



The MVEer Monthly

April, 2014

Discounted Tickets Available – Randy Will, VP of Marketing

Last Chance for discount tickets! Discount tickets to "**Shining City on a Hill**" a *cappella* show are available until March 31! In tribute to our country and those who have served, the **Midwest Vocal Express Men's A Cappella** chorus is presenting their special brand of entertainment, Saturday, May 10, 2:00pm and 7:30 pm, at **Nathan Hale High School** in West Allis, Wisconsin.

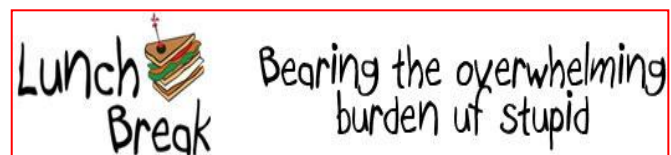
This family-friendly event is a great Mother's Day outing, and features the MVE signature mix of Patriotic, do-wop, show tunes and inspirational favorites, performed with that MVE flair! Adding spark to the celebration are special guests, the award-winning comedy quartet **Lunch Break!**

Tickets for both shows are now available by calling [414-367-7097](tel:414-367-7097). There are also discounts available for groups and seniors! Go to www.mve.org to see the MVE in action and get more info!

Lunch Break – Enjoy the comic shananagans of **Lunch Break** on our May 10th show. **Lunch Break** began singing together during the summer of 2007 just for fun during their lunch break hour. They haven't stopped since. Combining comedy, youthful energy, and good old fashioned barbershop harmony, **Lunch Break** brings a unique brand of entertainment to audiences of all ages. Lunch Break's repertoire includes barbershop, jazz, gospel, and folk-hip-hop-fusion.



Lunch Break won the Barbershop Harmony Society's 2007 Dixie District Championship, and finished as the 11th place semifinalist at the International Barbershop Convention in 2010.



Lunch Break's new "Life on the Farm" DVD is now available for shipping from <http://www.lunchbreakquartet.com/>

And I'll bet dollars to donuts, some will be available at our May 10th show for sale.

Quarteting – Come early for some quarteting and tag-singing practice at 6:30pm.

Chapters, Divisions, Districts, International-Dick Marcus

Like a country that is divided into counties and states, the **Barbershop Harmony Society** has **17 Districts**. Our District is the **Land O' Lakes District**. Our district is then divided into five different divisions. The MVE is a part of **Division One**.

Chapters in Land O' Lakes by Division

All of North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and the western half of the Michigan Upper Peninsula, and all of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and the western half of Ontario, Canada.



DIVISION ONE

- H-103 Beloit (Gateway City)
- H-100 Greendale (Midwest Vocal Express)**
- H-030 Kenosha (New Image)
- H-070 [Lake Geneva](#) (Lake Area Country Gentlemen)
- H-033 [Madison](#) (Capital Chordsmen)
- H-098 Menomonee Falls (Meno-HARMonee)
- H-038 [Milwaukee](#) (Festival City)
- H-044 [Racine](#) (Dairy Statesmen)
- H-029 [Rock Valley](#) (Badger Chord Hawks)
- H-112 [West Allis](#) (Heart of Harmony)

PACKERLAND DIVISION

- H-021 [Appleton](#) (Fox Valleyaires)
- H-106 Delta County (Remnants)
- H-109 [Fox River Valley](#) (Pride of The Valley)
- H-028 [Green Bay](#) (Baylanders)
- H-034 [Manitowoc County](#) (Clipper City Chordsmen)
- H-099 [Minocqua-Woodruff](#) (Lakeland Barbershop)
- H-041 [Oshkosh](#) (Winnebagoland)
- H-108 Park Falls Area (Flambeau Ramblers)
- H-009 [Plymouth](#) (Hometown Harmony Tradition)
- H-089 Ripon (Harmony Kings)
- H-050 [Stevens Point](#) (Northern Gateway)
- H-055 [Wausau](#) (River Valley Harmonizers)

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

- H-015 [Albert Lea](#) (Harmony Junction)
- H-065 [Black River Falls](#) (Pine Tones)
- H-062 [Faribault](#) (Lakelanders)
- H-032 [LaCrosse](#) (Coulee Chordsmen)
- H-067 Leroy (Forty Milers)
- H-047 [Mankato](#) (Riverblenders)
- H-092 [Rochester](#) (Music Men)
- H-002 Windom (Chordhustlers)
- H-072 [Winona](#) (Hiawatha Valley)

