Spring convention 2012 — Something old, something new
by Craig Rigg

Illinois District Conventions are in transition. There’s no other way to put it. A couple of years ago, the district began to phase out of the Peoria central location theme that had guided us for nearly three decades.

Last fall, the district moved to Bloomington and dealt with the issue of a contest site several miles away from the convention headquarters. This spring, we were back in Peoria — sort of. Headquarters hotel was the Four Points Sheraton Hotel (previously known as the Holiday Inn back when we first moved conventions to the Peoria site), but the performance venue was over 10 miles away in Washington, Ill., at the Five Points Convention Center (what’s up with all these “points”?).

Never fear because next fall we’ll be in Springfield at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center with lots of hotels right nearby. And next spring we’ll be in … uh … Sorry, we haven’t got a contest venue or a headquarters hotel selected yet. (That loud scream you hear is Will Thorndike, Convention Planning chairman, freaking out.)

Starting Point

But what about the spring convention this time, one of the earliest in the year we’ve had? First, the hotel. Old-timers must have had moments of deja-vu when entering the atrium lobby of the hotel that for years had been our anchor. Some parts were spruced up, but the familiar salons and meeting rooms hadn’t changed much. Working with the hotel was a little less smooth than in past years when they rolled out the carpet for us with themed President’s Receptions, dance bands, guest quartets (at hotel's expense), and FOOD! Sigh! ‘Tain’t no more.

The convention weekend kicked off with the House of Delegates meeting, which did manage to assemble a quorum. (A more extensive report follows). Then we were off to Washington and to the quartet semi-finals. The Five Points facility is a joint venture convention center with the City of Washington, the school district, and some big businesses in the local area (think big yellow bulldozers). While smaller than the Peoria Civic Center Auditorium, the configuration was reminiscent with no center aisle. While we’re not sure
what the competitors thought of the setup, from the audience’s perspective, the facility was great.

Only fifteen quartets signed up to compete, and two of those were from out of district. The quartets were vying for the right to earn 1824 points — the magic number that sends a quartet off to international competition. Given the low number of quartets, just about everybody qualified to sing the next night.

**President’s Reception**

After the announcement of the singing order, conventioneers scrambled out of the tiny metropolis and motored back to downtown Peoria for the President’s Reception in Salon A. In the past, the reception took up the entire downstairs ballroom, but this time we had only one half of one segment reserved. Six tables were available for 48 people. More people ended up standing along the walls than sitting at tables. Sadly to say, the hotel security personnel even discouraged random quartet singing after the reception.

Six quartets entertained the packed room, with Ryan Killeen (Harmony Foundation representative) serving as Master of Ceremonies. The parade of quartets began with Springfield and St. Charles, Mo., **True Blue**, followed by **Ringtime** from Coles County and Bloomington. Then came a host of district champions: **Waldorf Hair Company, Rush Street, Expedition** (from Land o’ Lakes District) and **After Hours**. Not too shabby! Even the crowded room lent a certain joyous intimacy that sometimes gets lost in big ballrooms and lots of empty tables.

**B-flat/SMAG Fest**

Saturday morning was busy, to say the least. Once again, Tom Woodall orchestrated a half hour of B-flat singing, complete with a countdown clock. Blow-ups of popular Barberpole Cat songs festooned the walls in, once again, Salon A. At first, it’s sort of hard to focus on a particular song, but since all the songs are in B-flat, the only distraction is the overlap of lyrics. After awhile, you get used to singing to the wall and to your little group.

Immediately after the B-flat singing, Doug Ferrier took the podium to begin the Saturday Morning Anything Goes (SMAG) Fest. Only six groups signed up, almost all of them forming on the spot. Probably the one group that came with a plan was formed by Wiley Zabel. He had prepared a parody of “When You Wore a Tulip” that was acted out by Doug Smith and his wife while Wiley read the lyrics. A more musical presentation was offered by eventual winner **Stacy and...**
the Pips. Stacy sang Meredith Willson’s counterpoint “Dream” to her Pips’ “Lida Rose.” Members of the winning group were Stacy St. Louis, soloist (Chris’ mom); Chris St. Louis, bass (Kankakee/Bloomington); Doug Ferrier, lead (Bloomington); Robin Meredith, bari (Peoria); and Bryan Johnsrud, tenor (Springfield).

