



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