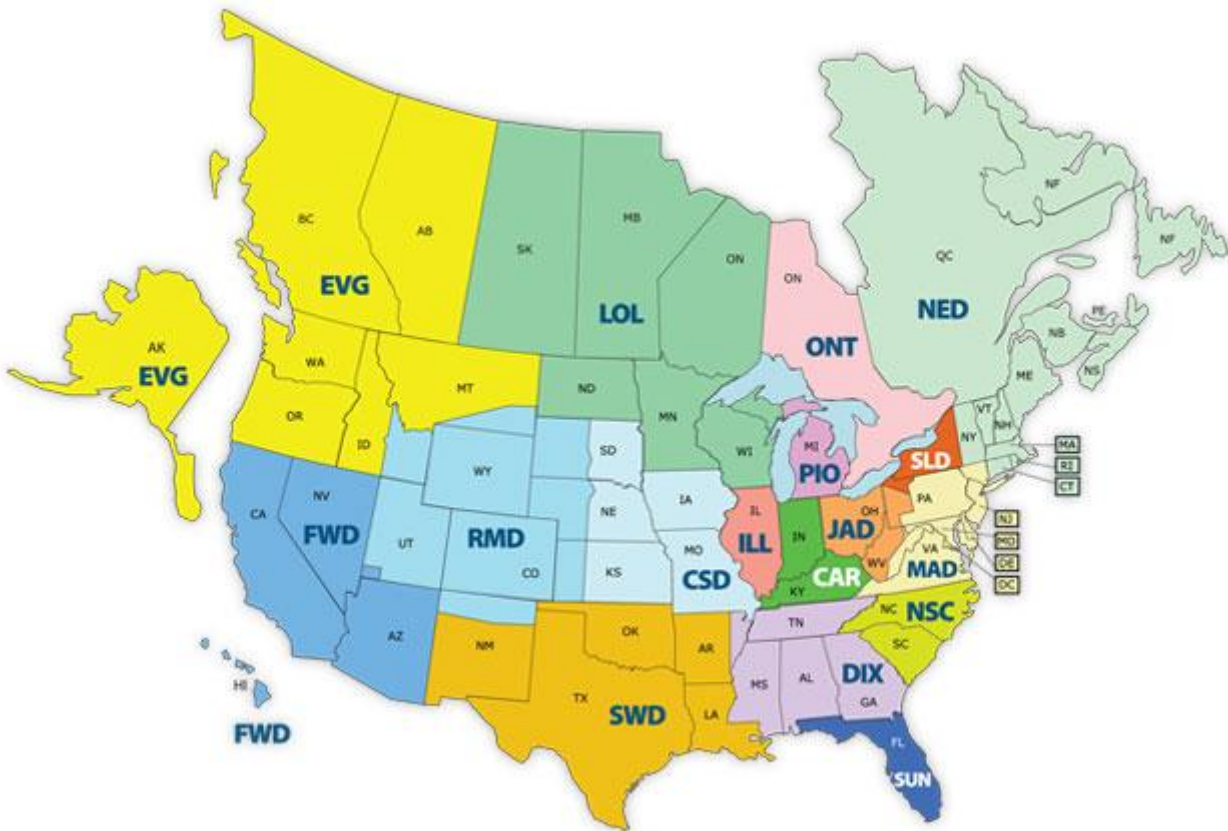
10,000 LAKES DIVISION

- H-076 [Bloomington](#) (Good Times)
- H-079 Duluth-Superior (Harbormasters)
- H-017 [Dunn County](#) (Northern Lights)
- H-073 [Greater St. Paul Area](#) (North Star)
- H-043 [Hilltop](#) (Great Northern Union)
- H-014 [Minneapolis](#) (Commodores)
- H-087 [Minnetonka](#) (Clippers)
- H-082 [Polk County](#) (Indianhead)
- H-086 [St. Cloud Area](#) (Singing Saints)
- H-046 [St. Croix Valley](#) (Croix Chordsmen)
- H-080 Thunder Bay

NORTHERN PLAINS DIVISION

- [H-049 Bismarck-Mandan](#) (Northern Lights)
- H-005 Dauphin (Keystone)
- H-019 [Fargo-Moorhead](#) (Great Plains Harmony)
- H-007 [Fergus Falls](#) (Heart O' Lakes Harmony)
- H-090 Greater Grand Forks (Valley Chordsmen)
- H-008 [Minot](#) (Nodakords)
- H-091 [Regina](#) (Living Skies)
- H-045 [Saskatoon](#) (Chimo Chordsmen)
- H-003 [Winnipeg](#) (Golden Chordsmen)

For more on the Land O' Lakes District, go to: <http://www.loldistrict.org/index.html> Each chorus' websites are clickable.