**Chorus Contest**

With a quick wrap-up and medals presentation, conventioneers scuttled back to Washington for the afternoon chorus contest. A Joe Barbershopper mike-tester chorus, directed by Duane Fenn, warmed up the crowd. Several highlights of the afternoon was a snappy second place finish (the highest in their 41-year history, according to Tom Woodall, not to mention their highest scores). The chorus performed a military set in khakis and impressed everyone with their precision (thanks to Rich Hansen) and singing.

Rockford Metro’s Second City Chorus delighted the crowd with a reprise of their “deer-in-the-headlights” routines from last fall. With clever costuming, clever staging, and even more clever parody lyrics, the chorus was thoroughly entertaining.

Bloomington No. 1 Sound of Illinois Chorus finished up with the top score, almost breaking 80 points. Right now, the chorus is deep into preparation for a trip to Portland to represent the district.

**Quartet Finals**

Once again, most barbershoppers motored back to Peoria for some late afternoon events, including a mass sing, and a quick bite to eat. Then, back to Washington for the evening quartet finals to select our quartet representative to Portland. But before the regular contest began, the Illinois District High School Quartet and Ensemble Competition was held with The Sharp Set from Huntley High School taking the honors. Expectations were high for After
After Hours — 1966 points (81.9 avg.)

Rush Street — 1802 points (75.1 avg.)

Waldorf Hair Company — 1722 points (71.8 avg.)

Ringtime — 1662 points (69.3 avg.)

the Connection — 1609 points (67.0 avg.)
Hours to repeat as “winners” and to earn the right to represent the district at international. However, two other out-of-district quartets — Full Effect from St. Charles, Mo. (Central States), with former Champaign member and district champion Andy Isbell singing bass, and Expedition from Land o’ Lakes and Central States — wanted to have their say and break the barrier. Expedition easily made the cut, but Full Effect missed by only four points.

However, the enigmatic legend on the official score sheet (available at the district website) that says “Score reductions of 5 points or greater by one or more judges were applied for violations of C&J Rules and / or specific Category Description penalties,” raises a question. Which quartet(s) was penalized for this infraction? Midtown Sound had their second song in the finals — “I’m Feeling Fine” — disqualified because of religious lyrics. But nothing on the score sheet seems to indicate who got the five point dinger. If it were Full Effect, then might there be grounds for appeal, if not explanation? Only four little points between going home and going on!

After Hours didn’t disappoint and ended up scoring 1966 points. This, as of
the last posting from the Society’s website puts them in 11th place in the quartet standings, with a few other district contests still to go. How this foursome manages to sharpen their skills so well is a mystery given that two of them are deeply immersed in graduate school choral directing programs. Probably talent.

To finish up the evening, you guessed it — back to Peoria for a joint Chorditorium/Chiefs of Staff hospitality room to showcase any and all singers.

Next fall — Sept. 28-30 — we’ll head to the state capital for a first-time convention at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center. One hopes that all events will be held within the same confines, but even if we have to do some moving around, the freshness of a new location should prove stimulating. Not to mention the crowning of a new district quartet champion and the battle for chorus supremacy in the Illinois District.

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The Twenty-First QCA Music Man Award is hereby presented to

**Floyd Connett**

to recognize his unmatched and unending impact on barbershop singers wherever they may gather as members of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The Illinois District Quarter Champions Association has established the Music Man Award to be presented to the member, past or present, who has contributed most significantly to the advancement of barbershop quartets in The Barbershop Harmony Society.

Floyd Connett, a barber by trade, had a wide impact on barbershop singing as it developed in the Illinois District and the entire Society. His contributions before dying of a heart attack at age 48 (in 1968) position him as the man whose impact on barbershopping worldwide is arguably greater than any Illinois District member in history. And these contributions continue to impact members today.

A protege of John Hansen, director of many Central Illinois chapters in the 1940s, Floyd began as a Sweet Adelines director in Peoria in 1948. He joined Bloomington's barbershop chapter in 1953 and led it to third place in international competition in 1957. That was the year the fourth year that choir was composed, and his talent was recognized by Society leaders at that Los Angeles convention. He was hired as the Society's first full-time fall and began traveling the country by car, visiting hundreds of chapters and thousands of members to share his musical and leadership knowledge. In 1961, Floyd became national education director of Sweet Adelines International.

