,900.00	0.00
8260 Equipment Rental	775.00	706.80
Total 8200 Facility & Equipment Exp	3,675.00	706.80
8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses		
8310 Travel	0.00	2,555.09
8320 Board Meet. & Conventions Comp Housing	2,601.11	2,318.40
Total 8320 Board Meet. & Conventions	2,601.11	2,318.40
8330 Hospitality	2,369.28	651.55
Total 8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses	4,970.39	5,525.04
8400 Education Programs		
8450 Recordings of Contestants	1,400.00	0.00
8480 YIH Program Contest Prizes	500.00	0.00
Total 8480 YIH Program	500.00	0.00
Total 8400 Education Programs	1,900.00	0.00
8500 Other Expenses		
8570 Advertising & Publicity	0.00	75.00
Total 8500 Other Expenses	0.00	75.00
Total Expense	19,522.39	11,514.13
Net Ordinary Income	-8,947.49	-4,534.85
Net Income	-8,947.49	-4,534.85

IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

Balance Sheet

As of February 28, 2023

	Feb 28, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1010 Checking Account	64,261.73
Total Checking/Savings	64,261.73
Other Current Assets	
1310 Convention Funding Advance	-500.00
1320 Pre-Purchased Awards	54.00
Total Other Current Assets	-446.00
Total Current Assets	63,815.73
TOTAL ASSETS	63,815.73
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
3000 Unrestricted Funds	
3010 Operating Fund	57,035.11
Total 3000 Unrestricted Funds	57,035.11
3100 Temp. Restricted Funds	
3120 Harmony College Midwest	-688.70
Total 3100 Temp. Restricted Funds	-688.70
3200 Permanent Restricted Funds	
3210 Grants & Contributions	
IDAH	
Scholarships	233.00
IDAH - Other	720.83
Total IDAH	953.83
Undesignated	7,083.75
YIH	2,900.62
Total 3210 Grants & Contributions	10,938.20
Senior Chorus	319.05
Total 3200 Permanent Restricted Funds	11,257.25
Unrestricted Net Assets	-1,164.74
Net Income	-2,623.19
Total Equity	63,815.73
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	63,815.73



From: Tim Beutel
To: Terry Ludwig
Subject: HCM Report

We had a great year at Harmony College Midwest. It was our largest attended HCM. We had around 90 individuals attending classes, 10 quartets coaching, totaling nearly 130 attendees during the day. Another 30 or so people came for the evening show, totaling 160 people at the show.

As with everything these days, inflation has caused plane tickets, hotel rooms, convention centers, etc. to rise in cost. So our expenses were also a little higher this year.

Total expenses went from around \$10,000 the previous two years to \$11,500 this year.

However, with the help of scholarships from IDEA, we made around \$8500 back in registrations, so the investment was around \$3000 for HCM. The previous couple years were closer to \$4000 if I recall correctly.

Dan and I plan to look at what we can do to get even closer to break even for the event, while not sacrificing the quality of the event. Obviously, that is a difficult balance, but we are doing our best.

Thanks!
Tim



Here is my report. Thank you

Successful Leadership Summit working with Mike Lietke from LOL on Jan 7

Below are videos from the event which I posted on Facebook; however the post was removed.

The President's course did not record. The other four did.

- Secretary's Class: <https://youtu.be/9kEzmgk-uzk>
- Treasurer's Class: <https://youtu.be/OmyRibOIgxQ>
- Barbershop Belt: <https://youtu.be/GZRZZZyARhs>
- Grant Writing: <https://youtu.be/U1jESt-fl40>

Was able to download the xls file with the March 2023 District Report from BHS site.

Attached is a list of current presidents.

I am in the process of creating an email to send out to the chapter presidents to get updated /corrected contact and officer list. I will then work with Joe G and get the Illinois District website chapter contact / info page up to date.

