



## LASTING FRIENDSHIPS – ENDURING MUSIC

### PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

October 2018

Well, it had to happen sooner or later...I missed a month getting this letter out. I apologize for not submitting a letter from September. As will happen from time to time with all of us, outside activities, like work, got in the way of recreation like Barbershop! That is, generally, not acceptable, and I hope it does not continue to happen.

October brings on Fall, and fall means our Fall Convention, which will host several contests, including the District Chorus Qualifying Contest for International, the District Quartet Championship Contest, and the qualifying contest for the Senior Quartet Contest which will take place in Nashville, at Mid-Winter in January.

Roger Lewis has been working hard to put together an exceptional Convention. Along with the above listed contests, we will have another harmony Platoon program, we will also host the Society Executive Vice-President (and President-Elect for 2019) Dick Powell. Dick will be hosting a question and answer session immediately after the House of Delegates Meeting (approximately 3:00) on Friday afternoon in the Branson Ballroom No. 4. Come and ask Dick any questions you may have about the Society and its current policies, and direction. Dick has been a member of the Society Board of Directors and the EVP for several years has been involved in the process leading up to Everyone In Harmony, so come and discuss that, and any other issues with him.

We will also have with us Steve Scott, who is the Barbershop Harmony Society Music Education Chair. Steve will be teaching a class on Barbershop Singing Myth Busting. That will be held starting at 4:00 in the Branson Ballroom No. 4 right after the session with Dick Powell. Steve has a PhD in vocal Pedagogy and is an excellent instructor. You don't want to miss that session either.

Our Joe and Jane Barbershop Chorus will meet for rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning at the W K Kellogg Auditorium Gym. The Director will be Paul Wigley, Director of the Minneapolis Commodores (and one of the Contest Music Judges). Songs will be the Mercenaries versions of King Of The Road and Breaking Up Is Hard To Do.

Look for other things to do during the Convention Weekend, including Tag opportunities from 5 pm – 6 pm on Friday in the Board Room with William Stutz; Senior Chorus organization meeting on Friday (more information to come on that); a QCA Show on Friday night after the Quartet

contest in the Branson Ballroom featuring Upper deck, Hemidemisemiquaver 4, Checkmate and Frontier. That will start about 30 minutes after the contest ends; and the Harmony Platoon Contest which will also be on Saturday from 4:00 – 6:00 on the 16<sup>th</sup> Floor.

Aside from the Convention this month, you should also be aware from the LiveWire emails that the Society Board of Directors is currently working on revisions to the Society, District and Chapter By-laws. They have been involved in numerous discussions with each other, and with outside experts and consultants. We should see some results from those meetings and discussions in January.

In addition, I have, as Moderator for the District presidents Counsel been involved with a group established by Nashville staff, which has the name Service delivery Thought Leadership Roundtable. We are working together, along with other members of the DPC, Nashville Staff, LOPT, C & J and female members of the Society. Our charge is to assist the Society in determining what services should be delivered to our members, and how they should be delivered. I could tell you what we are discussing, but then I would have to kill you...

I look forward to seeing many of you during the Convention weekend. Stop me and chat for a few minutes. I am always interested in hearing from you, and what your concerns may be.

If, at any time, you have anything you want to ask me, or have the Board review or address, feel free to contact me by email at [pio.district.pres@gmail.com](mailto:pio.district.pres@gmail.com). I will do my best to get back to you in an appropriate amount of time, or put you in contact with the appropriate member of the District Board.

Dave Montera  
2018 President – Pioneer District