

The **Diamond STATEment**



The Multiple Award Winning Newsletter of the Greater Little Rock Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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June 2003

Levon Michael Parker wins DSC scholarship



Levon Michal Parker

Levon Michael Parker, from Sylvan Hills High School, has been selected the winner of the 2003 Diamond State Chorus Vocal Music Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating music student from a central Arkansas High School. It is awarded annually based upon nominations by high school choral directors. This year's students competed among 16 seniors who are the cream of the crop of the 2003 high school graduates.

During high school Levon

(pronounced lee' vahn) has been a member of the All-Region and All-State Choirs as well as The Stage Fright Barbershop Quintet, A cappella Choir, Company One Concert Choir, and the Soundsation Show Choir. Levon was tapped for induction into the Tri-M Music Honor Society in 2003 and holds the Bass Torch award for best bass vocalist at Sylvan Hills High School. Levon is not afraid of an audience and has a flare for spontaneity. Levon's interests lie in both music performance and music

education. During his three years of experience with The Stage Fright Barbershop Quintet, Levon has performed at public functions, fundraising events, restaurants and private and corporate events.

Levon's high school choral director, **Elaine Harris** expressed appreciation of the fact that he has worked hard to develop excellent vocal & sight reading skills. He is also a strong leader and a mentor to

Scholarship (Continued on page 2)

Chapter Quartet Performs



Spur of the Moment, back row -Lamar Setliff, George Tribble and Richard Zelnick, and Michael Fess (seated), with soloist Ellen Neale. See article on page 3.

To my Dear Friends, The Diamond State Chorus;

Sheri and I extend our heartfelt gratitude towards those who came to our emotional and physical aid during the time of my Father's illness and subsequent death.

The food, cards, flowers, and phone calls mean so much more than words can tell and the great outpouring of love and compassion from my friends of the Diamond State Chorus. any "thank you" seems so very inadequate compared to

We especially thank Elwin and Pat Jones, Lou and Darlene Anderson, Pop and Bettye Francis, Art and Gloria Bohannon, Bud and Betty Holeman, Jim and Wanda Linsley, Bruce and Susan Dabbs, Matt Tatus, Dan and Joy Cook, Arthur and Nell Dercksen, Dean and Patricia Hage-meier, and the members and family of "Flashback", "Untouchables".

Thank you for all you do and especially for those sacrifices unseen by us, but seen and honored by God.

Yours in all thankfulness,

Don and Sheri Snow

New Member Installed

Matt Tatus, who first joined the Diamond State Chorus as a teenager several years ago when his family moved here from Lompoc, CA, was officially re-installed in May.

Matt is a fine Tenor and quartet singer who has already begun performing the polecat program at Lead. During his earlier membership, Matt and his brother Jonathan were our front row tap and soft shoe dancers.



Matthew Tatus

GUEST NIGHT

NAMES, NAMES, WE NEED NAMES

by **Bernie Powell**

Two weeks from today we'll have our 1st GUEST NIGHT of the year. Come on guys we need names of potential singers. Remember our guest night is June 16 just two days after our show. Please try to attend, come early, mix and sing with our guest and lets have a good time. Encourage our guest to become a part of our chorus and show them what fun we have.

Please don't wait until the last day to send in your names, because on about June 9 I will be mailing all of them a Guest Night Invitation.

Be sure you invite them, offer them a ride, call and remind them a couple of days before June 16. Offer them a free comp. Ticket to our show, you can get these from Elwin or Burt. Please don't wait till the last day.

Everyone please wear your BLUE SHIRT, KHAKI PANTS or SHORTS and your RED NAME BADGE so they'll know your a chorus member.

Call me with the names or e-mail is even better.

BERNIE POWELL,
7 BARBER COURT
MAUMELLE, AR. 72113
Phone # 851-7007
BANKROBER1@AOL.COM

Scholarship

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younger, less experienced students.

Levon is the son of Bonnie B. Parker of Jacksonville.

This year we are proud to announce the scholarship's underwriting by **Danny Gililand** and Sweet "P" Enterprises, Inc. a franchisee of Popeyes Chicken & Biscuits in the greater Little Rock area and Hot Springs. Danny has pledged an ongoing donation of \$2,000 each year to promote both this \$1,000 college scholarship program as well as our support of the Harmony Explosion Camp in Denton, Texas. Our objective is to send at least one quartet to the camp each year.

Recent Singing Guests



Jonathan Clark



Tim Albright

Spur of the Moment performs

A pickup quartet put together at the “*Spur of the Moment*” took that name when they performed at Little Rock Christian Academy on Highway 10 on May 9. **Michael Fess** had been contacted by **Sheri Swindler**, the chorus director of the school, asking if the DSC could provide a quartet to back up one of their very talented girl vocalists in singing the perpetual barber-shop favorite “*Lida Rose*”. He recruited three others who had sung the song before, **George Tribble** at bass, **Lamar Setliff** at Tenor and **Richard Zelnick** at Baritone. They surrounded Michael while he learned the lead part!

The girl singer was **Ellen Neale**, and she will no doubt be nominated for our next scholarship.