On the efforts to promote developing and novice quartets my chapter has scheduled a quartet contest on June 3, 2023



Events report

March 26, 2023

Jeff Bowyer VP-Events

Future dates and locations

Fall 2023 District Convention

Sept. 22 - 23 2023

DoubleTree Hotel: will serve as the Headquarters Hotel

2nd Presbyterian Church: 404 N Prairie Bloomington will be the location for the Quartet semi-finals Friday evening. Times TBA

BCPA: will be the location for the Quartet Finals and Chorus Finals on Saturday. Times TBA

Harmony College Midwest

Feb 16 - 18 2024

DoubleTree Hotel: All classes will be held in the DoubleTree Hotel Convention area. Contracts are signed.

Fall 2024 District Convention

Sept. 27 - 28 2024

DoubleTree Hotel: Probable Headquarters Hotel

Contest location: A new location is being considered.

Fall 2025 District Convention

Sept. 26 - 27 2025

Location TBD

YIH Report - 2023 1st Quarter

I have been in contact with coordinators from Coles County, Northbrook, and Springfield. I never did hear from Sterling Rock Falls regarding why they were unable to have a festival in 2022 and no one has reached out in regards to needing assistance for having one this coming fall. Below is my first email of the year that was sent to the coordinators.

Hello Fellow Coordinators!

I hope you are doing well so far this year. First thing I want to congratulate you all on having successful festivals in 2022. I was able to attend both Northbrook and Coles County and I got a good report from our current District President about Springfield's. Unfortunately it looks like the Sterling Rock Falls chapter was unable to get things off the ground so hopefully they will be able to make things happen this fall.

Just a couple of things from me that I want to touch base on. The District is still doing well financially which is always good to hear so please know there is money available for you at the district level. As of now the available amount per festival is still \$1,000. We also have a new district treasurer! So checks should be sent a lot sooner than they previously were. All I need from you to get this funding is a projected budget.

The last thing I wanted to bring up was plans for the future. I am in the VERY EARLY stages of planning/putting together a District wide Harmony Explosion Camp. This would be a full weekend event in the summer months in which high school students from all over the state could register and attend a weekend festival. I don't have any details to provide at this time but will keep you all updated. My plan is to reach out every few months just to touch base.

Thank you for all you do!

In Harmony
Evan Patrick
ILL District VP of YIH Operations

Terry mentioned West Towns is interested in starting up a festival of their own and provided them with my contact information. I have yet to hear from anyone but it is still early in the year.

I have been in contact with some folks from other districts (Cardinal, Mid-Atlantic, and Sunshine) who help plan or have participated in District wide Harmony Explosion Camps. While my main priority is still making sure our individual festivals are able to make full recoveries from the pandemic, I will be doing more information gathering to see how realistic an ILL District YIH Camp would be.

**2023-03-25 Marketing Report****Illinois District of the Barbershop Harmony Society**

Submitted by

Joe Gurreri, VP Marketing and Publicity

Website Rewrite Project

SITUATION - the project status is still undefined from our vendor. I have requested a project plan and status meeting from our vendor and webmaster on several occasions - and now opened a ticket on Trello to record the request that way.

ACTION TOWARD RESOLUTION - This project has become incredibly difficult for a single volunteer to chase an unresponsive vendor, so I've formed a Marketing Committee - Website Rewrite Committee and requested support from Terry and Ben to identify a chairperson, to work with me to take on the role of Project Manager so we move this project along and hold our vendor accountable to timelines and commitments. Together we can get this project sized, timed, set approval checkpoints, and executed.

Website tactical issues

SITUATION - The "social media link" at the bottom of the page has been unreliable and periodically stops feeding Facebook posts. I post a ticket for a resynchronization several times a year. It's currently not synchronized and a fresh ticket has been submitted. This recurring problem is supposed to be fixed with the website rewrite.

