



DUBUQUE CHAPTER HANDBOOK

Revised: 10/16/07



DUBUQUE CHAPTER MISSION:

- The Music Men are dedicated to the pursuit of Musical Excellence.
- The Music Men are dedicated to enabling each member to perform to his potential.
- The Music Men are dedicated to preserve and encourage the Barbershop Harmony style of music and traditions.
- The Music Men are dedicated to provide our audiences with top quality family entertainment.
- The Music Men are dedicated to musical outreach for area schools and youth.

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY "CODE OF ETHICS":

The Society aspires to preserve for its members and for all future generations of prospective members the sacred right of men to seek haven from the burden of their daily cares through indulgence in old fashioned vocal quartet harmony, and to that end we do hereby pledge ourselves to abide by the precepts of this Code of Ethics:

- We shall do everything in our power to perpetuate the Society.
- We shall deport ourselves and conduct the Society's functions in such a manner as to reflect credit upon the Society and its membership.
- We shall conform in all respects to the bylaws of the Society and the rules from time to time promulgated by its international board of directors.
- We shall accept for membership only congenial men of good character who love harmony in music or have a desire to harmonize.
- We shall exhibit a spirit of good fellowship toward all members.
- We shall refrain from forcing our songs upon unsympathetic ears.
- We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain.
- We shall not permit the introduction of political, religious or other similar controversial issues into the affairs of the Society.
- We shall, by our stimulus to good music and vocal harmony, endeavor to spread the spirit of harmony throughout the world.
- We shall render all possible altruistic service through the medium of barbershop harmony.



BARBERSHOP STYLE

Barbershop harmony and Jazz are the only two musical art forms indigenous to the US. The time frame can be debated, but probably the first example of barbershop harmony appeared in public about 1880. The Barbershop style developed slowly but didn't flourish until 1890 – 1920. In the early part of the 20th Century, sheet music of popular radio and theatre tunes was widely available to the common music lover. This made it easy for the average person to know and sing hundreds of popular songs. People could get together and "woodshed" (improvise) their own harmonies to the popular songs of the day. Barbershop singing was not limited to informal settings. During the early years, Barbershop quartets were a regular and popular feature in Vaudeville and traveling stage shows. A high-water mark of the art form was the prominent role that Barbershop music took in the 1957 Broadway show and subsequent movie musical, The Music Man. Sharing the stage and screen with Broadway legend Robert Preston as Professor Harold Hill were THE BUFFALO BILLS, 1950 International Quartet Champion of the Barbershop Harmony Society. THE BUFFALO BILLS performances in The Music Man as the River City School Board of such classic songs as "Lida Rose", "Sincere", "It's You" and "Goodnight Ladies" brought barbershop harmony into the cultural mainstream like none had done before them or, unfortunately, since.

Musical characteristics of barbershop harmony include:

- Melodies are simple, easily sung and largely diatonic (notes of the melody are in the chord)
- Rhythms are generally uncomplicated and homophonic (all four voices singing the same word at the same time.)
- Barbershop harmony is generally appealing to the ear with consonant harmony predominating. (Few dissonant chords.)
- Predominance of dominant seventh chords (also called minor sevenths or barbershop sevenths, C-E-G-Bb for example) Chord changes feature a return to "do" (as in do-re-mi), using the circle of fifths (C-A7-D7-G7-C)
- Barbershop is usually sung acapella (without instruments).
- Melody is generally sung by the LEAD (Second voice from the top.)
- TENORS harmonize above the melody most of the time.
- BASSES generally sing the lowest notes in the chord (often on roots and fifths)
- BARITONES sing above and below the lead as needed to fill out the chord.
- Many songs sung in this style were written from 1900 - 1940, but any song with similar musical characteristics is suitable.

Barbershop singers tend to pay special attention to tuning and vowel matching in order to achieve expanded sound (commonly referred to as "ring") Poorly tuned chords don't make a song less barbershop, just less enjoyable.

Credit for preserving the Barbershop art form is be shared by many but special mention of three organizations is warranted. The BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY, SWEET ADELINES INCORPORATED and HARMONY INCORPORATED are largely responsible for the development, promotion and preservation of the Barbershop art form over much of the last 70 years.