A prolific arranger, Floyd is the only Society member to be certified in all judging categories (there were five at the time). He was editor of "Just Plain Barbershop," a collection of arrangements — ten are his — that remains the most widely used music publication in Society history. He also developed the inverted row concept, which defines the proper relationship of the four parts that produces the strongest overtones. The principle is still valid today.

Although Floyd never sang in a competing quartet, he not only understood the barbershop style, he also knew how to teach it and coach it. In the mid-1940s, the Buffalo Bills were selected to appear in Meredith Willson's "The Music Man," Floyd coached the 1950 champs during preparations for the Broadway production.

Society members continue to benefit from his contributions today. Recognizing these facts, the Barbershop Harmony Society inducted Floyd into its first class of Hall of Fame members in 2004.

The QCA is extremely proud to acknowledge him as the 2012 Music Man winner.
As Illinois District President, it is my pleasure to be able to present the ABE award for 2011. I hope you have taken the opportunity to stop by the trophy display at the Convention Registration area to view other giants in Illinois District barbershop who have been bestowed this prestigious award. 

The ABE — Award for Barbershop Excellence — is the highest award that can be given to an Illinois District Barbershopper, the equivalent of the Hall of Fame. The four gentlemen that were nominated for 2011 are Terry Ludwig, Tim Woodall, Doug Brooks, and Mark Betczyński.

During his 35-year membership in the Society, our 2011 ABE has contributed to the joy of barbershop singing and improving our craft by being actively involved in a variety of areas. He currently serves his chorus as assistant director, and has sung in at least six different Illinois District quartet combinations. His mastery of multiple voice parts has enabled him to become a formidable and enthusiastic tag teacher.

His musical insights and passion led him to enter the judging program. He successfully completed his three-year candidate term and now serves the Society as a certified Singing Judge, and, by extension, an ambassador for the Illinois District.

Our ABE has recently accepted a position within the Illinois District as Vice President of Chorus Director Development, traveling the district to build the skills of aspiring directors. He has even recruited his own chapter to act as a practice chorus (i.e., guinea pigs) for prospective directors in future weekend clinics. He has coached many choruses and quartets to competition success, including out-of-district groups who have sought out his services.

Since beginning his barbershopping career at age 12, our recipient has demonstrated unflagging enthusiasm for our hobby, and readily lends his talents and abilities to promote Barbershopping excellence in this and other districts. The 2011 ABE is proudly presented to Tim Woodall.

Here is a composite of other awards that were presented:

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House of Delegates meeting — March 30, 2012

Highlights from the meeting:

Gary Parker, Society Board Member at Large and bass of international quartet champions Dealer’s Choice addressed the following issues:

- membership decline and of the newly re-instituted Harold Hill recruiting program
- Harmony University plans
- Harmony Explosion and Youth in Harmony programs
- chapter visitations and an eventual report that will be forthcoming
- the status of the CEO search

Because Greg Caetano has had to relocate to the Houston area, he will be resigning his position on the governance board.

Will Thorndike spoke of the difficulties with staging the spring convention — from the sudden closing of perennial headquarters hotel Pere Marquette to problems with the substitute headquarters hotel. He also pled for assistance is locating a contest and convention venue for Spring 2013 and for assistance by local chapters to handle local chores.

Ryan Killeen, Harmony Foundation Major Gifts Director, urged barbershoppers to support the work done by Harmony Foundation to promote our avocation. He then presented rebate checks to various chapters for their contributions and support.

Bob Squires conducted a brief memorial service for the following barbershoppers:

Edward Lindsey (Northbrook)
James Miller (Sterling-Rock Falls)
Paul Karraker (Coles County)
Bill McKeown (DuPage Valley)

President Mike Bagby was looking into the possibility of webcasting district contests. Several other districts are already doing this, as is the Sweet Adelines.

A motion was made to open the Fall 2012 chorus contest to all eligible district choruses until such time as the number of entries gets too large to require a preliminary contest. All choruses receiving an average score of 70 and above would receive a bye and not be required to enter the following spring chorus competition. All choruses scoring 41 points or higher in the spring contest would be eligible to compete in the fall.

