

The **Diamond STATEment**



The Multiple Award Winning Newsletter of the  
Greater Little Rock Chapter of the  
Barbershop Harmony Society

Volume 50, Issue 8

August 2004

## The Great Cookout

**Tim and Paula Copeland** graciously provided their home near Greenbrier for a Chapter family cookout and social, and it was a lot of fun despite the rain and killer wasp.



**Hostess Paula Copeland**

**Lou Anderson** arrived early and began cooking hot dogs and hamburgers and he had them ready for the first rush of hungry eaters at around 6:00. A table was laden with fixin's, including lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles, baked beans, potato salad and macaroni salad. Drinks and plates were provided by members and the chapter, and homemade ice cream was made and brought by **Bruce Dabbs** and **Elwin Jones**. Everything was delicious.

*See Cookout (Continued on page 2)*



**Host Tim Copeland** shown holding a piece of cheese

## Annual family social and novice quartet championship slated

by **Lamar Setliff**

The greatest informal social event in the fifty year history of the Greater Little Rock Chapter will occur on Saturday, August 28, 2004. On that date, some of the best cooks in the history of the world will present their offerings to the rest of the assemblage for an outstanding potluck dinner.

But first, several novice quartets will compete in the next annual competition. They will be formed from the chapter, utilizing no more than two singers from any of the currently registered quartets, and will sing the official version of a polecat song. **Lamar Setliff** is coordinating the event with **Bill Ragan** handling the food service (he is not cooking it, he is keeping track of who will bring what to be sure we have plenty of a vast variety of food). Knowledgeable judges have been hired for the event, but because their remuneration is so meager, they will expect to be bribed, flattered, and/or intimidated so as to influence their selections. Awards will be presented to the best in the polecat category and the comedy division. The emcee for the event will be the irrepressible **George Tribble**, who has a few new jokes to supplement the re-use of many that did not get an adequate response last year.

There is a sign-up display at rehearsal. Please get with three others and form a quartet. Don't miss this event!

**Cookout**

*(Continued from page 1)*

About 40-50 singers, spouses, other family members and a few friends participated, filled their respective bellies with excellent food, got to know each other better with sparkling conversations, and, of course, sang for an hour or two. **Paul Moore** even reprised his rendition of "**Bill Grogan's Goat**" that we have not heard for a few years now.



**Lou Anderson**  
(artist's rendering)

It did rain for about 10 minutes on Tim's enormous patio, and it seemed to be only on his patio; the sun was shining all around us at the time. A little later, a killer wasp appeared at one corner of the patio, dragging the corpse or stunned body of a rather large spider he was taking home for his dinner (see photo on page 4).

If you weren't there, you missed a great time.



**Lou Anderson** cooked the meals and then had to clean up the grills.

## Barbershop's Newest PR

by **Michael Fess**



If you think the name change (Barbershop Harmony Society) was the best PR move, you didn't see our nine year-olds in action at rehearsal last Monday night.

The international champions of Duet Jazz Dance Combinations in the 9 to 12 year old category made an appearance with a routine choreographed to the Gas House Gang's recording of William Tell Overture. (Lone Ranger Theme) **Christina Repaal**, **Lou Anderson's** granddaughter and her dance partner, **Victoria Carroll**, received a standing ovation from the appreciative chorus members.

These girls have danced competitively for 6 years and they are both 9 years old. They won the city dance revue in April held at the North Little Rock. Then they went to The Nationals in Hot Springs (which is the equivalent of our District) and finally the Super Nationals (the equiv. of our Internationals) in Dallas two weeks ago.

Lou's wife, **Darlene** did the costumes from scratch, and always received 100% score for the uniqueness in that category as well (Costumes are 17% of the total overall scoring). These girls have received top honors everywhere they danced, sometimes with thousands in the audience.

## Tribble named Chapter Historian



**George Tribble**, left, shown receiving the Bulletin Editor of the Year Award for 2002 from **Grady Kerr** at the 2003 Division Convention. File photo by **Richard Zelnick**.

At the board meeting on July 12, 2004, **George Tribble** was officially designated the Historian for the Greater Little Rock Chapter. George was a logical choice for the position, having served as editor of the multiple award winning *DiamondSTATEment* for the last decade and being a disciple of the great **Grady Kerr**, the long time editor of the Southwest Roundup and the SW District historian. George volunteered for the job to avoid being asked to work in some other capacity. Previously, at the request of then-chapter president **Jim Berkau**, George wrote a two page history of the chapter back in 1995 that was included in a book of chapter histories edited by the afore mentioned **Grady Kerr**.

George is searching for documents, plaques, tid-bits, memorabilia, and any other euphemisms you can think of to put in the archives. Already, **Rip Ripley** and **Burt Wilkerson** have provided show programs and **Jim Linsley** is working on a plethora of stuff to put in an archival copy of a DVD. More is needed.

If you, or anyone you know, has stuff that would be appropriate for documenting the chapter's history, please bring it. Ask you friends for stuff, assuming

## SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

- **Music and Performance:** **Elwin Jones** announced that **David Stafford** has resigned as Vice President for Music and Performance. David has too much work going on, with work related travel, etc. Elwin would like to appoint **Terry Mercing** in that job.
- **Elwin Jones** said that he is still looking for a Program Vice President. **Michael Fess** is doing the job on a non-board member basis. Elwin has talked to two people, but has no one selected as yet.
- **Larry Walton** said that he has started work on selecting members of next year's board of directors. The first announcement is scheduled for August 30, 2004, with the election set for September 13, 2004.
- **Elwin Jones** started a discussion of the chorus calendar. He has Terry Mercing looking into getting Robinson Auditorium for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary show. It looks like we can get it for no cost except paying the stage workers. There is a possibility of getting the quartet **FRED** for the show. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will involve representatives from the Southwestern District and Kenosha. The theme will be "Golden Anniversary". **Don Snow** is looking into the music for the show. They want to schedule it for late April/early May and involve Top of the Rock and some school groups. The actual anniversary is May 17, 2004.
- **Paul Moore** moved that the chorus compete in the District Convention in Dallas in October and register immediately.
- The Northeast Division convention next spring will be held jointly with the Southeast Division in Shreveport, La. On April 1 and 2, 2005. *The Vocal Majority* will be there competing.