MEMBERSHIP: Looking for a few good men!

Membership in the MUSIC MEN is open to all men who meet our basic performing criteria and are up to date on annual membership dues.

The following is a list of the BASIC PERFORMING CRITERIA, developed by our MUSIC TEAM, which is used in determining eligibility for participation in the Music Men. Singers must either display the ability or the willingness to develop each ability or attitude.

The Music Men are looking for:

- **Singers** who are motivated to strive for constant improvement.
- **Singers** looking for quality performance experiences.
- **Singers** who stay consistently on pitch and accurately tuned.
- **Singers** who are able to skillfully execute any interpretive or visual plan developed.
- **Singers** who are able to “blend” with other singers. (While soloists are a valued commodity, Barbershop Harmony is about unity and team.)
- **Singers** that will learn their music and practice their craft between rehearsals. (Learning recordings will be available to all members.)
- **Singers** who understand team dynamic and are able to easily adapt to what's being expected. (This may include switching parts to help chorus.)
- **Singers** who will actively recruit other potential guests and members.

NOTE: The ability to “read music” is not a criterion to become a Music Man. The availability of quality learning recordings allow even the most musically challenged singer to learn any required music. Also, the Music Men are looking for singers with “potential” not just polished performers.



VISITING HARMONY NIGHT

The MUSIC MEN have an open rehearsal policy and all guests, men and women, are welcome. Because of the nature of the hobby, only men can participate in our chorus activities. Guests may visit as frequently as they like and participate as actively as they desire. Following their third visit, guests will be provided with membership information and an application to join. After this time, guests may apply for membership but are not obligated to do so. They may continue to visit our weekly Harmony Nights as often as they wish without applying for membership. It should be noted that only members in good standing of the Dubuque Chapter will be issued uniforms and music and only members in good standing of the Dubuque Chapter may perform publicly with the Music Men.



EVALUATIONS not AUDITIONS

At the first visit of any male guest, the Musical Director will perform a simple voice placement test, in private, to determine which section the guest should be placed in. (Does the guest have a high voice or a low voice?) At this time, the Musical Director will also conduct a brief interview to determine the guest's musical experience.

While there are no formal auditions to join, guests will be evaluated by our Musical Director informally through observation and interview during all visits. This will be done in the group setting and at no time will guests be asked to sing alone. Musical Director will be primarily evaluating the visitor's ability to match pitch, blend with surrounding singers and the general musical and performance aptitude. The Musical Director will provide the BOD with his/her evaluation before any vote on admission is held.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any guest wishing to apply for membership, who has attended a minimum of 3 rehearsals, may do so by presenting our current Membership Vice President with a completed Membership Application and a check made out to the "BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY" for the full amount of the applicants first year dues. (See "Membership Costs" for specifics.) Upon receipt of any application, Music VP will request a meeting of the Chapter BOD and the Musical Director of the Chorus. At this meeting, the application will be discussed and voted on. While Musical Director does participate in the application discussions, unless he/she holds a separate voting office on the BOD, he/she does not have a vote in the matter. Simple majority grants membership. Applicant will be informed as soon as possible of the results of this vote.

IMPORTANT NOTE: While it doesn't happen often, some applicants do not receive enough BOD votes to be granted membership on their first application. In this unlikely event, unless told otherwise, applicants are allowed and encouraged to continue visiting weekly Harmony Nights. Following an additional three visits, guests may re-submit their application again for a second vote. (Same rules and process apply for acceptance.) Applicants who do not pass the second application vote will no longer be eligible to participate as a visitor at rehearsals.



WHAT YOU ARE JOINING: International

The Barbershop Harmony Society

The Early Years: The Society was founded in 1938, by Tulsa tax attorney Owen C. Cash and investment banker Rupert I. Hall. The men shared a love of song and a grand sense of humor. The lengthy original name of this fledgling club was "The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America" (SPEBSQSA)—founder Cash's way of poking fun at the New Deal's "alphabet soup" of initialed government agencies. Following a newspaper column on Cash, Hall and their "Society", which was syndicated across the country, membership grew from the original 26 members in Tulsa to more than 2,000 men across the country in just that first year, and the Society held its first convention and national contest the following year.

