

Alexandria Harmonizers 70th Anniversary Throwback Thursdays

No. 39 – 2015 Winds of Change

Alexandria Harmonizers, Fourth Place Chorus, Bronze Medal
77th Annual International Convention and Contests, BHS, Pittsburgh PA
June 28-July 5, 2015



Music Director **Joe Cerutti** Associate Director **Anthony Colosimo**
Choreographer **Carlos Barillo** Chapter President **Terry Reynolds**

“Someone Like You.” **Steve Tramack**, Arranger, and
“Me Ol’ Bamboo,” **Clay Hine**, Arranger

121 men awarded Fourth Place Bronze Medals

Scipio Garling summed up 2015 in one of his colorful yearly pomes: “Nothing could be more appropriate than for the visual theme of this year’s contest package - and this Annual Report - to have been the “Steampunk” style...(with) firm roots in America’s creative values...an era of boundless enthusiasm and industry, of innovation and progress, of determination to engineer a future more efficient and aesthetically pleasing than ever before. Much like the current era of Harmonizer history!”

Terry Reynolds commented: “...being in the chorus is more exciting than ever...(this year) has been chockablock with growth, experimentation, and innovation -- new members, new means of governance, new collaborative relationships, and new ways of seeing ourselves...During times of transition... we’ve actually been inspired to greater artistic heights by the bracing winds of change.”

This year's innovative "American Icon" Fall Show honored American male popular music icons. We collaborated with an operatic soprano, a youth steel band orchestra, and a local a cappella group in a concert-style Holiday Show.

Harmonizer mainstays like competition, youth and community outreach, seasonal performances, broader arts involvement, and local gigs allow us to reach for our future with confidence. Perhaps our most significant accomplishment will turn out to be our creation of the nonprofit organization, **Alexandria Harmonizers, Inc.** Designed to support the chorus's artistic and fundraising endeavors, AH Inc can be the change agent and foundation for everything that comes in succeeding years.

Our Music Director, **Joe Cerutti**, in a speech in Pittsburgh about the world of possibilities that is opening up for us: "...when I think about my vision for the chapter...I feel like we're often living for "Now" instead of living for "Yet".... I wonder whether a slight obsession for achievement in contest impedes our ability to dream bigger...Our potential for greatness is simply a decision that we need to make, completely and consistently... When the goal is striving for discipline, focus, consistency, and improvement, achievement will follow...I have always been excited about our future! But I can assure you: you have not seen anything yet.

Harmonious Tagline:

"Make Our Garden Grow." I thought the world...Was sugar cake...For so our master said...But, now I'll teach... My hands to bake...Our loaf of daily bread... Let dreamers dream...What worlds they please...Those Edens can't be found...The sweetest flowers,.. The fairest trees...Are grown in solid ground...We're neither pure, nor wise, nor good ...We'll do the best we know...We'll build our house and chop our wood And make our garden grow. And make our garden grow!

Composed by Leonard Bernstein from "Candide" (edited)