

After the break, contest chairman **Calvin Schnure** called the audience to take their seats and contest emcee **Lew Klinge** outlined the order of appearance for the 25 quartets – that's right – 25!

Judges for this event were **Steve White, Ken Rub, Paul Grimes** and **Chris Yates** – all top quartet men in their own right. **Jack Pitzer** served as contest administrator.

Lew gave some interesting history about how one of our chapter icons, Wilbur Sparks, organized the first Put Together Contest for the chapter and launched the concept for all these years of guys signing up to sing, and if they didn't have enough parts, the chairman would "put them together" with other singers interested.

There were two categories for prizes – comedy and regular quartets.

Top comedy quartet members got a trophy for their success.

First place comedy quartet was CRAFT MAXIM FOUR with **Terry Reynolds, Chuck Hunter, Gary Fuller** and **Steve Murane**. They sang original lyrics to the tune of "Heart of My Heart." **Chuck** took time to share the words with **YeEd**. For those who have been in touch with the chapter, these are the craft lessons **Tony Colosimo** has been teaching each week all year.

(Sung to the tune of "Heart of my Heart")

Listen first, then audiate;

Be sure to raise your soft palate. [pronounced with a long a]

Your voice matters always;

Be a champion at the end of the phrase.

Small in the front and in back tall;

Awesome breath, awesome tone and that's not all:

Pitch revisitation too!

Al- ways new. [top 3 parts]

And don't forget: breathe when you need to (always new). [bass]

Second place comedy quartet was WE HAVEN'T PRACTICED with **Dan O'Brien, Edris Qarghah, Drew Fuller** and **Joel Golden**. They sang revised words to "Jezebel" about the crunch to get ready for the chorus contest in Toronto.

Third place comedy quartet was BLACK FRIDAY with **Rick Savage, Randall Eliason, Jack Cameron** and **Jeremy Richardson**. They sang a parody to "My Wild Irish Rose" about spending and shopping during the holidays and were decked out with winter gear and many packages and shopping bags.

Trophies to members of the top three regular quartets were given by chairman **Schnure** too.

First place was WITH A LITTLE HELP with **Doug White, Jacob George, Joel Golden** and **Calvin Schnure**. They sang a nifty arrangement of “Jingle Bells” – not the one our chorus sings.

Second place was ACCOUSTIC COUNTERMEASURES with **Kellen Hertz, Craig Kujawa, Steve Szyszka, and Chris Clark**. They sang a haunting and tender song called “MLK.” Ask **Craig** about it.

Third place was SENIOR SENORS with **Rick Savage, Joe Cerutti Sr., Ken Fess** and **Mick Stamps**. They used a little dialog to set up a trip to Normandy and then sang “Sentimental Journey.”

The judges did recognize **Joel Golden** for singing in the most quartets – five. He got a trophy too.

The judges did have to DQ one quartet for being total ringers and then not singing a whole song!! The chorus musical team members in that quartet will go un-named and they are asked to return the trophies they snagged!!! It was a fun gag.

The top three quartets ranked then by score were CRAFT MAXIM FOUR, WITH A LITTLE HELP, and WE HAVEN'T PRACTICED.

The contest went great, **Lew** kept us laughing while there was a wait, the technical guys had mics and speakers just like a BHS event! Also got give a plug to the many brand new guys who sang in a quartet in the contest this time, and some old timers got up there and participated too.

One quartet, FOUR FROM THE HEART, dressed in their tux outfits and brought Ellen ___ on stage and sang a special Valentine song to her, and presented her with balloons and flowers. Some guys had not heard that song tune, so maybe it will become a popular one for Singing Valentines events in February. **Bruce Lauther** has been in a version of FOUR FROM THE HEART for since 1991. He reports 112 guys have sung with him over the years – mostly to present Valentines, birthday gigs and make hospital calls.