The above motion is not the exact wording, and much discussion ensued to work out the precise phrasing. Eventually, the motion and its revisions met the satisfaction of the delegates and passed by unanimous voice vote.
Convention Restructure Committee Appointed
by Mike Bagby, Illinois District President
mbbagby@comcast.net

As we discussed before and during the House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Peoria 10 days ago, a five-man committee has been appointed to study and make recommendations regarding possible restructuring of our conventions to be voted on at the HOD meeting this September in Springfield. The committee includes representatives from small, medium and large choruses, Chapter and District leaders, dedicated barbershoppers and quartet men.

Jeff Bowyer, Chairman - Illinois District Executive Vice President, Coles County Barbershop Chorus Manager, Ringtime Quartet; Brett Mulford - Bloomington Sound of Illinois Chorus President, The Committee Quartet; Syl Wetle - Lake County Brotherhood of Harmony Chorus Vice President Music & Performance, Past Illinois District President; Jim Jarosz - Chicago Metro Chorus Vice President Music & Performance & Youth In Harmony Coordinator, DuPage Valley Chorus of DuPage member, West Towns Chicagoland West Suburban Chorus member, Jukebox Quartet, Fermata De Aria Quartet; Carl Mis- sele- Elgin Fox Valley Men of Harmony Chorus Vice President Music & Performance, QCA Representative.

Our recent convention was very successful, and the goal of this committee is to build on that success. It is our desire to meet the needs of all Illinois District Barbershoppers and to increase convention attendance. To that end, we need your input. If you were at a recent convention, what did you enjoy, and what do you wish we had done that we didn't?

If you haven't been to a convention recently, you have really missed a HAPPENING. I think this note from Paul Ellinger, Pioneer District Membership Vice President, who presented a seminar on "Supercharging your Chapter" gives you an idea of how much fun we all had and why we are looking forward to the next convention. Paul has recently visited several district conventions and had these observations on how the Illinois District stacks up against other district conventions across the country. Paul writes:

"I just wanted to write a quick note to say thank you to the Illinois District for inviting me to be a part of the great weekend in Peoria. When my first experience in Illinois started off with people in my session showing that they “got it” like nowhere else I've been, I knew I was in for something special, and I was right. With outreaches such as the Saturday Morning Anything Goes (SMAG) contest, the open-to-all President's reception, the high school quartet competition, the well run Chorditorium and much more, it is clear that Illinois is a well-run district that is injecting even more fun and camaraderie to go along with all the great singing taking place at every turn which continues to draw even more people to what I would not call a convention, but an EVENT! As I go around the country to different districts, I take notes on great ideas in order to share with others. Let me just say, I took a lot of notes this weekend and have already shared some of the ideas with other Districts. As I talked with you, other District board members and with many other district members not in official positions, I continued to get the sense that Illinois is going places.”

The convention this September in Springfield, just around the corner from the Lincoln Library and Museum, promises to be one of our best ever, and a family experience not to be missed. These are YOUR conventions. Please take advantage of this opportunity to let your voice be heard, whether you are a member of your chorus leadership team, a member of the Frank Thorne Chapter or Joe Barbershopper.
July 1 - 8, 2012
74th Annual International Convention & Contest

Gorgeous Portland Attractions!
Fun for the whole family!

Unforgettable Performances!
From world-class quartets and choruses!

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Online www.barbershop.org/portland or call (800)595-4849
Barbershopping for the Illinois Music Educators

For the past several years, Terry and Michelle Adams have been performing a service for the Illinois District and for the barbershop style by managing an “a cappella harmony” booth at the Illinois Music Educators Association annual convention. Last January, Michelle, representing the Sweet Adelines, and Terry, representing the Barbershop Harmony Society, assembled a panoply of photos and materials designed to attract any singer.

Terry indicated that this year’s convention display attracted a number of former high school and college singers who are now music educators themselves. They’ve come to appreciate the quality of materials made available and to keep posted on the numerous Youth in Harmony festivals that take place in the fall here in Illinois.

2011 District Quartet Champions Waldorf Hair Company made an appearance. One of their moments was video captured and ended up, where else, on Facebook. It features a young man named Connor posting a note while the quartet sang a tag around him. Connor is the grandson of tenor Terry Ludwig’s high school choir director.