The Society today: From that whimsical start, the Barbershop Harmony Society has grown into the world's largest all-male singing organization, with more than 30,000 singers in more than 800 chapters in the United States and Canada. Another 4,000 barbershoppers are members of affiliated organizations in Australia, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden.

The Barbershop Harmony Society is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee and is home to the Old Songs Library, the world's largest privately held collection of sheet music, containing 750,000 sheets and 125,000 titles from the heyday of Tin Pan Alley. The Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony serves as a repository for barbershop memorabilia, early recordings, costumes, research materials and historical documents tracing the roots of the barbershop style.

A professional staff administers a wide range of programs and services, including:

- *The Harmonizer*, a bi-monthly magazine for members
- Digital mastering of audio and video productions
- Music publishing services, with more than 900 barbershop arrangements in print
- Convention planning for meetings attended by 8,000-11,000 members annually

- Harmony Marketplace, a merchandise operation that grossing more than \$1 million annually
- A traveling staff of music and membership specialists who conduct numerous workshops and clinics throughout North America
- Education programs such as Harmony University, a week-long school attended by more than 600 singers annually

Harmony Foundation is the Society's fundraising arm. It coordinates an Annual Fund campaign to support special projects of the Barbershop Harmony Society, including Directors College scholarships, Harmony Explosion Camps, Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony. The Foundation also maintains an endowment program and oversees grant education and services.

INTERNATIONAL QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTESTS: On the week of July 4th each year, the Barbershop Harmony Society hosts an International Convention at which both Barbershop Quartets and Choruses compete for the title of BEST IN THE WORLD. Competitors are chosen through a series of District and Affiliate preliminary contests.



WHAT YOU ARE JOINING: District

Central States District

The Barbershop Harmony Society is divided into 16 geographical districts. Each District is managed by a locally elected Board of Directors and is responsible for annual District operations and conventions. The CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT, which the Dubuque Chapter is a part, is comprised of Chapters located in Iowa and Missouri and Chapters located in the eastern halves of South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

CONVENTIONS: Each Fall, usually in October, the CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT holds contests to determine the Chorus or Choruses that will represent the CSD the following SUMMER in the Barbershop Harmony Societies' International Contest and to determine the District's yearly QUARTET CHAMPION. While Choruses competing in the FALL contest are usually large (40-160 singers), small choruses (under 40 singers) are eligible to compete.

CONVENTIONS: Each Spring, usually in April, the CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT holds contests to determine the Quartet or Quartets that will represent the CSD in Barbershop Harmony Societies' International Contest that SUMMER and to determine the District's yearly SMALL CHORUS CHAMPION. Only choruses with 40 singers or less are eligible to compete in the SPRING contest.



WHAT ARE YOU JOINING: Chapter

Dubuque Chapter #A-010

The Music Men Barbershop Chorus

The Barbershop Harmony Society is comprised of more than 800 individual Chapters. The Dubuque Chapter was founded in 1949 and has members who hail from all over the Tri-State area including Cascade, Epworth, Peosta, Cuba City, Bellevue, Maquoketa, Strawberry Point, Elkader and Eldridge. Members range in age from Teenager to Senior and from experienced singer to novice. The Dubuque Chapter is administered by a locally elected Board of Directors. The Dubuque Chapter holds a weekly Harmony Night each Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 PM at Summit Congregational Church of Christ (2885 JFK Road, Dubuque, IA 52001). The Music Men Barbershop Chorus is the primary performing ensemble of the Dubuque Chapter.

CONVENTIONS: While many members of the Dubuque Chapter attend both District and International Conventions, the Music Men do not necessarily compete every year as a Chorus.



NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND:

NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND: In the late 1980's, the Music Men had a extraordinary teenage member by the name of Nate Sears. In his all too short tenure as a Music Man, Nate made quite the impression on the Music Men and helped reemphasize the value that young men bring to our hobby. Following Nate's untimely passing, the Sears family donated \$500 to the Music Men for the establishment of a membership scholarship in Nate's honor. Over the years, the fund has been further extended through generous donations of our members. The NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND pays ½ of the 1st year dues and fees of all Teenage (12 to 18 years in age) Members.



FRIEND FUND:

An off-the-books fund has been established to help any participant who may have difficulty meeting their Music Men financial obligations.

