



# The MVEer Monthly

May, 2012

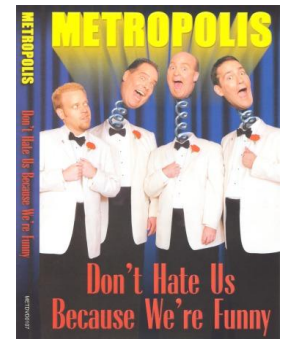
**Top events** are of course our **Spring Concert** – **THIS is the Moment** – on May 19 at 3PM at Greendale High School Auditorium, the **Afterglow** that evening at **7:30 PM** at Carl’s Catering, and go-go-go coaching with **Dwain Brobst** on May 6 (Sunday) at 5-8pm and Monday night following.



**Dwain Brobst** is coming up to coach us from Shreveport, LA. Dwain will turn up the energy as we get tuned up into excellent performance mode. Come and enjoy great coaching both **SUNDAY** May 6 (from 5-8pm) and **MONDAY** May 7.

**Just Ten Tickets:** Members are strongly encouraged to get 10 or more acquaintances to buy tickets

or buy some tickets yourself. If 50 members sell 10 tickets, that is 500 of the 800+ tickets available. Tickets are sold as general admission this time (in tiers) to the one show at 3PM. Let’s have SRO (Standing Room Only) for the **MVE** and **Metropolis** (<http://www.harmonize.com/metropolis/> )



**May 19 Afterglow:** Get your tickets to a fabulous afterglow at Carl’s Catering from **Scott Ganswindt**. For those who get their tickets in advance, the price is discounted at \$10. Those who wait to buy tickets at the door, the price is \$15. Carl’s Catering and Banquet Facilities is at **5110 W. Loomis Road** in Greendale. The Afterglow provides soda, beer, and lots of chips and things. The afterglow starts at an earlier hour than those in the past – it starts at **7:30 PM** so those who couldn’t stay up late to attend some of our past afterglows may find this one timed just right.

**Kudos to Ashley York’s quartet Rooftop Rhythm** that scored a perfecta (<http://rooftoprhythmqt.com/>) in the last two contests they entered.

1. On Saturday, March 31, Rooftop Rhythm won the **Chicago Regional of the Harmony Sweepstakes**. That means that on May 12, Rooftop Rhythm will travel to San Francisco, California to represent the Midwest in the **Harmony Sweepstakes National Finals!**

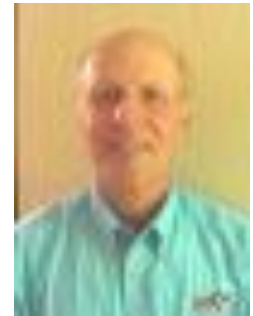


2. Then on April 14, Rooftop Rhythm also won the **Division One Contest** held in Greendale. Well done, Rooftop Rhythm, and go get 'em in California in May.

**Chorus Member Interviews:** An MVEer interview with the Novice Winners at Division One in April, **Jim Ansay** (lead) and **Gary Pratt** (bass), in the new quartet **Atonement**, along mentors **Mike Lietke** (tenor) and **Curt Struyk** (baritone).

**MVEer Asks:** Jim Ansay, as one of the winners of the Novice Quartet Trophy, please tell us about your musical background?

**Jim Answers:** My musical background began in Milwaukee when I sang with my grade school boy's choir, which was directed by James Keely, who was also the director of the Bel Canto Chorus. On one occasion, we performed with the **Bel Canto Chorus** in a performance which featured **Robert Merrill**, who was an outstanding opera baritone. I remember asking for and getting his autograph. I then continued singing with my high school mixed chorus as well as with the **Marquette University Chorus**. Singing was put on hold after college graduation. In the fall of 2010 I decided to look into area singing groups and found MVE on the Internet. I thought I would give it a try and came to a rehearsal. I've been hooked ever since.



**MVEer Asks:** Jim, as relatively new member of the Mighty MVE, tell us a bit about you.

**Jim Answers:** I was born and raised in Milwaukee and moved to Oconomowoc in 1976. Married to my wife Monica and have three married children and five grandchildren. I am "semi-retired." I am a CPA and prepare tax returns. I have a securities license and am a registered representative of PFS Investments Inc. I am also an investment adviser representative of **Primerica Advisors**. I play tennis 3-4 times a week and in the summer I enjoy bike riding.



**MVEer Asks:** Now Gary, please tell us about your musical background?

**Gary Answers:** My musical background started at a very young age in church when during hymns, I discovered when the notes went up on the page, the tone went higher. Way cool. At that age, it was by far the most interesting part of church! Then I participated in choirs in grade school through senior high school. After that, not much except for church choirs on and off, and singing **the Messiah** any year I could find the opportunity (most recently with the **Waukesha Choral Union** guest chorus).

**MVEer Asks:** Have you always lived in Milwaukee, Gary? Aside from singing, what are some of your interests?

**Gary Said:** I'm a native of Baraboo, finding my way to Milwaukee via Madison, San Francisco and Dallas. My other pastimes are aviation, home improvement projects, boating, and spending time with family. Food on the table is compliments of the **industrial controls division of GE**. I'm currently helping get all the new production lines running that GE Appliances is building in Louisville, Kentucky as part of their effort to bring jobs back to the U.S. It's been interesting to see the transition from what looked like the bowels of a Klingon battle cruiser to Margaritaville (complete with the huge ceiling fans). Before that I worked on a project to outfit gas turbine engines (aka, jet engines) with GE Controls. That assignment was complete with attending jet-engine training school. So, next time you need your jet engine repaired, just give me a call.

**MVEer Asks:** We will. Gary, what got you to compete in a quartet contest?

**Gary Answers:** Two things, I guess. The **Pushing to the Pins** program in the MVE meant that I could try out quarteting with some experienced mentors, **Mike Lietke** and **Curt Struyk**. Also, both Jim and I are members of **the Quartet Club**. Each time we meet, **Bo Gibson** or **Bill Kilbourne** get us to try out singing in small groups and quartets.

**MVEer Says:** Thanks, Gary and Jim. Congrats on your trophy and keep on quarteting.

May 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>April 29</b>	<b>April 30</b> Early Birds & Practice	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Dwain Brobst</b> , time 5 – 8 PM	<b>7</b> 7 – 10p Coaching w/ <b>Dwain Brobst</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>MVE Practice at 7 PM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 3:00 PM <b>SPRING CONCERT &amp; AFTERGLOW</b> at 7:30 PM
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>MVE Practice at 7 PM</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> - No practice 	<b>29</b> <b>MVE Practice at 7 PM</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>MVE To Dos:</b> (1) Have you sold 10 or more tickets to the Spring Concert? (2) Have you updated your attendance plan on Groupanizer?	