Attending an IMEA event is not user friendly for non-music educators, but if you’re in Peoria on the Saturday of its convention week, stop by the vendors display area at 11:00 (the only time the public is allowed to attend) and wind your way through the cacophonous hall toward the food court. That’s where you’ll most likely see Michelle and Terry spreading the word and offering visitors the chance to see what we are passing along to the next generation.

ABSOLUTELY FREE!
Free Music for your chapter, your quartet or your local schools.

As your district historian I have received many donations of music over the years. The music includes hundreds of Society Barbershop arrangements by our top arrangers. The list includes songs from the following series: "Barbershop Show Tunes," "Harmony Heritage Series," "Afterglow Series," "Harmony Explosion," Barbershop Classics" and "Songs For Men Series."

If your chapter is looking for free copies of music to add to your chorus repertoire, I'm sure you will find it in this collection. Is your quartet looking for something new to learn and add to your repertoire? Look no further. Or how about making a generous donation to your local music educator and their school music department with a gift of a wide selection of songs for their boys to sing. What a great way to introduce your chapter to your local schools with a gift of music.

All of this is waiting for you and your chapter. Just give me a call, let me know how much music you can handle and make arrangements to have the music transferred. And it’s ALL FREE!

Contact: Bob Squires - (815) 347-2985 Cell or (815) 609-8644.
Let’s see. Over 30 years ago, the Illinois District had a HEP program — Harmony Education Program. But back in 1983, Syl Wetle, George Holtzschder, and Jim Vliet put together a new music education program called Illinois District Academy of Harmony (IDAH). The first several years of the program were held at the University Inn in Champaign, a 20-story silo of a hotel with the restaurant on the top floor. Numbers of attendees were extraordinary, well over 200 in the first years.

But then the luster began to fade and IDAH sort of fell into disrepair. Some years, IDAH wasn’t held at all. Costs kept rising to bring in quality coaches and instructors. Gone were the days of a two-night stay with four meals and a room for $99. When IDAH resumed, she traveled throughout the state, most often in central Illinois and once in the Chicago suburbs.

Guess what! IDAH is back in Champaign again, 29 years later. Thanks to the efforts of Jeff Bowyer, Don Smit, and Tom Woodall, an excellent venue was procured -- the Faith United Methodist Church. The facility not only was first class, with lots of rooms available for small groups and quartets, but it also featured a large multi-purpose room that served well for the evening meal, also prepared by members of the church.

Jeff, Don, and Tom worked valiantly to promote the event in the months leading up to the day-long workshop. In fact, the reporting on the Internet was so successful that four members of a chapter in Arkansas drove up to attend. The Danville Chapter also sent most of its membership to get a recharge and a reintroduction to barbershopping in the Illinois District.

A few attendees participated in sessions dealing with chapter officer. Doug Ferrier worked with presidents; Greg Caetano worked with music vice-presidents; and Mike Isely worked with secretaries.

Usually, the district brings in outside talent to help boost registration, and this year was no exception. James Estes, Society Music Specialist provided the technical expertise and representation from Society headquarters. This year, Forefront quartet from the Johnny Appleseed District served as clinicians for the quartets. The quartet finished in sixth place at the Kansas City Quartet Contest last summer and shows promise of moving up this summer in Portland. This opportunity to work with some of the top talent in the Society ought to be something that every quartet would clamor for. No matter the level of the quartet’s talent, these coaches give 100 percent in helping the quartet make improvement, thus making the coaching experience productive and worthwhile.

Estes taught a tag, conducted the Vocal Production segment, and challenged the music expertise of those who considered themselves relatively adept at barbershop harmony. Meanwhile, Tom Woodall worked with a group of barbershoppers who considered
themselves reasonably literate musically, and Don Smit worked with those who considered themselves novices. Off in another room, Joe Sullivan and Dave Cowin worked with eight men from the Danville Chapter.

For those who attended in a non-quartet capacity, the day was spread among a number of singing opportunities rather than an enrollment in one particular class. Sessions included a review of basic music skills, vocal production, humor in barbershop, sight singing, history of great quartets in Illinois, and visual presentation of musical stories.

Seven quartets took advantage of the offered coaching opportunities each working with several coaches during five different 75-minute sessions. Each quartet also entertained the rest of the student body before the evening meal. Coaches were Aaron and Kevin Hughes, Brian O’Dell, and David Zimmerman (all from Forefront), Ron Rank, Kurt Vogel (from Cardinal District), and Mike Lietke (Land o’ Lakes District).

