



# The MVEer Monthly

April, 2018

## April Calendar

- Monday, April 2 7:15pm MVE Rehearsal at St. Luke's Lutheran  
Friday, April 6 **6:00pm** call time at Port Washington High School for our **Acapocalypse** performance – see article below  
Monday, April 9 7:15pm MVE Rehearsal at St. Luke's Lutheran  
Monday, April 16 7:15pm MVE Rehearsal at St. Luke's Lutheran  
Monday, April 23 7:15pm MVE Rehearsal at St. Luke's Lutheran  
Tuesday, April 24 7:00pm MVE Board of Directors' Meeting at St. Luke's - Members and guests are always welcome.  
Monday, April 30 7:15pm MVE Rehearsal at St. Luke's Lutheran

**Acapocalypse** – Friday, April, 6, 2018 – show at 7pm, call time 6pm.

Acapocalypse is an *A Cappella Festival* held every other year, hosted by **Port Washington High School** and is Wisconsin's largest *A Cappella Festival*. It is a two-day event with the **Midwest Vocal Express, Limited Edition**, and **Vocalight** featured on Friday night. On Saturday, 24 middle school groups to high school groups will also show their stuff.

**Limited Edition** is Port Washington High's *a cappella* excellent 16 member group

**ACAPOCALYPSE**  
Featuring:  
Vocalight  
Limited Edition  
Midwest Vocal Express

April 6, 2018 7-9pm  
Port Washington High School Auditorium

Join us for Wisconsin's largest A Cappella festival, hosted by Port Washington High School's Limited Edition! This is a family-friendly event filled with fun! Tickets will be available at the door.

Tickets  
Children/Students: \$10  
Adults: \$15

that won their ICHSA district (in photo) and competed in the ICHSA March 10<sup>th</sup> DeKalb, Illinois Semi-Finals to try to get to the finals at Lincoln Center. **Limited Edition** went to nationals in 2016. The group **G-E-T Vocal Point** from Galesville, WI was the Midwest Semi-Finals Champion this year. For great photos on **Limited Edition** go to: <http://www.limitededitionacappella.com/>



**Vocalight** is a five-member group that recently headlined at *A Cappella University* and *Camp A Cappella*. They also opened for Grammy award-winning artist **Daya**, and won the Midwest Regional in the *A Cappella Open* making them one of the top 10 *a cappella* groups in the world.



They are working on their first album with both original music and covers. For more info click: <http://vocalight.com/>. Watch their "Rise Up" tune at their website and you will be most impressed.

The **MVE** were invited to appear on the inaugural *Acapocalypse Show* in Port Washington in 2016 and were greeted with cheers and ovations, sometimes in the middle of a song, by several hundred excited *a cappella* fans. They have invited us back, so don't miss performing on Friday evening, April 6, 2018. Bring a few guys to the show you think might just want to do what we are doing.

Port Washington High School is at **427 W. Jackson Street, Port Washington, WI**. It is about 27 miles from downtown Milwaukee to Port Washington H.S., or about 36 minutes. Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Port+Washington+High+School/@43.3903022,-87.8794134,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x8804ea210977e875:0x21a2b03ce9f6974!8m2!3d43.3902983!4d-87.8772247>

**Division (and Prelim) contest:** *We are hosts and the MVE must sing at the contest in order to be able to compete at District this year! We'll sing *Naughty Angelina* and *If I Can Dream*. More info coming on our new shirts and call time, but we know the stage at Franklin High School. It is where we did our Christmas Show.*

Place: **Franklin H.S. - Saber Center. May 4-5th.**

***Music History Corner:*** **Comedy Tonight** – Dick Marcus

There's *something familiar* about our new song. Most everyone has heard it before. The author of the witty lyrics is **Stephen Sondheim**, winner of 8 Tony Awards for his musicals. This one comes from his 1962 hit *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* starring **Zero Mostel**, who sings Comedy Tonight in the show. Listen to him sing it by clicking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfL-8-QB93Q>. This was sung on the Tony Awards in 1971.

What a perfect song for our **Soup du Jour Comedy Hour** for our Spring Show.

