

[The following was taken from the Nor'Easter, the Northeastern District's newsletter, Ed Dunn editor. I hadn't received a SBM report, however, I thought that the following excerpt was interesting.]

Report on Society spring board meeting

By Paul Arnone, Society board member

The Society board met in Peachtree City, Georgia, in late March. . . .

Society board action

The board voted to honour our past International and Society presidents for their hard work and dedication by providing, effective January, 2005, two complimentary life-time convention registrations with VIP seating at both midwinter and International conventions. The registrations are non-transferable. . . .

The board voted to suspend Article II.C.1 of the Contest and Judging Rules for the 2004 International quartet contest only and to replace it with language to be approved by the Laws and Regulations Committee such that 50 Society quartets (or more in the case of a tie for 50th) will qualify for the 2004 International quartet contest.

The board authorized \$50,000 for promotion of the Louisville convention.

The board authorized the Marketing Task Force to seek at least two written quotes, including fees and all travel, for hiring a firm for a total not to exceed \$50,000 to research possible new Society names and logos, and to prepare logos, recommendations and a report by June 27, 2004. . . .

The board approved the following statement of our core values.

Singing — We love to sing. Through singing in four-part harmony we provide opportunities for personal expression, spread joy in performance, and enrich our lives and the lives of others.


Fellowship — We foster rich relationships and a sense of belonging. Our common interests bond people of diverse backgrounds.

Fun — We have fun. We sing barbershop harmony for the sheer enjoyment of it. Our singing is accompanied by laughter, camaraderie and the thrill of performance.

Enrichment — We realize lifelong personal growth and enrichment through singing. At every level, in every Society chapter, we teach, learn and perform four-part harmony. We also develop skills in leadership and enrich others through our performances and community outreach.

Creativity — We embrace and celebrate creativity. We create sound from silence. We inspire hope, joy and other artistic expression. As performers, we experience the exhilaration of creativity in soul and voice. In turn, our audiences undergo their own emotional uplifting.

Our core values are the foundation for an examination of our Society's fundamental reason for existence, our mission and our vision. Changes in our Society's priorities and objectives will be grounded in our core values.

This is an exciting and ongoing process that promises to help us plan strategically for a better Society future — a future that will be true to our core. 

[Excerpted from the Seneca Land District's Smoke Signals, Brent Heintzman, editor.]

July Society board motions

By Bob Coant, Society board member

Move to endorse the marketing plan submitted by Clarke Communications Group (the 49-page "21st Century, Barbershop Harmony Society Marketing Plan") as a guide for Society marketing efforts.

Move to reaffirm the action taken in July, 2002, whereby the board adopted the practice of regularly representing the Society as the Barbershop Harmony Society while maintaining the Society's legal name as SPEBSSA, Inc..

Further, that the Marketing and Public Relations Committee and Society staff prepare instructions that encourage chapters, effective immediately, to use Barbershop Harmony Society in all communication and promotion activities.

Effective January 1, 2005, each Society committee shall have a chairman and vice chairman. Terms of these positions shall be no more than three consecutive one-year terms. Terms of committee members shall be no more than six consecutive one-year terms.

The Society and its districts will not schedule barbershop events in conflict with significant religious holidays and observances.

Direct the Society L&R Committee to prepare, for action at the next board meeting, amendments to existing Standard Chapter Bylaws to make the Marketing and Public Relations Officer a mandatory position in chapters in excess of 25 members, and a recommended position in all other chapters. . . .

Approved the addition of a preliminary chorus contest round for the International convention and contest in July, 2005 in Salt Lake City. The highest-scoring non-qualifying choruses in the 2004 fall contest season in the 16 district preliminary chorus contests will be invited to participate in the contest round, up to a limit of 12 choruses (the exact number to be determined by the Society C&J Committee).

Move the Events Committee to add a Comedy Quartet Show and Dinner to the 2005 International convention schedule in Salt Lake City. The Events Committee shall submit a detailed budget for this event prior to October 1, 2004.

2005 board nominations:

- President.....**Rob Hopkins** (one-year term)
- Exec. Vice President.....**Drayton Justus** (one-year term)
- Treasurer.....**Bob Guigey** (one-year term)
- Harmony Foundation Trustee.....**Randy Loos** (one-year term)
- Districts MAD/SLD.....**Joe Berger** (three-year term)
- Districts RMD/SWD.....**Bill Biffle** (three-year term) 