- Requests and distributions will remain anonymous to all but the current FRIEND FUND administrator. (See BOARD OF DIRECTORS/CONTACT LIST for administrator.)
- As available funds will be limited, distributions will be made solely at the discretion of the current FRIEND FUND administrator.
- For FRIEND FUND aid, contact the FRIEND FUND aid, contact the FRIEND FUND administrator privately in person or via E-mail.
- To donate to the FRIEND FUND, please contact FRIEND FUND administrator. (Please specify what donation is for.)



ANNUAL MUSIC MEN BUDGET

The Music Men is a 401C3 not-for-profit organization. As such, no Chapter member may receive financial gain from membership in our Chapter. Federal guidelines for how Chapter dues can be spent are stringently followed. For the most part, the MUSIC MEN meet their financial obligations through several means: Chapter dues, performance fees, advertising fees and donations. The following is a SAMPLING of the yearly expenses the Chapter pays.

Rehearsal Venue:	\$800 Annually
Insurance:	\$200 Annually
Music and Learning Tracks:	\$500 Annually
Services of Musical Director:	\$2400 Annually
Show Expenses:	\$2000 Annually (varies)
Uniforms:	Varies Annually
Telephone, Internet, Web-page & other office related Expenses:	Varies Annually
Chapter Bulletin:	\$100 Annually
	+ Miscellaneous expenses



ANNUAL SPONSOR DRIVE

Each year, the Music Men hold our Annual Fund Drive (January to April) to solicit local businesses and individuals for donations and advertisements for our Annual Show Program. This is a major revenue source for the Chapter. All members are expected to participate.

Any member wishing to make a donation to the MUSIC MEN may do so. Donations are Tax-deductible and can be made at any time to our Chapter Treasurer.



EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS

MEMBERS will be expected to participate in all performances and community events that they commit to.

- Prior to the acceptance of any Music Men performance or event, the membership will be surveyed as to individual availability. If the performance or event is approved, all Music Men that indicated that they are available for this performance or event will be expected to participate. As a group we must honor our commitments to the community. As a member of our group, you must honor your commitments to the group.

MEMBERS will be expected to seek guests and potential new members.

- The only way our group will be able to thrive and grow in the years to come is through vigilant recruitment.

MEMBERS will be expected to learn all provided music on their own and to practice between Harmony Night rehearsals.

- Due to the limited rehearsal time we have together, we must maximize this time! If we hope to achieve our goals, we cannot afford to spend undo time teaching/correcting notes and words. Rehearsal time is ENSEMBLE time...not individual time.
- Singers will be provided with high quality, part-predominant learning tracks on CD.

MEMBERS will be expected to attend as many of the scheduled Music Men Harmony Night rehearsals as possible.

- The Music Men is a FAMILY-FIRST organization. While we expect you to attend every rehearsal that you can, we understand that "life" will sometimes make this impossible.
 - If you can attend, please do so.
 - If you can not attend, it is your responsibility to assure that you are up to speed on what you have missed and ready for the next rehearsal.
 - Anyone who falls unreasonably "behind" due to a large number of rehearsal absences or for any other reason may be suspended from the performing chorus at Musical Director discretion. Reinstatement also at Musical Director discretion.

MEMBERS will be expected to attend any Coaching sessions scheduled.

- Occasionally, in our quest of constant improvement, the Music Men will bring in an outside Coach or Expert to work with us. We will schedule Coaching sessions as far out on the Calendar as possible to insure greatest singer attendance.
- Due to the costs involved in bringing in coaching and the anticipated progress resulting from these sessions, all singers are expected to attend.

MEMBERS will be expected to support our Chapter by actively:

- Selling tickets to Annual Shows
- Selling Singing Valentines
- Soliciting potential advertisers and donors during our Annual Fund drive.
- Participating on Chapter Board of Directors and Committees.

MEMBERS will be expected to respond promptly to all Surveys.

- Due to the widespread geography of the Music Men, it will be impossible to coordinate activities without **prompt** replies to all surveys.
- Surveys may involve potential performances, events or coaching opportunities.

MEMBERS will be expected to maintain a FAMILY-FRIENDLY and GENTLEMANLY demeanor at all MUSIC MEN functions.