We already noticed a few of the ten-dollar words Sondheim used when **Mike Lietke** googled one of them during practice. Here are just a few of these fun words we get to sing: **Cupidity** – an inordinate desire for wealth,



possessions, or excessive sexual lust. **Portentous** – related to a

*portent*, a foreshadowing, hints of mystery of violence, or being excessive. **Panderers** – are

those who try hard to please others, not to help them but for an ulterior motive to get something. **Philanderers** - a man who readily or frequently enters into casual sexual relationships with women; a womanizer.

It isn't often we sing songs that can benefit by using a dictionary.



***Music History Corner:*** **Drive My Car** – Dick Marcus

*Drive My Car* is also a familiar song to those who grew up loving **The Beatles**. It was released in 1965 on the *Rubber Soul* album.

Mike, a new frequent guest at practice, asked me who was saying what? I said that the whole song is about sex. I



guess I'm not alone in this view of driving a car as being a euphemism. This is what Songfacts has to say <http://www.songfacts.com/detail.php?id=86> and reprinted below (slightly edited):



- Laden with sexual innuendo, this song is about a guy who meets an aspiring actress, who tells him he can "drive my car," as she has a keen interest in him, and might even be in love.

She keeps trying to lure him in ("*I can show you a better time*"), but when he finally agrees to take the job, she admits that she doesn't have a car, but still wants him to be her driver. It's pretty clear that all this driving talk is leading to sex, but there's no proof that it isn't just a song about a guy, a girl, and a car - making it another radio-friendly Beatles track.

- By this time, John Lennon and Paul McCartney were writing more songs separately, but this one was an equal collaboration, with Lennon writing most of the lyrics and McCartney coming up with the melody.

Originally, it was a very different song lyrically, with the chorus, "I can give you golden rings, I can give you anything, baby, I love you." Knowing that storyline would lead them nowhere good, they hashed it out until they came up with "Drive My Car" for the title and changed the song so it was the woman soliciting the man.

- Paul McCartney played bass, piano and lead guitar on this one; George Harrison played guitar and did backing vocals. John Lennon sang lead with McCartney.
- The "beep beep" refrain is a take-off on The Beatles own "yeah, yeah yeah" in "[She Loves You](#)" as well as a nod to **The Playmates** song "Beep Beep" (a #4 US novelty hit in 1958).

If you want this song to be about car driving, you certainly can do that. Just like if you want *Puff the Magic Dragon* to be about dragons, you may. But, for me, I think both are talking about something else indeed.



**Spring Show** <https://www.mve.org/spring-show-info> and click TICKETS.

**Oak Creek Community Center**  
**8580 S. Howell Ave.**  
**Oak Creek, WI 53154**

On **Friday, May 18** at the Oak Creek Community Center doors open at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm, and show at 7:30pm. Raffle for great gift baskets. Enjoy dinner, singing, and laughter.



Or come on **Sunday, May 20** at the same location with doors open at 3:30pm, dinner at 4pm, and show at 5pm. There are two great shows for you to enjoy. More great raffle baskets on Sunday.



### **Membership Drive** – Chapter President Derek Balke

I've been trying to get some numbers together. The way the numbers work out, about 1 out of every 4-5 guests join the chorus. That means, in order for us to get **20 new members** (or as **Bryan Ziegler** says, **20 more dudes**) this year, we will need 100 guests to visit our rehearsals. Does that seem like a daunting task? Not really... if we all just invite 3 people over the next year we will make our number!! We rehearse approximately 46 times a year; which means you only need to bring someone once every 14 rehearsals.



**Get out of your comfort zone.** You may think that you've asked all your friends, and don't want to approach people, but **you can do it!** Listen, I'm not the best at this, but even I walked up to a guy that

was whistling (VERY WELL) at the mall and gave him an MVE card. I didn't even talk to him, just gave him a wink! Did I give him a hard time and push him? Nope. *Will he come down?* No idea...but it gives me added confidence to do it again. **Try it!** Take some chorus business cards with you wherever you go.

## Some Unexpected Trios, Quartets, and Choruses