The program was a concert by the entire vocal music department of the LRCA, and we were very impressed with the performing skills demonstrated. One of my favorite songs was a duet with **Ellen Neale** and one of the 2003 scholarship nominees, **David Rainwater**. Another highlight was a boys chorus performance of “My girl”, complete with great singing and wonderful choreography. It was certainly one of the audience’s favorites.

In addition to *Lida Rose*, *Spur of the Moment* also sang “*Thank you dear Lord for Music.*” It was very well received, and based on audience members **comments**, a dozen or more of them will be at our show next week.

Year 2003 Leadership

Officers:

President	Larry Walton
Secretary	Bob Cox
Treasurer	George Tribble
VP Music	Elwin Jones
VP Devel/Mktg	Lou Anderson
VP Membership	Bernie Powell
Board	Bruce Dabbs
Past President	Tim Copeland

Music Team:

Music Director	Don Snow
Director Emeritus	Terry Mercing

Section Leaders:

Tenor Lead	Gary Hawkins
	Lynn Schatz
	Asst Mark Hotchkiss
Bari Bass	Steve Purdy
	Terry Mercing
	Asst Jim Linsley

Coaches

Lynn Schatz
Don Snow

Committee Chairmen:

Show	Elwin Jones
Div. Convention	Lou Anderson

New Member Audition

Coordinator	Terry Mercing
Qtet Activity Chair.	Lamar Setliff
Librarian	Todd Tucker
Uniform Manager	Bernie Powell
Performance Coord.	Tim Copeland
Music Team Internal	
Marketing Mgr	Mark Hotchkiss
Program Manager	Dan Cook
Greeter	Vic Moore

Chapter Counselor

Karl Krebs
George Tribble

(to assist other chapters in the area)
DSC Counselor **Tom Rush**

Bulletin Editor
Staff Photographers

George Tribble
Gary Hawkins
Richard Zelnick

Web Master

Richard Zelnick

Celebrations



Birthdays

Jun 7 Mark Carter

Anniversaries

Jun 4 Buffy & Richard Zelnick

Jun 5 Betty & Bud Holeman

Jun 5 Patricia & Dean Hagemeyer

Jun 5 Barbara & Marvin Blaes

Jun 9 Rebecca & Gary Schatz

Jun 10 Mary Lynn & Max Watkins

Jun 10 Susan & Bruce Dabbs

Jun 10 Margaret & Bob Harriell

Jun 11 Erma & Richard Ripley

Jun 18 Towanann & Lynn Schatz

Jun 26 Debbie & Andy Holt

Jun 28 Betty Jo & Ted DeWeese

Jun 29 Mary Lou & Paul Atkinson

Coming Events

Jun 7 Fun Fest in Hot Springs with Joe Liles

Jun 13-15 Harmony Ranch in Denton, TX

Jun 14 Annual Show with **Gas House Gang**

June 21 Fess Fest family pot luck social in Fern Crest in western Little Rock area. Like the old Witter Bash but closer to home.

Jun 29-Jul 6 International Convention at Montreal

Aug 8 Top of the Rock Show, featuring Sterling and the Diamond State Chorus

Aug 9 Hot Springs Chapter annual show

Aug 23 Coaching with Dwayne Brobst

Sep 16-20 Sweet Adelines International Convention, Phoenix

Sep 20 Coaching with Dwayne Brobst

Oct 11 **Greater Fort Smith Chapter Show** at Alma Performing Arts Center

Oct 12, Sunday, 2:00 PM Spring Hill Entertainment Association Cherokee Village, Arkansas Paid Performance Paid Travel Expenses, Full Tux

The Diamond State Chorus meets every Monday from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., at the Pleasant Valley Church of Christ, 10900 Rodney Parham Road, Little Rock Arkansas. Guests are always welcome. Call 791-SING (7464) WWW.arkdsc.org

Family Social Scheduled

by **Michael Don Fess**

Plan your fun family outing for June 21st and a rare opportunity to enjoy the spectacular 70 acre estate of Wayne and Paulette Richie, developers of the 450 acre Ferncrest Estates. The 12,000 square foot log cabin sits on a ridge overlooking a large portion of central Arkansas and on a clear day, with binoculars, he can see the observation tower in Hot Springs.

The outing will be pot-luck with each chorus member bring a food dish or

drinks. **Darlene (Mrs. Lou) Anderson** has offered to coordinate the food selection, so please contact her with your wife's specialty or preference. The event is scheduled from 11:00 to 3:30 on that Saturday and will offer chorus members time to get better acquainted with each other's families. (as opposed to rehearsal nights and performances)

We can do some fun singing from any one of several balconies, learn more about the people we have been singing with, and see a log cabin built with huge logs from the northeast U.

S. With a little luck, we will have some surprise entertainment.

About our hosts: The Richie's support our chorus with full page program ads, are personal friends of **Michael and Sue Fess**, and now own the Coldwell Banker franchise for central Arkansas with offices in Little Rock, North Little Rock, Conway, and Cabot.

Important note: The estate facilities including the multi-level decks and swimming pool are NOT child-proofed. We should limit family members to youths over twelve years of age to be prudent.