

Ninth Chorus Uniform - 1982

Third Place Bronze Medal, 44th Annual International Convention and Contests,
SPEBSQSA, Pittsburgh PA, June 29-July 3, 1982

Musical Director John Hohl Chapter President Jim Wilson Ninety-five chorus members wearing a very "barbershop" uniform that squeezed every point from the Stage Presence Category--yellow suits with green vest, orange piping and spats, and multicolored cravat, singing "Wait Till You Get Them Up In The Air Boys" (John Hohl, Arranger) "Somebody Stole My Gal Medley" (John Hohl, Arranger).



In 1975 the Alexandria Chapter leadership committed themselves to a five-year plan to improve musical performance. After winning our first District Championship and an International Fourth Place Medal, the chorus in quick succession captured two International Second Place Medals. John Hohl led the Harmonizers to an International Third Place Medal in 1982 and an International Sixth Place finish in 1983 with songs he had arranged. The Harmonizers had achieved a great deal during the years 1975-1983. Yet with all the hard work and extra rehearsals, we still had not realized our ultimate goal of a gold medal. With the return of Scott Werner as Musical Director in 1984, we adopted a new low-key philosophy, and "the rest of the story" tells how this philosophy finally brought the gold to Alexandria. (Stay tuned!)

John Hohl was the first Associate Director of the Harmonizers (1976-1979) and our sixth Musical Director (1980-1983). He received the chapter's Oz Newgard Award (1979) and the Harmonizer Memorial Award (2009). John sang in many quartets over the years, most notably the Nova Chords, with two medals, and Vaudeville, with five medals. He was a prolific arranger for quartets and choruses. John literally arranged dozens of songs for the Harmonizers over the years including the "Harmonizer Welcome Song", "A Place On The Risers", our 1989 Gold Medal ballad, "Oh How I Miss You Tonight", as well as "A Gift of Music", "Director's Lament", "A Chorus Line Medley", and many, many more. He was a member of the M-AD Hall of Honor and the Honor Chapter, DELASUSQUEHUDMAC.

Harmonious Tagline: Despite a 24-inch snowfall and a power blackout that ended less than two hours before curtain time, some 2,000 concertgoers made it to the February 14, 1983 Kennedy Center debut of the extraordinary English vocal group – The King's Singers – in a benefit concert for the Alexandria Harmonizers. The concert was produced by Kenneth C. Fischer in conjunction with the Harmonizers (spearheaded by Fr. Joe Witmer, Chuck Harner and Linton Reed) who handled publicity and ticket sales completely outside of the Kennedy Center. A return benefit concert by The King's Singers was presented on October 26th. The Harmonizers entertained in the Concert Hall foyer following each concert.