- Please remember that we have a wide variety of singers involved in the MUSIC MEN ranging in age from youth to Senior.
- We will provide a comfortable environment for all participants.
- Please resolve any interpersonal problems or conflicts quickly and privately.
- All Music Team and Administration leaders will maintain an OPEN DOOR policy and will be open to your feedback and concerns.
- It is better to address a SMALL problem quickly than to allow it to grow into a LARGE problem!



EXPECTATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Our Chapter's obligation to you!

The typical member joins our Chapter to sing and perform. Fulfilling this expectation is our first and foremost duty to our singers.

- Rehearsals will begin on time.
- Our musical leadership will ensure that the majority of each rehearsal will be spent singing 4-part harmony.
- Our musical leadership will, if desired, help facilitate the formation of member quartets or "Very Large Quartets" (VLQs).
- Our musical leadership will ensure that all elements of each performance (chorus, quartet, solo, ensembles, acting, jokes, guest performers, etc.) meet quality standards and are 100% family-friendly.
- Our musical leadership will insure that all members have the opportunity, should they desire it, to audition for available solos or speaking parts.
- Our administrative leadership will be efficient in the use of rehearsal time for non-singing activities and discussions. They will be prepared and not waste singing time.
- Our leadership will actively seek out appropriate performance opportunities for the chorus.

Typical members expect initiative, imagination, empowerment and hard work from our Chapter leaders.

- Leaders are expected to "lead by example".
- Leaders are expected to share responsibilities.
- Leaders are expected to empower all members to participate fully in our hobby and to enable each to grow as an individual.

Typical members expect professionalism, respect, and open-mindedness from our Chapter leaders.

- Leaders will provide an environment which is comfortable for all members.
- Leaders shall have an open-door to all member questions, concerns, suggestions or feedback.
- Leaders shall treat all members with respect.
- All Board of Director Meetings shall be open to all members. (Private or confidential matters may be conducted in "executive session".)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION: Persons with issues with any chapter leader, or any other member, are encouraged to settle these issues, if possible, directly with the individual. Persons needing help for problem resolution are encouraged to contact either the Chapter President or At Large BOD members.

Be aware that every effort is made to live up to the high standards we have set for ourselves. But also be aware that an individual seldom receives more from an organization than that individual himself puts into it.



E-MAIL

Over the last few years, E-MAIL has become our most useful communication tool. Please make sure that the MUSIC MEN have your correct and up-to-date E-MAIL address to assure prompt communication of Chapter information. Your E-MAIL address will not be shared with anyone outside the of the Chapter. (See BOARD OF DIRECTORS/CONTACT LIST for "Roster/Email".)



Our WEB-SITE: <http://www.musicmen.org>

For community outreach and advertising purposes, the MUSIC MEN have developed our own web-site. MusicMen.org is used to communicate upcoming events and past successes as well as giving us a footprint on the world-wide web. Yearly Seasonal Show programs and Chapter Bulletins are posted on the web-site for outreach and ease of distribution. Credit for the development of our web-site goes to Erik Ekedahl and Merlin Green. Any feedback or submissions about our website can be made to our current webmaster. (See BOARD OF DIRECTORS/CONTACT LIST for Webmaster.)



SHEET MUSIC

Unless otherwise noted, all distributed musical repertoire is for the sole use of the MUSIC MEN CHORUS and may not be distributed beyond its membership or used for other ensembles including quartets, VLQs or home choruses.

- All music is provided at no cost for the use of the membership while active in the Music Men and remains the sole property of the Chapter.
- All music must be returned to the Chorus when membership lapses or is terminated by the member.
- Due to the high cost of music, members are responsible for the safekeeping of their Music Books and the music contained therein.
- Replacement copies for any lost music or books must be paid by the member. (Cost determined by most current cost.)
- Due to the high cost of music, GUESTS may not take music home with them. Members-in-good-standing may remove their assigned music and books.



LEARNING TRACKS

To help facilitate the learning of our musical repertoire, part-predominant learning CDs are provided to all singers at Chapter expense. All learning tracks provided are part-predominant. To hear more or less of your part, adjust the left/right balance on your player.

To encourage a great follow-up experience, all guests will be provided a Learning CD for their voice part at the first rehearsal they attend. They may take them home and need not worry about returning them. (Sorry, Guest Book music may not be removed from our rehearsal site by guests.)

