

The Cotton is High - 2004

Alexandria Harmonizers, International Chorus Fourth Place Bronze Medal 66th Annual International Convention and Contests, SPEBSQSA, Louisville KY, June 27-July 4, 2004 Musical Director Richard Lewellen Associate Director Terry Reynolds Chapter President Ken Fess. 96 men awarded Fourth Place Bronze Medals, singing: "Lazybones," David Wright, Arr. and "Summertime," Steve Jamison, Arr.



The seventh Music Director of the Harmonizers, Richard Lewellen, took the Harmonizers to two successive Fourth Place finishes in Louisville and Salt Lake City with the same song set. The Harmonizers had great fun wearing river shirts and dungarees, with bare feet, all covered in mud, to simulate field hands, sweating in the noon day sun.

Alexandria Harmonizers, International Chorus Sixth Place 65th Annual International Convention and Contests, SPEBSQSA, Montreal, Canada, June 30-July 6, 2003 Musical Director Richard Lewellen Associate Director Terry Reynolds Chapter President Gary Bibens. 103 men awarded Sixth Place, singing: "Auld Lang Syne," Clay Hine, Arr., and "All Aboard for Dixie Land," David Wright, Arr.

The Harmonizer commented: "Highest déjà vu density. Two of this year's competitors appeared in the Society's first international chorus competition 50 years ago: Banks of the Wabash and the Alexandria Harmonizers (Wabash member Donn Jones appeared in both contests.) Which fact do you find more odd: that both choruses just happened to perform an arrangement of 'Auld Lang Syne' this year, or that by the end of the contest, 20 percent of the choruses had performed it?"

Richard Lewellen is an accomplished music director, coach, quartet man, and Singing Category Judge. He sang baritone with the International Medalist Quartet Riptide and the 2005 Mid-Atlantic District Quartet Champion Four Aces. Richard directed the Alexandria Harmonizers for four years and now directs the Fairfax Jubil-Aires. In January 2007, Joe Cerutti, Jr. became the eighth Music Director of the Harmonizers.

Historical Tagline: 2004 -- Three Harmonizers were in the inaugural class of the Society Hall of Honor: Bud Arberg, Dean Snyder, and Wilbur Sparks. The Society Board changed our official name for almost all practical purposes to Barbershop Harmony

Society. SPEBSQSA, Inc. remains the legal name. After 60 years of using "SPEBSQSA," our new logo features "BHS" in a new contemporary design.

2007 -- After 49 years in Wisconsin, we can no longer call Kenosha home. The Society opened its new headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee on September 4th in a renovated 36,000 square foot, four-story building at 110 7th Avenue North.