Bob Squires was slated to present a video/audio presentation of some of the great Illinois District quartets from the past, up to the early 1960s. Unfortunately, Bob was unable to attend, so Joe Sullivan and Dave Cowin stepped in. Each offered some interesting sidelights about Illinois district quartets. One of the more intriguing parts of the presentation was a video clip of the Four Renegades performing “They’re All Out of Step but Jim.”
Sullivan indicated that the highly choreographed performance marked the beginning of quartets blending a visual package with sound.

One of the last sessions of the day focused on designing a visual concept for the presentation of a song. Greg Caetano presented three different video segments of quartets performing “One More for the Road.” Each quartet had stage props and a plan; however, certain elements were clearly better performed so that the staging elements enhanced rather than overshadowed the lyric message.

At the end of the day, a special show was staged, featuring 2011 District Champs Waldorf Hair Company, 2010 Champions After Hours, and Internationals Finalists Forefront. The Bloomington No. 1 Sound of Illinois Chorus also performed, featuring songs from their recent Beatles show.

No word yet on next year’s IDAH, but Jeff and Don are already exploring possibilities to make your music education experience bigger and better than ever.
After Hours (above)

Waldorf Hair Company (right)

Forefront (below)

Bloomingston Sound of Illinois (bottom)
August 7–10, 2012

Acappellooza summer

UMSL VOCAL MUSIC CAMP
For four days high school students will be immersed in singing led by some of the world’s most prominent names in a cappella music, including:

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Registration
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Early Registration: $199
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*Additional fees apply when receiving college credit.

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Save $26
By June 30, 2013
Historically speaking
by Bob Squires

[In his report to the House of Delegates at the Spring 2012 convention, Bob Squires offered these points:]

Goal for 2012 Every chapter in the district should have a chapter historian or a person who would be responsible for the care and preservation of chapter memorabilia. This includes each chapter having a written chapter history as part of their chapter archives. Assistance is available in helping to write this chapter history.

Donations The estate of the last Lynn Hauldren donated several items to the district, including photographs, historical papers, and music. Some of these items may be displayed at future conventions.

Pre-YIH Historical committee member Jim Stahly (Bloomington) recently completed a project that included the recovery of an old (1974) VHS video production of a youth barbershop high school chorus under the direction of one time Bloomington director Sam Anliker. Individuals responsible for the success of this project under the auspices of State Farm Insurance Company, were Illinois District President John Mulkin; Champaign-Urbana member and future Society staff member Gary Stam, who was working for the film production company at the University of Illinois; and Dennis Carnine, who helped in the production. This video, in DVD format, is now available to any district barbershopper for viewing.

Illinois District 75-year history Work continues on the revised narrative of the Illinois District 75-year history. Publication is set for sometime in 2013, coinciding with the Society’s 75th birthday. The Historical Committee welcomes all historical contributions.

A Quarter Century of Harmony

The Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions has announced a price reduction in the sale of their CD album “A Quarter Century of Harmony” released in 2010. The album contains recordings of the 25 International Seniors Quartet Champions from the inception of the senior’s level competition in 1986 through 2010 and may now be purchased for $15, a reduction from its previous $20 price. The 25 song CD is a great addition for collectors of barbershop harmony recordings. CDs are available through Bob Squires. Other members of the AISQC from the Illinois District who can provide the CDs are: Dave Cowin, Dave Boo, Howard Tweedle and Ray Henders.

Remembering Tom Parrish
Lead of the Gold Coast Four — 1964 Illinois District Champs

Dear Family & Friends:

We wanted to let you all know that Tom Parrish passed away March 29. He was surrounded by the entire Parrish family in his final days. He is now singing Barbershop music to Mary again in heaven. In his final hours of life, they were playing barbershop type music and his fingers were moving with the beat. It is so comforting to know that he left this life listening to something that he passionately loved.

I was so blessed to have such a wonderful father-in-law, who had the gumption to ask me to sing with him in some duets. Of course, I had to oblige! Those were great times rehearsing with him. I will miss his famous quotes like "Oh Boy!" said emphatically, or when the conversation got too deep, he would say “Enough said!” That was a polite way of saying — stop talking! Ha.