

## November Highlights – see the calendar at the end!

- (1) **Veteran's Day** Singout at the **Wave Game** on Sunday, November 11, 2012; Location - U.S. Cellular Arena, 400 W. Kilbourne Ave., Milwaukee. Call time - 1:45 pm. Game at 4PM. Signing *the National Anthem* and our *Armed Forces Medley*.



- (2) Master our performance of all of our Christmas songs for December 8.

**Land O' Lakes District Champions!** – a fun-filled convention and contest in Rochester, MN winning the event.



LO'L District President, MVE's own **Larry Lewis**, award the huge trophy to MVE Chapter President **Mike Lietke**, with Director **Josh Umhoefer** beams approval.

The MVE sang the haunting *Yesterday, I Heard the Rain* as our ballad, then shifted into an uptune 1930's street scene of gambling with dice and dancing shoe-shine guys in *Shine*. The chorus was asked to reprise its performance on the closing night after the top ten quartets competed with an added favorite, *Mary Did You Know?* *The many fine competing quartets wore their quartet clothes as you see in the full picture of the chorus singing the opening to Mary Did You Know.*



*Photos courtesy of Laura Bartkowiak, Bob Bartkowiak's daughter.*

## **An Interview with member Craig Schaefer**

**MVEer Asks:** Craig, you were a member of the MVE and then moved away. Now, you've returned and are a member again. What were you up to?

**Craig Replies:** Well, in the fall of 2007 I left Wisconsin to pursue my Masters in Architectural Acoustics at **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** in Troy, NY. While pursuing research at RPI I developed a custom scale model of a coupled-volume system along with a sophisticated high-resolution scanning system. These pioneering contributions made it possible for the first time in architectural acoustics community to visualize sound propagations in enclosures in low-frequency ranges by way of animations based on the experimentally scanned data. The work has been presented at the 159<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Baltimore, MD 2010 and the International Symposium on Room-Acoustics Melbourne, Australia 2010.

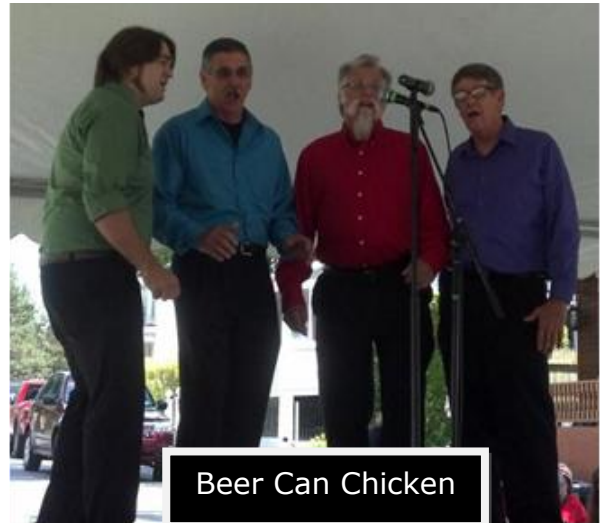
After graduation I worked for a large grocery retailer in the northeast called **Price Chopper** in their corporate office doing grocery store design and purchasing of non-resalable equipment. In my spare time I was still able to keep up with my barbershop hobby by singing with the Saratoga Springs, NY chapter the **Racing City Chorus** as well as traveling down on occasion to sing with the Manhattan Chapter, the **Big Apple Chorus**. I was also part of a quartet called **Beer Can Chicken** (photo next page), who took the **novice quartet championship** at the District level in 2011.

I also started working for myself on the side doing design/build on several residential projects in the Capital District of New York, including a two story 800 square foot home addition and the complete custom design and

build of a residential front porch addition. In whatever time was left over I would travel to different cities in the northeast especially down to Citi field in NYC every chance I could get to see our Brewers beat up on the New York Mets, and got into the classic car hobby with a 1987 IROC-Z Chevy Camaro.

**MVEer Asks:** Congrats on your quartet award and we'd love to see your Camaro, Craig. But, as a barbershopper in NY the last couple years, what things did your chorus do that we might learn from?

**Craig Replies:** The **Racing City Chorus** was actually one of the most active chapters in the society, meaning that we had a very large amount of sing-outs and activities in the community. Downtown **Saratoga Springs** was a great performing venue whether we were singing at the country's oldest horse racing track, participating in the area's numerous parades and local art festivals, or out in the town for an event we called **Barbershop on Broadway** where we frequented several restaurants and shops during the height of racing season in 6 weeks over the summer doing 7-8 short 15-20 min sets in a night to drum up interest for our shows and our hobby. All that exposure seemed to work very well for us, and often netted us other (paid) gigs from being an ever present force in the social community of the town.



**MVEer Asks:** You've been both a bass and a tenor. What do you like most about being a tenor?

**Craig Replies:** Both are very interesting parts, but I have a great appreciation for the uniqueness of the tenor part. I enjoy being the 'icing on the cake' and fitting my part into the other three to really fill out and complete that barbershop sound. It also challenges me as a singer, since that voice part is very different and takes a special set of skills and tone placement to be able to produce those high notes that very few can reach!

November 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 MVE Practice at 7pm	6 US Election	7	8	9	10
11 Singout at the Wave Game Call Time 1:45	12 MVE Practice at 7pm	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 MVE Practice at 7pm	20 MVE Board Meeting	21	22 	23	24
25	26 MVE Practice at 7pm	27	28	29	30	Proud to be MVE