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO UTILIZE LEARNING TRACKS? Please listen to the tracks 10, 20, 30 times BEFORE singing along. Past experience has proven that once we THINK we know it, we don't listen as well. Once we have it in our heads one way, whether correct or not, it's next to impossible to get out!



CHAPTER BULLETIN

Our award-winning Chapter Bulletin, the CHORD COURIER is published 4 times a year and was developed for Chapter communications and entertainment, community outreach and advertising purposes. The Chord Courier is used to communicate upcoming events and past successes as well as serving as one of our historical records. Chapter Bulletins are posted on the web-site for outreach and ease of distribution. Members will be notified via E-MAIL when a new CHORD COURIER is available for perusal. Any feedback or submissions can be made via email to our current Bulletin editor (See BOARD OF DIRECTORS/CONTACT LIST for Bulletin Editor.)



REHEARSAL CANCELLATIONS

Unless otherwise announced, Harmony Night rehearsals are held every Tuesday night. Traditionally, we do not rehearse on any Tuesday that falls between Christmas & New Years Day or on any Tuesday that falls on the week of July 4th. Otherwise, we're probably singing!

Several times each WINTER we are forced to CANCEL rehearsal due to inclement weather or unsafe driving conditions. Notification of these cancellations will be made via Email no later than 3 PM the day of the rehearsal. If the weather looks bad, be sure to check your E-MAIL before you leave for rehearsal! Ultimately, it is each individual's decision as to whether to venture out in any weather. Please use your best discretion. Better safe than sorry!



THE QUARTET EXPERIENCE

The cornerstone of the barbershop hobby is singing in a quartet. Quartet singing may be casual or may be intensive. Some singers merely wish to perform a song or two on a Chapter show while others may have an eye on competition. Participation in a quartet should be considered extracurricular and should not conflict with Chorus rehearsal time. There are several types of quartet experience available to our singers including groups that are ongoing or "registered" and those that are temporary or "pick-ups".

Registered Quartet: Comprised of four men who sing regularly together over a period of time.

- This type of quartet formalizes their existence by "Registering" with the Barbershop Harmony Society.
- This type of quartet often builds their own separate repertoire and may perform shows on their own.
- Nationally, no two actively registered quartets may have the same name.
- Only registered quartets may compete in a BHS sponsored contest.
- Registered quartets may be invited to share the stage with the Music Men in performance. This may involve performing 1 or more songs.

Pick-up Quartet: Comprised of four men who do not sing together regularly.

- This type of quartet does not "register" and is not eligible to compete.
- This type of quartet may learn a few songs together but rarely builds their own repertoire.
- Pick-up quartets are often formed to meet a one-time opportunity such as "Singing Valentines".
- Pick-up quartets may be invited to share the stage with the Music Men in performance. This may involve performing 1 or more songs.
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What does a person need to do to sing in a quartet? Generally speaking, all someone needs to sing in a quartet is 3 other men. More specifically:

- Successful quartets are usually comprised of men who are capable of learning their music more independently than the average chorus singer.

- Successful quartets are usually comprised of men who can perform their voice part alone and maintain their voice part against the other quartet members. (It's easy for novices to be "pulled" to someone else's part.)
- Successful quartets are often comprised of men whose voices sound similar and are complimentary to one another.
- Successful quartets are often comprised of men whose musical abilities and learning curves are similarly matched.
- Successful quartets are often comprised of men who get along personally and are well matched in goal, attitude and work ethic.
- Successful quartets are often comprised of men whose work and home life schedules are compatible with those of the other quartet members.

How do you find these singers?

- Participate in informal singing (tags or polecats) with as wide variety of men as often as possible at Chapter meetings.
- Participate in the Singing Valentine Program. Currently, the most longed lived Registered Quartet in the Dubuque Chapter (14 years and still counting) began singing together for Singing Valentines.
- Make an announcement that you are looking for men to quartet with.
- Contact your Musical Leadership for their help or input. (Note: Our Directors can not set someone up in a quartet. They may be able to help, but it's really up to the singers!)