ACTION TOWARD RESOLUTION - All the data that sits inside the website is not self-serve edit capable - this is part of the website rewrite and database project. Waiting for the project completion has led to very stale information on the detail pages of the website. In 2021 I audited all the pages with available 2020 data about chapters and quartets, and with board and committee members on awards and history. We did not do this recently because of the anticipated new website that will include a table structure to upload with a file from BHS Member Center to feed the database with one upload file to feed the table. Depending on the project plan timeline, we may need to do a series of tedious temporary edits to get the page up to date while waiting for the project to complete. This is to be determined.

Social Media

- Due to the inflexibility of our website design, Facebook has served as our primary vehicle for current information distribution for passive information. At the same time, Mail Chimp is used (and also managed by our webmaster vendor) for proactive email distributions. Turnaround time for urgent Mail Chimp requests has ranged from 2 to 5 days.
- I've added Doug as an administrator to the Facebook page during the Fall Convention and he's been a tremendous support adding his great photos and narratives. Ben has also been adding updated information and photos for events where I'm not present to do so.
- Tim has also done so for the HCM pages we co manage.
- For chapters and choruses - I continue to create and monitor and coach how to set Facebook EVENTS and how to use that free tool to the widest capability for chapters. Recent support includes Metro, West



Towns and New Tradition who have reached out. In the past, I've written and distributed pictorial tutorials with step by step instructions for use at the chapter and I coach District members who run their chapter pages. A recent example is how New Tradition Chorus page has an EVENT for their spring show on their own Facebook page with all information and ticket link, POSTed about it and it's also now showing on the District page. Now it also shows as a POST on the District timeline. These POSTs and EVENTS t shows on Follower's newsfeeds and pops up as suggested activities to consider by the Facebook algorithm - more frequently when folks LIKE and COMMENT and SHARE the posts and EVENTS. I can't stress enough how important it is for the board to LIKE, COMMENT, and SHARE these posts to show support, but as importantly, to help me boost the algorithm.

Upcoming Event Publicity

- Supported HCM and 3 chapters named above in publicizing the events on social media and the website.
- Website calendar events have open tickets to update and add the events for
 - Metro quartet contest
 - West Towns concert
 - New Tradition concert
- Website calendar already posted for next 2 conventions with preliminary information.
-



Greetings all,

Here is the Chorus Director Development report 3.18.23

At Harmony College Midwest, I asked that board members visiting chapters ask directors what topics would compel them to attend a Director workshop (directing techniques? Warm-up ideas? Score analysis? Time management? Etc) . I also asked if they could find out which month(s) would be the most convenient time for directors to attend a workshop.

Kevin Keller suggested asking directors to complete this sentence: "I just attended the BEST directors' workshop and we learned _____."

Since, then I've been wondering if we should also ask if there is a specific clinician with whom directors would like to work?

In addition to asking at chapter visits, do the board members think a google form/survey sent to the directors would get us more responses in a shorter amount of time?

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Marcotte



Illinois District Association of Chapters
District Board Meeting

Fall Convention panel was great to work with and we have settled the issue with reimbursements.

2023 Fall Convention panel hasn't been released yet.

The following dates have been confirmed with Steve Armstrong for our 2024-25 conventions:

2024 – 9/27-28

2025 – 9/26/27

Jeff Lathom,
Illinois District DRCJ



Membership Report
Submitted on March 24, 2023
By Doug Finkbiner, VP of Membership Development

At the request of President Terry, I contacted specific chapters that can be considered at risk. Here is a brief description about what I learned from my inquiries.

Illini Statesmen, Champaign-Urbana: I spoke to the only active member - Ron Davis - a few weeks ago, and he told me the society had contacted him to change his membership to Frank Thorne. The website now shows that the chapter has been voluntarily deactivated.

Prairieland Chorus, Macomb, IL: I spoke to Craig Rigg, who said the chorus was “hanging in there” The chapter currently has eight active members. Craig said he would welcome any information that could help the chapter build its membership. Terry has visited the chapter, so you may want to refer to his report on the chapter.

