



The MVEer Monthly

September, 2014

Interview with new member Michael Mularski

MVEer asks: Michael, everyone cheered after our coaching with Renée Porzel that you've passed your audition as a tenor. The MVE Board will shortly be voting you in as a new member at the next MVE Board Meeting. You are very fast to learn the new set. So, tell us about your musical background.

Michael replies: I really appreciated the welcoming cheer, thank you to everyone for that.

I studied Music Performance at **Millikin University** in Decatur, Illinois. I had been playing percussion since second grade so that was my principal instrument and I minored in voice. I was also a tenor with the **Milwaukee Symphony Chorus** for 3 years (but that was almost 10 years ago now).



Michael and Melissa

MVEer asks: Besides your singing, what are some of your interests or hobbies?

Michael replies: Anything that requires my hands. I do quite a bit of woodworking/cabinetry, but pretty much any of the trades. Golfing is something I usually enjoy (except in situations where my club goes farther than my ball). My wife and I love to take the kids camping and to theme parks. And when time permits, my wife and I love scuba diving.

MVEer asks: Please tell us a bit more about your family and where you work?

Michael replies: I finally married my "high school crush" 6 years ago. We reconnected after an 18 year hiatus (she dumped me back then because I was too skinny.....HA!) Together, we have 4 kids, 16, 14, 14, and 11. One of the kids was the lead in her school musical last year so I have hopes that she'll be joining this realm in the coming years!

I've been working in the solar industry for the last 6 years. For the last four of those years, I've sold over \$80 million in solar components and projects in the Midwest, so, besides music, I think I've found my calling.

MVEer says: And Michael, we think you have a calling with us in the Mighty MVE.

Renée Porzel with the MVE on August 18th: A Great Practice



Renée Porzel refined our choreography and inspired us with top-notch winning energy in our set, alternating from our ballad to the up-tune. Each phrase had a purpose, color, and a destination. Each gesture told a story. After we were leaving to get in our cars, **Bob Krantz** commented to others leaving that that was really a great practice. Yes it was.

Greendale Days Parade – Matt Nagel and Derek Balke



Sunday, August 10, a VLQ from the MVE met at 11am in the parking lot in Southridge Mall near Macy's to be lined up with Wagons of French Horn players, senior ladies marching with pompons, **Easy Days** on a Truck, and our VLQ. We alternated sides of the road to sing to clusters of people along the route. First we'd sing the "Come Go With Me," and then switched to "Hello Mary Lou." In front of our VLQ, two of Derek's children carried an MVE chorus banner and another of his kids handed out candy to bystanders and inviting them to our Guest Night. It was a perfect day for a 1.5 mile stroll through downtown Greendale.



Red Robin Fundraiser - Tuesday September 16 – Jake Umhoefer

Our last outing at *Jose's Blue Sombrero* was a huge success in August: MVE quartets sang and we enjoyed songs from special guest **Vintage Mix Quartet**.

Our next restaurant night is on **Tuesday, September 16**. This month's location is Red Robin (Greenfield) at 7575 W Edgerton Ave, Greenfield, WI - (414) 421-2257. It is located at the corner of Edgerton and 76th near Southridge Mall. We will get 10% of all sales back this time around. Please watch for the flyer attached to an email to come this week.



MVE to Sing the National Anthem at the Brewers – Scott Ganswindt,
Director of Social Activities

On **September 6** the MVE will again be taking the field for what has turned out to be an annual event for the chorus. The first place Milwaukee Brewers have again asked the **Midwest Vocal Express** to sing the National Anthem to open a Brewer's baseball game. The Brewers will be taking on the 2nd place, and rival, St. Louis Cardinals at 6:00. This will be the **14th consecutive year** that the Midwest Vocal Express will be filling the spacious confines of Miller Park with their exciting version of our nation's song. As many as 80 of our family and friends will be on hand to cheer us and the Brewers on. Hopefully you too can join us as we give the 40,000 plus fans that will be in attendance a moving and inspiring performance that is sure to change some lives.

Two Editor Notes: This night is designated **Pink Out Miller Park**. A press release from the Brewers said:

“To raise awareness and funding for breast cancer research and prevention, the Milwaukee Brewers, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and thousands of Brewers fans are joining forces for a placard display that will "Pink Out Miller Park." On Saturday, September 6, the Milwaukee Brewers will face the St. Louis Cardinals at Miller Park at 6:10 p.m. Each fan attending the game will have a specially-designed card affixed to their seat, and at the end of the **4th inning**, they will hold them up to form a giant image in the ballpark. The image (rendering attached) will turn the ballpark into a sea of pink and white, including ribbons that have become synonymous with efforts related to breast cancer research and awareness.”

http://milwaukee.brewers.mlb.com/news/article.jsp?ymd=20140814&content_id=89590564&vkey=pr_mil&c_id=mil

I told the Associate Dean of UWM's Lubar School of Business that the MVE was singing the National Anthem. She told me that tossing out the first pitch was on her bucket list. I passed that info on to the Chancellor, and at our game on September 6, Dean **Janice Miller** will throw out the first pitch. She has been to nearly all ball parks and has published research on management issues involving baseball teams.


So, first a pitch, the "Oh Say Can You See," and then Play Ball!



Rob Mance Returns for Coaching – September 14 & 15



Question: Why should Rob’s first kid be named *Myro*? She’d be Myro Mance. Rob is the director of **Central Standard** in Kansas City and working toward a doctorate in music. For private sessions for yourself or your quartet, talk with Josh Umhoefer.

September 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day, No Practice	2	3	4	5	6 National Anthem at Miller Park 5pm Brewers vs. Cardinals
7	8 7pm MVE practice	9	10 6:30 MVE Board Meeting	11	12	13
14 1pm Rob Mance	15 7pm Rob Mance	16 	17	18	19	20
21	22 7pm MVE practice	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 7pm MVE practice	30	What O.C. Cash forgot to tell us? 23. Advice to newly formed quartets; a pitchpipe makes an excellent medium-range weapon. http://www.harmonize.com/probe/BulletinEditors/BE-Fillers/moreoners.htm			

Founded March 29, 1989, the **Midwest Vocal Express** (MVE) male a cappella chorus specializes in “Storytelling through Song,” performing: Traditional barbershop favorites, Show tunes, Spirituals, and Popular music.