MUSIC MEN UNIFORMS

- All UNIFORMS are provided at no cost for the use of the membership while active in the Music Men. Unless otherwise noted, Uniform components provided by the Chapter remain the property of the Chapter.
- All Uniforms must be returned to the Chorus when Members go "inactive" for more than six months, membership lapses or is terminated by the member.
- Members are responsible for the safekeeping of their Uniforms.
- Replacement costs of any lost or ruined Uniform component must be paid for by the member. (Cost determined by most current cost.)
- Due to the high cost of Uniforms, GUESTS may not be issued any uniform component.

FORMAL UNIFORM consists of:

White Tux Coat will be provided by Chapter

Black Tux Pants will be provided by Chapter

Black Tux Shirt will be provided by Chapter

Reversible vest will be provided by Chapter

Black & White Patent Leather Shoes will be provided by Chapter

- The Chorus will provide DRYCLEANING for all FORMAL UNIFORM components. Please do not clean individually.
- Due to the high-cost of replacing the FORMAL UNIFORM components, we ask that they are only worn at designated activities.

CASUAL UNIFORM consists of:

Blue Music Men Polo Shirt will be provided by Chapter.

Cream Colored Dockers shall be provided by Member.

Brown or Black Shoes (Please, no sports shoes) shall be provided by Member.

Appropriate Belt (Please, no large buckles!) shall be provided by Member.

V-Neck T-shirt (T-shirt must not be visible to audience.) shall be provided by Member.

- Members are responsible for keeping CASUAL UNIFORM clean and performance ready.
- Due to the high-cost of replacing the Blue Music Men Polo Shirts, we ask that they are only worn at designated activities.



YEAR AT A GLANCE

From year to year, the Music Men schedule does change. But, for the most part, once the year is set, it remains set. The following is a brief overview of what the Music Men year looks like.

- **FIRST TUESDAY after NEW YEARS DAY:** First Harmony Night of the Year!
- **FEBRUARY:** Each year, on a selected Tuesday in February, the Dubuque Chapter holds its ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET. The evening is a celebration of the previous year's achievements and recognition of the outgoing and incoming administrations. Families are encouraged to attend. A variety of Awards are presented including: BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR (In recognition of an member who made significant contributions to the Chapter over the previous year.); ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (In recognition of significant contributions to the Chapter by a new member.); HALL OF FAME (In recognition of significant life-long contributions made to the Chapter by any nominated or qualified member.)
- **FEBRUARY 14:** Each year for Valentines Day, the Music Men send festively dressed quartets out into the community to perform SINGING VALENTINES. Each year, the Music Men are hired to perform 60-100 Valentines. This is a major revenue source for the Chapter and a MAJOR memory source for our members!
- **MARCH-APRIL-MAY:** Each year, the Music Men hold our Annual Fund Drive to solicit local businesses and individuals for donations and advertisements for our Annual Show Program. This is a major revenue source for the Chapter. All members expected to participate.
- **APRIL:** On selected years, the Music Men may elect to compete in the CSD FALL contest. .
- **MAY:** Each year the Music Men host two super-special Shows featuring the Music Men and a special guest quartet or two. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and centerpiece for our hard work!
- **SUMMER:** We're still here for you! Come on out and beat the heat with some singing!
- **WEEK OF JULY 4th:** Each year, the Barbershop Harmony Society holds it's annual International Convention. Typically, due to the Holiday and International Convention, the Music Men do not meet on the week of July 4th.
- **SEPTEMBER:** Official kick-off for the following years show with new music and learning tracks distributed. Annual OPEN HOUSES are held.
- **OCTOBER:** On selected years, the Music Men may elect to compete in the CSD FALL contest. .
- **DECEMBER:** Each year, the Music Men participate in the HARMONY HOLIDAY shows with other Barbershoppers from nearby communities. This SUPER-SIZED chorus of 125 or more men, perform two shows of Holiday favorites in two different towns on the same day! While these performances do generate revenue for the Chapter, they are mainly about the Holidays and the experience of singing in a really big, really talented chorus!
- **YEAR-ROUND:** The Music Men may, with advance notice, accept a variety of performance opportunities throughout the year including: Church performances, paid performances, nursing home performances, holiday caroling, etc.