Kish-Wau-Keys Chorus, Kishwaukee Valley, IL: I spoke to Ed Cheek, who is the only member of Kishwaukee Valley. When I spoke to him, he told me his chapter had not started rehearsing since shutting down for the pandemic. He said he would try to get in touch with his board and find out if they want to resume meeting. I tried to follow up, but have yet to hear from Ed.

Rock Island has only one member listed and he has not returned my multiple phone calls and an email. Ed Cheek gave me another possible contact, but that was a dead end.

I spoke to Jim Fourmont, the Aurora Chapter’s Treasurer. They are currently meeting regularly and have 10 registered members.

I spoke to Gary Waltrip, a member of Coles County who attends meetings of the Decatur chapter. He said about six men attend Monday night rehearsals.

I visited both the Waterloo and Carbondale Chapters at the request of Terry, so you may want to refer to those reports.



Chapter Visit Topics

Please get a count of the number of people at the meeting

- Please give an estimate of the average age

- Terry made a promise that someone from the board would visit every chapter and you are here to fulfill that promise.

- The board is here to work for YOU. We want to help so please ask and if we don't have the answer, we will get it.

- The focus of Terry's presidency is to bring back the singing/fun at the conventions. It has been missing!

- encourage any chapter that has not competed recently to come. There is always an option to sing "for evaluation" where the score is not published but you still get evaluation.

-remind them that there is a bigger barbershop world out there and we want them to be a part of it! There are hundreds of people in the district who want to sing with them and get to know them!

After that just let the conversation flow naturally. They will tell you what is important to them. Answer their questions to the best of your ability and be honest.

The whole point of this is not to talk AT them but talk WITH them. They want to feel like they are being heard and someone is paying attention.

After the visit make sure you send a recap to the entire board so we can see what you talked about and if any of us have any action items to address. I will include ALL of these recaps in my report to the HOD in the spring and in the fall.



Illinois District Chapter Census

March 24, 2023

Chapter	Number of Active Members	Status
Champaign Urbana	0	Voluntary Dissolution of Charter
Chicago Metro	15	Active
Chicago No. 1	0	Charter Closed
Chicago Western Suburban	54	Active
Coles County	33	Active
Collinsville	0	Charter Closed
Frank Thorn	16	Active
Danville	33	Active
Decatur	3	Active
Peoria	7	Active
Northbrook	62	Active
DuPage Valley	36	Active
Quincy	0	Charter Closed
Elgin	19	Active
Rock Island	1	Active
Rockford Metro	19	Active
Rockford	18	Active
Arlington Heights	24	Active
Aurora	10	Active
Sandoval	0	Charter Closed
Belleville	21	Active
Bloomington	75	Active
Kankakee	1	Voluntary Dissolution pending
Kishwaukee Valley	1	Active
Bureau County	11	Active
Lake County	23	Active
Springfield	29	Active
Carbondale	10	Active
Macomb	8	Active
Sterling Rock Falls	19	Active
Waterloo	18	Active
Will-Cook	19	Active
Total	566 Active Members	26 Active Charters



Good morning everyone!

This is the email that I promised you about the proposed changes to the fall convention. I have NOT send this to the board googlegroup. I thought this should stay within the board until we are ready to make an announcement. It's not that I don't want people to know, I just don't want any misinformation out there. Take a look at the proposed timeline and changes. I don't think this needs a board vote but it would be nice if we could all be on the same page. Let me know what you think.

I put together a small task force to look at the fall convention and how we might make some changes to encourage more singing and make it more of a convention. Here is the final product of that meeting

Thursday- 2023 no changes. 2024 Possible Bloomington YIH festival. We would market this to the District to come to the convention a day early and enjoy a great concert by the youth and possibly an international champ quartet.

Fri- 2023 no changes. 2024 undecided maybe offer some options such as a golf outing.