For more on the 17 Districts in the Barbershop Harmony Society, go to <http://barbershop.org/about/districts.html>, and read the following article by Josh Umhoefer on the Barbershop Harmony Society Contest Cycle.

Barbershop Harmony Society Contest Cycle – Josh Umhoefer, Director

Before I go into detail about the **Division Contest** for this year, I think it is important to understand what we are competing for when we go to these contests. So I'll start from square one...

In his article, Dick wrote about how the Barbershop Harmony Society is broken into 17 Districts, and each District has the ability to divide their District into Divisions (some Districts choose not to). Our **Land 'O Lakes District** is divided into five Divisions, ours being **Division One**.

For Choruses, the contest path goes like this:

A Chorus Competes In Spring Division Contest: 5 Contests Held March thru May	-To Qualify For The LOL District Contest (October) -To Win A Division Championship
A Chorus Competes In District Contest: Contest Held In October	-To Qualify For The International Contest (July) -To Win A District Championship
A Chorus Competes In International Contest: Contest Held In July	-To Win A Top 5 International Medal

For those of you interested in **Quartets** – here's the two paths quartets can take:

A Quartet Competes In Spring Division Contest: 5 Contests Held March thru May	-To Qualify For The LOL District Contest (October) -To Win A Division Championship
A Quartet Competes In District Contest: Contest Held In October	-To Win A District Championship
A Quartet Competes In A Spring International Preliminary Contest: Contest Held In May	-To Qualify For International Contest (July)
A Chorus Competes In International Contest: Contest Held In July	-To Win A Top 5 International Medal (3 Contest Sessions: All Competitors, Top 20, Top 10)

I hope this helps you get an idea of how our contest cycles work.

Josh ☺

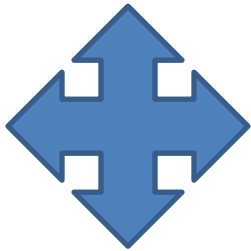
For more about the Division One Contest 2014, read the following four things you need to know by Josh Umhoefer.

Division One Contest 2014

On the weekend of May 2-3, there are actually five different contests going on:

- **Division One** and Packerland Quartet Contests (Friday Night)
- **LOL** District International Preliminaries Contest (Friday Night & Saturday Night)
- **Division One** and Packerland Chorus Contests (Saturday Morning)

The **MVE** is competing in the **Division One** Chorus Contest, and some of our quartets will be competing in the **Division One** Contest and the **Land 'O Lakes** International Preliminaries Contest.



"WHERE IS OUR DIVISION CONTEST?"

The contest is going to be held at **Pacelli High School:** 1301 Maria Drive, Steven's Point, WI 54481.

The headquarters hotel is the

Country Inn and Suites: 301 N Division Street, Steven's Point, WI 54481.

This contest does not require a hotel stay, but if you want to see the quartet contest on Friday

or on Saturday night, it might be a good idea to have one. We are not handling hotel reservations as a group – so if you want to book reservations at any of the hotels, please visit the website at the link below. There are two other hotels in the area also recommended for the convention on this website.

<http://loldistrict.org/events/2014SpringConvention/2014springconvention.html>



"WHEN DO I NEED TO BE AT THE DIVISION CONTEST?"

Currently, the Chorus Contest is planned for 11am to 2pm on Saturday May 3rd, with Evaluations until 3:30pm. We will have a better idea of when we will get together, and our on-stage time once the Contest Draw occurs (early April).

My request is that all members plan to be in Steven's Point, available to sing from **9am to 4pm on May 3rd**. I will get clarification of time expectations once I know when we will sing.



"HOW MUCH WILL DIVISION CONTEST COST?"

Registration Tickets for the contest are as follows:

If you plan to only attend Friday Night Quartet and Saturday Daytime Chorus Contests, General Admission Tickets Are \$20 in person at the contest site. To get the \$15 price, you must preorder them on your own. Ask Gerry Feldman for details.

If you plan to be a part of all three contest sessions (Friday Evening, Saturday Daytime, Saturday Evening), you must purchase an All-Events Registration for \$50 at the contest site, or preorder thru **Gerry Feldman**. The extra expenses are due to it being an official Land 'O Lakes "District Contest" and therefore incurs other District Expenses other than just the contest.

“WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME IN ORDER TO COMPETE AT DIVISION?”