**R.C. Cox**, Chapter Secretary

you have friends with a barbershop background. We are particularly interested in show programs prior to 1996, chorus pictures with the inhabitants identified, and newspaper articles about the chapter and/or its members. Any and all contributions will be gratefully accepted.

## Greater Little Rock Chapter now in 50th Year!



A once in a lifetime celebration is fast approaching. The Greater Little Rock Chapter will celebrate its 50th anniversary on May 17, 2005, and we want to make it a huge celebration. Plans are underway for several occasions to culminate in a Golden annual show in April or May. This

secret in the community. We should create new ways of presenting the chorus and the chapter and restore us to “the cutting edge” of barbershop music.

should be a watershed year for the Chapter when we shed some of the shackles that have constrained us in the past, and kept us a big

## Beohld The phaomneil pweor of the hmuan mnid.

Al ANDerson, Fergus Falls, MN

For all you nit-pickin' proofreaders out there, consider this! It really duzint mater how u spellut, the message may come thru innyhou!

Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are. The olny iprmtoentn tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a total mses, and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm.

Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig!

BTW, Don't even think of using Spell Checker on this message!



### Birthdays:

- 8/09 Don Jordahl (75)
- 8/16 Mark Byington
- 8/18 bob Harriell (85)
- 8/23 Floyd Stringer
- 8/29 Dick Muse
- 9/01 Larry Boston
- 9/02 Dick Ahern

### Anniversaries:

- 8/04 Carolyn & Lamar Setliff
- 8/11 Crystal & Jack Larsen
- 8/11 Barbara & George Tribble
- 8/15 Joy & Dan Cook
- 8/20 Diane & Bob Cox
- 8/20 Yvonne & Edwin Frazier
- 8/21 Margaret & Bob Harriell
- 8/23 Nell & Arthur Dercksen
- 8/25 Janet & Dick Muse
- 8/30 Vicki & Jim Morris

### Unknown Anniversaries—please tell the publisher the dates

- Barbara & David Stafford
- Sheri & Don Snow
- Jeanette & Dick Ahern
- Michelle & Ernie Zelnick
- Sue & Michael Fess
- Charlen & Carl Cullum



Killer wasp shown dragging his supper across Paula and Tim's patio.

# Director's Directives

by **Don Snow**

# Presidential Pronouncements

by **Elwin Jones**

Coming Events

Aug 7 Top of the Rock Casino Night

Aug 28 (Saturday) Annual Pot Luck Family Social and Novice Quartet Competition. Probably at Pleasant Valley Church of Christ.

Aug 30 Guest Night

Sep 6 Labor Day. No rehearsal scheduled.

Oct 22-24 SWD District Convention and Contest in Richardson, TX

Nov 19-21 COTS (Officer Training) at DFW Lakes Hilton, Grapevine, Texas

Dec 11 Top of the Rock Casino Night

Dec 13 Annual Installation and Awards Banquet

Mar. 5, 2005 50th Anniversary of first meeting to start the Greater Little Rock Chapter.

Mar. 17, 2005 (Thursday evening) Paid performance at the Woodlands in Hot Springs Village

May 17, 2005 50th Anniversary of the Greater Little Rock Chapter.

Apr/May 2005 Annual Show—Make it a big event! Time and place to be determined

Oct. 21-23, 2005 SW District Convention – San Antonio

Mar. 2006 NE Division Convention and Competition in Little Rock

Oct 20-22, 2006 SW District Convention – Corpus Christi

Oct 2007 SW District Convention - Corpus Christi

Oct 2008/09 Possible bid for SW District Convention in Little Rock

Year 2004 Leadership

Board Members:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes President (Elwin Jones), Secretary (Bob Cox), Treasurer (Rip Ripley), VP Music (Terry Mercing), VP Devel/Mktg (Burt Wilkerson), VP Membership (Paul Moore), VP Program (Karl Krebs), Board (Lou Anderson), Past President (Larry Walton).

Music Team:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes Music Director (Don Snow), Associate Director (Steve Purdy), Director Emeritus (Terry Mercing).

Section Leaders:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes Tenor Lead (Gary Hawkins), Lead (David Stafford), Asst (Mark Hotchkiss), Bari (Steve Purdy), Bass (Terry Mercing), Asst (Jim Linsley), Audition Coordinator (Terry Mercing), Librarian (Todd Tucker).

Committee Chairmen:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes Show (Max Watkins), Scholarship (Jim Linsley), Valentines (Tim Copeland), Quartet Activities (Lamar Setliff).

Special Assignments:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes Performance Coord. (Lou Anderson), Uniform Manager (George Tribble), Bulletin Editor (George Tribble), Chapter Historian (Richard Zelnick), Web Master (Gary Hawkins), Staff Photographers (Richard Zelnick).

District/Society Officers:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes Intl. Membership (Terry Mercing), SWD VP Events (Lou Anderson), Chapter Counselors (Karl Krebs, George Tribble).

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes DSC Counselor (Tom Rush).