Saturday

- 8-9:15 am QCA Meeting
- 9:30-10:15 Sing With A Champ which will be run by the QCA
- 9:30-10:30 Illinois District Barber Polecat program run by the QCA -this program will be run just like the BHS program. People can come in and get "qualified" on polecats. They can either come in individually or in groups. Once the start the process they will get a pin that says something to the effect of "Illinois Barber Polecat participant" and when they get all 12 checked off they will get a 2nd pin that says something like 100%. This will be run at all the conventions and records will be kept by the QCA. That is the short version of this program. We just wanted to do something to promote polecat singing on a more local (district) basis.
- 10:30-11:30 SMAG fest. we are going to bring this back! For those of you who do not know what it is, it is very similar to what Tim and Dan did at HCMW with their pickup tag contest. People can put together groups of any configuration and sing anything they want. It used to be a really fun event!
- 1 PM- CHORUS CONTEST
- 7PM- QUARTET FINALS - immediately after the final quartet sings we will ask the audience to go to the DOUBLETREE and we will do the announcements at the Presidents/QCA reception 30 min after the conclusion of the contest. The outgoing champ will do their swan set there as well. This will get things started at the Doubletree earlier which should get the hospitality rooms started earlier.

SUNDAY MORNING- Top 10 Quartet EVALS. We used to do evals on Sunday morning for years. Jeff Lathom is going to work with Steve Armstrong to make this happen

We are also going to invite SAI and HI choruses and quartets to be a part of our convention. They will sing during our contests FOR EVALUATION ONLY as they cannot actually compete if they are not members BHS. I already have 1 quartet and quite possibly a chorus interested in participating. that would be about 50 additional registrations between singers and family.

The QCA has also been challenged to create NOVICE quartets to compete at the convention. If a QCA member puts a quartet together and competes the QCA member will receive a free registration to the convention.

There you have it. The goal is to open up space for more singing! We may look at other options for 2024 as well.

Look forward to your comments!

Terry



The following (in red) is the language we passed recently amending language about who may submit requests for funding by the IDEA fund and when recusal is appropriate. Although it has been approved by Trustees, it has not been presented to the Illinois District Executive Board.

DISTRIBUTIONS

As stated earlier, it is intended that distributions from the Fund will be made to help and assist the Illinois District, its governing board, members' chapters and individuals by funding and/or advancing payments for the following endeavors, including but not limited to, Special Programs, Musical or Administrative Programs, Benevolent and Philanthropic Endeavors.

Funding Requests

Any member of the Illinois District in good standing may request funds for projects. The request must be made in writing by use of the "Request For Funding" form included as an addendum to this document or by downloading it from the IDEA website and sending it to the Executive Director.

An IDEA Trustee, as a member of the Illinois District, may solicit funding for projects in the method described above and retain a voice when Trustees discuss the project. However, because of the unique position a Trustee holds in the discussion process no Trustee may vote on any motion for approval of a grant in which he would have a direct, personal, financial benefit, either as a coach, director or any other involvement.

Distribution decisions will be made only by recommendation of the Trustees and approved by the Illinois District Executive Board. The Trustees must consider all relevant factors before recommending that a distribution be made. Considerations for funding will include, but will not be limited to, the amount of available cash in the Fund, the type of request, the severity of need and alternative means to satisfy the request.

The following are examples of some potential endeavors that the Fund Trustees may receive as requests for distribution and therefore consider worthwhile as candidates for a Fund distribution:

Special Programs – Funding a new chapter; funding International competitors' expenses to the International contest; funding the efforts of a special committee.

Education – Funding for IDAH; expenses for specific music or administrative programs for the Illinois District or a specific chapter; fund guest speakers at conventions, contests or chapter special events.

Benevolent – Funding a money-raising program for special purpose, such as financial need, disaster recovery for a family or chapter.

Philanthropic – Providing funds for a national, regional or local charity.

The above are ONLY EXAMPLES and are not the only ideas that will be considered.

Earl M
IDEA Secretary