Riser Etiquette (Provided by the Iowa City Chapter)

The following is expected from each chorus member while at each rehearsal. Please be familiar with these expectations as they are provided to increase productivity during rehearsal time as well as quality of the chorus as a whole. **Practice doesn't make perfect – practice makes permanent. Perform at each rehearsal!**

- I. **Outside worries left outside:** Once inside the rehearsal room doors, all outside cares should be left outside so we can get down to business. This includes cell phones and worries. Clear your mind and prepare to rehearse hard. Likewise, the director is focusing on what he wants to focus on in rehearsal, please address any issues with him at break or after rehearsal. (Please allow him his preparation and planning time before rehearsal.)
- II. We ask that all Cell Phones are SILENCED or SET TO VIBRATE before rehearsals. Please leave the rehearsal area if you must take a call.
- III. **Listen, Don't Hum:** When the pitch is sounding, don't hum your pitch. It keeps everyone from hearing the pitch accurately.
CORRECT: PITCH ** THINK FIRST NOTE ** THINK FIRST WORDS ** SING
- IV. **Listen, Don't Fix:** If there is a difficult passage with mistakes and then a pause while the director is deciding how to correct it, please do not try and fix your part or discuss it with others in your section. The director is trying to fix it for you in a unified way. If he doesn't address it, simply raise your hand and bring it to his attention.
- V. **Twenty Second Rule:** When the director stops directing for a length greater than twenty seconds (as when working with the chorus coach or Co-Directors or any other item,) you may talk to other chorus members until such time as they are ready to begin again.
- VI. **You Sing Every Part:** When the director is addressing a particular voice part, he most likely is speaking of a particular aspect that applies to the whole chorus and may eventually want your section to sing with the aspects talked about. Be ready to sing at all times.
- VII. **No "Sneak-Singing":** If the director asks a particular section to sing a passage, do not sing or hum your part. You may think that no one will notice if you work on your part to yourself but it is guaranteed that the director will notice and will be distracted.
- VIII. **RESPECT:** Please show the same respect to whoever has the floor that you would expect yourself.



MEMBERSHIP COSTS

The fees listed are current as of 9/25/07. Fees are subject to update with notice.

REGULAR MEMBER: Any non-student 24 years of age or older.

YEARLY BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:	\$92
One-time NEW MEMBER processing fee:	\$10
YEARLY CENTRAL DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP:	\$14
YEARLY DUBUQUE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP:	\$20
1 st YEAR DUES: <i>(Must be paid at time of application)</i>	\$136
2 nd YEAR DUES: <i>(Paid on each anniversary after admission)</i>	\$126

Please make checks payable to the "BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY" in the amount of \$136.00 and submit with your application.

YOUTH MEMBER: (19 to 23 years of age)

YEARLY BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:	\$46
One-time NEW MEMBER processing fee:	\$10
YEARLY CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP:	\$7
YEARLY DUBUQUE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP:	\$10
1 st YEAR DUES: <i>(Must be paid at time of application)</i>	\$73
2 nd YEAR DUES: <i>(Paid on each anniversary after admission)</i>	\$63

Please make checks payable to the "BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY" in the amount of \$73.00 and submit with your application.

TEENAGE MEMBER: (12 to 18 years of age)

YEARLY BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:	\$46
One-time NEW MEMBER processing fee:	\$10
YEARLY CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP:	\$7
YEARLY DUBUQUE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP:	\$10
NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND: ½ OFF all 1 st year dues and fees.	-\$36.50
1 st YEAR DUES: <i>(Must be paid at time of application)</i>	\$36.50
2 nd YEAR DUES: <i>(Paid on each anniversary after admission)</i>	\$63

Please make checks payable to the "MUSIC MEN CHORUS" in the amount of \$36.50 and submit with your application. Our Chapter Treasurer will then write a check to the BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY for the full amount of your dues (\$73) and attach to your Application.

The "NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND" is a scholarship that has been set up and maintained to better enable Junior High and Senior High School students to meet the financial requirements of becoming a MUSIC MAN. See "NATE SEARS MEMORIAL FUND" in HANDBOOK for more information on this scholarship.

For those men who may have trouble meeting the financial requirements of becoming or remaining a Music Man, a special "off the books" support fund has been established. See "FRIEND FUND" in HANDBOOK for more information.