1-Attend 60% of Rehearsals (80% for Front Row)

Using the dates of February 1st to May 1st, which is 13 Monday Night rehearsals prior to contest. If you were in attendance for the **Rob Mance** Sunday session, you get extra credit. If you cannot make this number of rehearsals, please see **Justin Fermenich** or **Josh Umhoefer** to discuss.

2-Pass Vocal Evaluations

Everyone must pass vocal evaluations on both songs by April 10th - the last date to record is April 7th. We have 2 weeks left. We want to have everyone pass with enough time to place everyone in their official riser spot and work specifically on energy, emotion and our visuals for the last few weeks prior to contest. In order to do that, we need everyone attending, participating, and vocally passed by April 10th. If you need special accommodations, please see Justin Fermenich or Josh Umhoefer.

3-Pay Your Dues Ahead Of Time

Every member must be up to date on their dues when they step on the contest stage. If someone is on stage that is not paid up, the chorus could be disqualified from the contest. Please check with **Fred Graskamp** or **Derek Balke** if you don't know when your dues are due, or you have any questions about paying them. If you wish, you can also put them on auto-pay so they renew automatically, or on monthly pay - where they take 1/12th of your membership dues out each month, so it's not so surprising once per year (you must be paid up for a year before beginning this program, though).

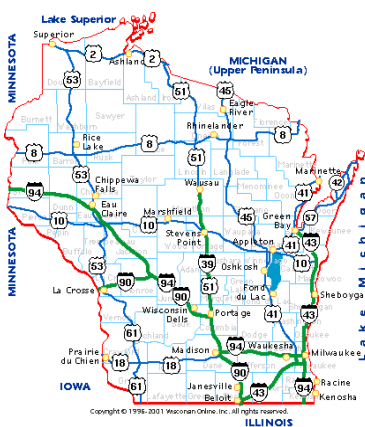
4-Purchase a Registration on the Day of the Contest

This is something to do on the weekend of the contest. If someone in the chorus does not do this, the chorus could be disqualified from the contest.

We want everyone to be a part of our Division Contest Performance, and we want it to be the best possible performance we can put out there.

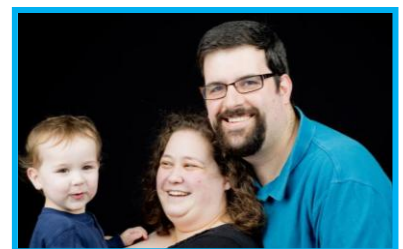
Thanks for your ongoing hard work and preparation.

- Josh

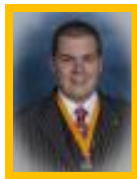


Gerry Feldman will collect money for registration on Monday March 31 and Monday April 3. Let him know if you have any other questions. Gerry Feldman's email is: unccmathtutor@gmail.com

Distance: 157 miles from Milwaukee, primarily take 41 through Fond du Lac and across on 10 to Stevens Point. Those who live farther west of Milwaukee likely would go to Madison on 94 and then north to Stevens Point.



Fuddrucker's Outing- Jake Umhoefer (Board Member at Large) is organizing several money making activities for the chorus. On **Wednesday, April 23** (most any time but primarily evening), chorus members and their friends who dine at Fuddrucker's and turn in certificates will earn 20% of their purchase as a rebate to the chorus in the first of several Dinner Club outings. Each transaction must have an event flyer, which will be available at rehearsals, or you may print from home via email from Jake or via Facebook. It is vital that the members and anyone they invite to participate bring the flyer so that the MVE will get our cut of the proceeds.



Bring friends and family to Fuddrucker's 16065 West Bluemound Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005, phone (262) 784-3833, which is just west of Brookfield Square Mall. For any questions, contact **Jake Umhoefer** (bbrshopper@yahoo.com) and watch for his emails as more events are already planned.

April 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 30	March 31 Kim Vaughn Coaching 7pm	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 MVE Practice 7pm or 6:30 tags	8	9 Board Meeting at 6:30	10	11	12
13 Thomas Jefferson's Birthday	14 MVE Practice 7pm or 6:30 tags Passover April 14-22	15 Tax Day	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter	21 MVE Practice 7pm or 6:30 tags	22 Earth Day	23 FUDDRUCKER'S 	24	25	26 Audubon Day
27	28 MVE Practice 7pm or 6:30 tags	29	30	http://www.barbershophq.com/13-signs-you-are-a-barbershopper/ "You must be a barbershopper if you attempt to blow a pitch on an oreo cookie."		